

15/09/21

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Swansea Bay Public Health Board has decided that the risk level in Swansea schools has been increased to to a 'High' level on the 'Local Covid-19 infection control decision framework for schools' (see here: Local COVID-19 infection control decision framework for schools from autumn 2021 [HTML] | GOV.WALES |). This means that we need to implement a set of specific measures according to the 'high' risk level.

They include a series of core measures:

- 1. Ensure that learners do not attend school under any circumstances if they:
 - feel unwell with any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (persistent cough or high temperature; loss of taste; loss of smell)
 - have tested positive for COVID-19
 - have been contacted by the Test, Trace, Protect (TTP) service and instructed to self-isolate
- 2. Wash hands thoroughly or use the provided hand sanitisers more frequently than usual.
- 3. Maintain good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it, wash your hands' approach.
- 4. Ensure that all classrooms and corridors are adequately ventilated.
- 5. Sanitize all working areas by cleaning surfaces that are frequently touched on a regular basis.

There are a series of additional measures in the framework for a 'high' risk level which include:

- Not holding large group gatherings such as assemblies (whole year groups in comprehensive schools).
- The use of one-way systems within the school building.
- Consistent seating plans.
- Using outdoor spaces (where possible).
- Floor signage
- Physical distancing and seating plans in place in classrooms. This does include forward-facing desks
- Face coverings should be worn by secondary aged learners when moving around indoor communal areas outside of the classroom. Face coverings continue to be required on school transport.
- Face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in schools when moving around indoor communal areas outside of the classroom, such as corridors, where physical distance cannot be maintained.

As you know, we made a decision in drawing up our risk assessment prior to returning in September to continue with all of the above measures to try to reduce the possibility of the virus spreading within the school. In addition to the above, daily arrangements are in place to place year groups of pupils in different areas of the school for break and lunch times.

Twice weekly LFT testing will also be available for staff and secondary learners to help identify and isolate asymptomatic cases as soon as possible. We will distribute the LFT's to pupils in years 8-13, who completed the digital consent form last year. Tests are also available locally in the community – see here: Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES for more details.







Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe Heol Gwyrosydd, Penlan, Abertawe SA5 7BU Ffôn 01792 560600

Ebost: <u>SwyddfaBrynTawe5@hwbcymru.net</u> <u>www.bryntawe.swansea.sch.uk</u> Pennaeth : Mr Simon Davies











Please remember, once the test has been carried out, the result must be recorded online www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. The school must also be contacted immediately if the test is positive or invalid by sharing the information below on this e-mail: SwyddfaBrynTawe5@hwbcymru.net

Pupil Name; The pupil's year and class; Contact telephone number; Test result; Contact name of parent / carer.

If you did not complete the consent form last year and now wish your child to use the tests, please complete this <u>consent form</u>.

YEAR 7 PARENTS - LATERAL FLOW TESTS:

<u>This letter</u> contains all the information necessary for the purpose of the tests, instructions on how to administer them and a privacy statement. Please use <u>this consent form</u> to give your child permission to use the tests. This will need to be done by Tuesday 21/09/21. We will be distributing tests to year 7 pupils next Thursday. Tests are also available locally in the community – see here <u>Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES</u> for more details. Remember, once the test has been carried out, follow the instructions above.

However, with the increase in cases in Swansea, it is vitally important that we are all very vigilant in order to protect everyone within the school community. This includes avoiding areas with large crowds of people socialising outside of school.

Please see this letter: <u>Letter Parents Carers FINAL (bryntawe.swansea.sch.uk)</u> from Swansea's Director of Education which reinforces the above messages for all parents across the city.

Thank you as parents for your full support with these important health and safety measures. If you have any further questions, then please contact us at the school.

Sincerely,

Simon Davies









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