

17/12/20

Dear Parent / Guardian,

May I in the first instance thank you all, as parents, for your continued support of the school during the last term. During these challenging times for all of us, we as staff have appreciated the messages of support and thanks we have received from parents.

At the end of term, I would like to extend special thanks to the pupils at the school for their excellent attitude and dedication in facing unprecedented challenges this year. They have been very willing to adapt to new approaches to learning, deal with periods away from school, their teachers and friends and have responded extremely positively to a set of rules and essential measures in helping to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all of us. Their contribution to school life is greatly appreciated as they cope with all of this with courtesy, humour and a smile on their faces!

Your child's interim report or 'parents' evening' report (for year 11) has been e-mailed to their Hwb account. Parents of year 7 pupils have also received information about your child's attainment following the CATs tests earlier this term. If you want to discuss your child's report, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Education Minister has announced a little more **detail on 2021 qualifications for pupils in years 10-13**. See [this letter here](#) for more details. In addition, there is useful information on the WJEC website for the [2021 assessment](#) timeline and [Exam Walk Through](#) resources. The pupils have already received this information in their year group 'Teams' and we will be able to share more when we receive the information at the beginning of January.

Pupils' attendance in their lessons has been very good during this week and there will be a number of enjoyable activities for them on Friday morning, in addition to their lessons. I want to emphasise, **no pupil is expected to do any school work over the Festive Period**. We are eager for our pupils to spend time at home and to safely enjoy the festivities with their families and within their 'bubbles'.

We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back in January. In line with the Welsh Government's recent announcement and the information in [this letter](#) from Swansea's Interim Director of Education, schools are expected to ensure that it is safe for pupils to return to our schools. Therefore, a specific time has been provided during the first two days to assess the situation of the virus in the community, and to review our Covid safety measures so that our site is as Covid safe as is possible. We will also use the time to assess staffing levels and to prepare for the blended learning needs of all our learners. Below are the arrangements for Bryn Tawe pupils to return in the new year:

- **No pupils to attend on the 4th and 5th of January.** They are specific days for school staff to prepare fully for the safe return of pupils to school.



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Pennaeth: Mr Simon Davies



- Pupils in **years 10, 11, 12 and 13** will return to live lessons at school from **Wednesday 6th January**.
- **Year 8** pupils will return to learn to live at school from **Friday 8th January**.
- We intend to have **all pupils back on Monday 11th January**.
- Pupils in **years 7-9** will receive **on-line learning on the days they are not in school**.
- We will offer emergency childcare provision to parents of year 7, 8 and 9 pupils who are key workers on days when your child is not attending. Please complete [this questionnaire](#)
- We will also provide provision for specific pupils so that we can support their wellbeing.

I trust that this information provides an element of certainty about when your child will return and therefore allows you to plan any child-minding requirements in advance. The above is, of course, all dependent on the impact of the virus in our communities from the 4th of January onwards. It may change, and we may need to move to blended learning with more year groups, or we can also invite more pupils back sooner. I will communicate with you in the usual ways if there are any arrangements contrary to this.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a safe and Happy Christmas and here's to a New Year filled with hope and prosperity!

Yours Sincerely,

Simon Davies



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