



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Powys schools update

All schools in Powys will move to online learning until further notice, the county council has confirmed.

Yesterday evening, the Welsh Government announced that all schools and colleges in Wales should move to online learning until Monday, January 18.

The Welsh Government's decision was made as a result of medical and scientific advice and the rising number of new coronavirus cases, which is putting considerable pressure on the health service.

Schools in Powys will remain open for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners, as well as for learners who need to complete essential exams or assessments.

All Early Years education providers delivering 3+ funded early years education should open to support vulnerable children and children of keyworkers.

All Early Years childcare including Flying Start childcare will aim to remain open for all children aged between 0 -5 years.

Cllr Phyl Davies, Cabinet Member for Education, said: "Keeping our schools open is one of the main priorities. However, the situation is very serious and it is important that we all follow the advice to stay at home and protect our health service.

"Schools will remain open for children of critical workers as well as vulnerable learners where absolutely necessary. However, it is important that children remain at home wherever possible, as this is the safest place for everyone.

"The pace of change of the coronavirus is something we are all unaware of. It is vital that we play our part in controlling its spread.

"Any decision that sees learners return to school will be based on the latest medical and scientific advice. We need to keep all our learners and school staff safe.

"We are also aware of the wellbeing and safeguard concerns for our learners so will be working with all our partners to ensure the safest and most appropriate way forward is planned out for our schools."

Schools will provide parents and carers with further information and support on learning from home during this time.