

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Pentrebane Road,
Fairwater,
Cardiff,
CF5 3PZ

029 20 405 499

post@ysgolplasmawr.cymru

@YsgolPlasmawr

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

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Hydref yr 2il, 2020

Annwyl Riant / Warcheidwad

Yn ystod yr wythnos yma fe gawsom ein achosion posotif cyntaf o COVID-19 yn yr ysgol. Hoffwn ddiolch o galon i chi gyd am eich cefnogaeth yn ystod cyfnod mor bryderus i ni gyd. Mae ceisio rheoli sefyllfa anweledig sydd allan o'n rheolaeth ac sydd fel petai yn newid fesul awr wedi profi fod yn heriol tu hwnt dros y dyddiau diwethaf. Rwyf mewn cyswllt rheolaidd gyda swyddogion Addysg a Iechyd a Diogelwch yr Awdurdod Lleol yn ogystal â swyddogion y Gwasanaeth Iechyd sydd yn fy nghefnogi wrth i mi ddod i benderfyniadau am y sefyllfa wrth iddo ddatblygu.

Erbyn hyn mae 5 disgybl wedi profi yn gadarnhaol i COVID-19, 4 ohonynt yn Blwyddyn 8. Mae un athro wedi profi yn gadarnhaol i COVID-19. Fe allai hyn newid yn ystod yr oriau a'r dyddiau nesaf. Heddiw bu'n rhaid i mi anfon 9 aelod o staff adref i hunan-ynysu yn sgil un o'r profion cadarnhaol COVID mwyaf diweddar.

Gan ystyried fod yna glwstwr o achosion cadarnhaol ym mhlwyddyn 8 a bod nifer cynyddol o staff yn hunan-ynysu penderfynwyd gyda chefnogaeth uwch swyddogion yr Awdurdod Lleol y bydd disgyblion Blwyddyn 8 yn gyfan yn hunan-ynysu tan dydd Iau, Hydref 15fed er mwyn lleihau'r risg o ledu'r feirws ymhellach o fewn y flwyddyn. Byddant yn dychwelyd i'r Ysgol ar y diwrnod hwnnw.

Yn sgil ein profiad wythnos yma mae sawl neges bwysig i'w atgyfnerthu:

- Mae'r feirws COVID-19 yn fyw o fewn ein cymunedau ac felly mae cadw at reolau a gweithdrefnau sy'n hyrwyddo diogelwch yn hanfodol bwysig yn yr ysgol, yn ein cymunedau ac wrth deithio i'r ysgol ac adref o'r ysgol.
- Pan fo achos posotif yn yr ysgol disgwylir i'r ysgol tracio ac olrhain **cysylltiadau agos** y disgybl sydd wedi profi'n bosotif. Mae hyn yn cynnwys dadansoddi'r cynllun eistedd ymhob gwers a holi'r disgybl am y daith i'r Ysgol ac adref o'r Ysgol a gyda phwy y bu'n cymdeithasu yn ystod yr awr ginio.
- Mae grwpio disgyblion CA3 mewn dosbarthiadau gallu cymysg a chreu cynlluniau eistedd i bob dosbarth wedi helpu ni olrhain y cysylltiadau agos i'r achos ac wedi ein galluogi i gyfyngu ar y nifer o ddisgyblion sydd angen hunan-ynysu.
- Mae cyfyngu amser egwyl i 15 munud wedi lleihau'r cyfle am gysylltiadau agos yn ystod y dydd.
- Mae cadw'r disgyblion yn eu swigod blwyddyn a'u cyfyngu i ardaloedd penodol o'r ysgol amser egwyl a chinio yn ymyrraeth effeithiol.
- Mae creu amser cinio i CA3 a CA4 ar wahan yn ymyrraeth synhwyrol sydd yn gweithio'n dda.
- Os fydd eich plentyn yn gorfod hunan-ynysu am 14 diwrnod, ni fydd hawl gwneud apwyntiad am brawf oni bai fod gan eich plentyn symptomau COVID, oherwydd fod gan yr haint gyfnod heintus o 10 – 14 diwrnod.
- Mae gwisgo gorchudd wyneb yn orfodol mewn mannau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru ac ar fysiau ysgol. Mae'r rheol yn ei le i ddiogelu holl aelodau'r gymuned ysgol. Gan fod ein cyflenwadau o orchuddion gwyneb yn mynd yn brin, gofynnaf yn garedig i chi wirio fod gan eich plentyn orchudd wyneb yn ei ph/boced neu yn eu bag wrth adael y tŷ yn y bore.
- Mae sawl rhiant wedi cysylltu yn pryderu fod disgyblion s'yn teithio'r bysiau ysgol ddim yn gwisgo gorchudd gwyneb. Allwch chi bwysleisio i'ch plentyn bwysigrwydd gwisgo gorchudd wyneb ar bob taith bws er lles pawb?

Yn dilyn y camau a gymerwyd wythnos yma wrth ofyn i ddisgyblion hunan-ynysu mewn ymateb i achosion o COVID-19, atodaf gopi o'r cynllun sydd gennym i ddarparu gwaith i ddisgyblion sydd yn hunan ynysu, naill fel unigolion neu fel dosbarth / blwyddyn gyfan, ac hefyd os yw athro yn gorfod hunan ynysu. Rydym wedi derbyn mewnbwn gan Gyngor Caerdydd ac rydym yn dilyn canllawiau'r Llywodraeth am ffrydio byw.

Mae ffrydio byw wedi bod yn destun trafod hirfaeth yn genedlaethol dros y misoedd diwethaf, ac er yr ydym yn hollol gefnogol i'r egwyddor, mae nifer o ffactorau rhaid eu hystyried cyn dechrau, megis lles staff a disgyblion, diogelwch ar lein, gofynion

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GDPR, a'r angen i gael caniatad rhiant / gwarcheidwad. Gwelir hefyd, felly, atodiad yn amlinellu ein disgwyliadau wrth gynnig gwrs 'byw', **a'r angen i chi gysylltu gyda ni os NAD oes caniatad i'ch plentyn fynychu sesiwn byw**, yn enwedig yn y cartref. Gwerthfawrogwn eich cefnogaeth wrth geisio sicrhau y ddarpariaeth orau posibl.

Un cwestiwn arall a godwyd yw'r ddarpariaeth i ddisgyblion sydd yn aros am ganlyniad prawf Covid. Y gobaith yw bydd y canlyniad yn dychwelyd yn brydlon ac yn negyddol, ac yn caniatáu i'r disgybl dychwelyd mewn ychydig ddyddiau. Yn yr achos yma, ni fydd darpariaeth penodol gan yr athro felly mae disgwyl i'r plant 'ddal lan' gyda'r gwaith yn y modd arferol (fel arfer trwy holi ffrindiau). Os, yn affodus, daw canlyniad positif, bydd y ddarpariaeth yn dechrau fel y gwelir yn y cynllun hunan ynysu.

Cofiwch beidio anfon eich plentyn i'r ysgol os oes gan eich plentyn un neu fwy o'r symptomau canlynol:

- tymheredd uchel: mae hyn yn golygu eich bod yn teimlo'n boeth i gyffwrdd ar eich brest neu eich cefn (nid oes angen i chi fesur eich tymheredd)
- peswch newydd, parhaus: mae hyn yn golygu pesychu llawer am fwy nag awr, neu dri neu fwy o byliau pesychu mewn 24 awr (os oes gennych beswch fel arfer, gall fod yn waeth nag yr arfer)
- colled neu newid i'ch synnwyr arogli neu flas: mae hyn yn golygu eich bod wedi sylwi na allwch arogli na blasu unrhyw beth, neu mae pethau'n arogli neu'n blasu'n wahanol i'r arfer.

Mae'n bwysig nad ydych yn anfon eich plentyn i'r ysgol os oes aelod o'r teulu yn arddangos symptomau COVID-19 nes bo'r aelod hynny o'r teulu yn derbyn canlyniad prawf negyddol. Os oes aelod o'r teulu yn profi'n bositif, plis wnewch chi gysylltu â'r ysgol a chadwch eich plentyn adref o'r ysgol.

Allai ofyn yn garedig i chi wneud apwyntiad i gyfarfod gyda aelod o staff yn hytrach nac ymddangos yn y dderbynfa yn y gobaith o fedru cael sgwrs gyda aelod penodol o staff. Fe allwch drefnu cyfarfod drwy gysylltu â'r swyddfa. Mae'r cyfyngiadau presennol sydd yn eu lle yn gwneud hi'n anodd i ni fedru cyfarfod wyneb yn wyneb.

Diolch i chi eto am eich cefnogaeth parhaus mewn cyfnod mor heriol

John Hayes
Pennaeth

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October 2nd, 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

We received notification during the past week of our first positive COVID-19 cases in school. May I thank you for your continued support during what is an extremely anxious time for us all. Attempting to manage an invisible situation which is beyond our control and which seems to change on an hourly basis has proven to be extremely challenging. I am in regular contact with senior LEA education and health and safety officers as well as the Test, Track and Trace team who are supporting me in my decision-making as the situation develops.

We currently have 5 pupils who have proven positive to COVID-19, 4 of the cases are in Year 8. One teacher has proven positive to COVID-19. These figures may well change in the coming hours and days. Today I directed 9 members of staff to self-isolate following the latest positive COVID test.

Considering that we have a cluster of positive cases in Year 8 and an increasing number of staff having to self-isolate, I have decided with the full support of senior officers in the LEA to direct the whole of Year 8 to self-isolate until Thursday, October 15th in order to reduce the risk of the virus spreading further within the year group. They will return to school on that date.

In light of our experience this week, I would like to highlight some key messages:

- The Coronavirus is currently within our communities and therefore it is crucial that we all keep to the health and safety guidelines which are in place to protect the health and wellbeing of all members of our school community in school on our journeys to and from school and within our communities at home.
- When we receive notification of a positive test result for a member of our community, we are asked to track and trace the **close contacts** of the case. This process includes an analysis of seating plans in every classroom and lesson, enquiring about his/her travel experience to school and with whom did he/her socialise at lunch time?
- Creating mixed ability classes in KS3 and insisting on fixed seating plans for every class has certainly helped the track and trace process and has allowed us to keep the disruption to year groups to a minimum when deciding who needs to self-isolate for a fortnight.
- Limiting break time to 15 minutes has removed an important contact time opportunity during the day.
- Maintaining class and year group bubbles and providing designated areas for year groups to socialise has been an important and effective strategy.
- Creating a split lunch time for KS3 and KS4 has been a sensible strategy which is working well.
- If your child had to self-isolate for 14 days, they would not be allowed to book a test unless they developed COVID symptoms of their own. The self-isolation period would continue even if a negative test result was obtained as the incubation period for COVID-19 is 10 – 14 days.
- The wearing of face coverings is mandatory in Wales which includes secondary schools and on school transport. The rule is in place to protect all members of the school community. As our stock levels are diminishing rapidly, I would kindly ask parents to ensure that their child has a mask to wear in school before they leave the house in the morning.
- Several concerned parents have commented that many pupils remove their face coverings on the bus once it's left the school site in the afternoon. Please could you remind your child of the importance of wearing a face covering on the bus for the benefit of all?

Following the actions taken this week in asking some pupils to self-isolate as a result of the test and track process, I have attached a copy of our plan to provide work for pupils who are self-isolating, either as individuals or as a whole class / year group, and also if a teacher has to self-isolate. We have also received input from Cardiff Council and are following Government guidelines on live streaming.

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Live streaming has been a topic of much debate nationally over recent months, and while we are fully supportive of the principle, there are a number of factors to consider before starting, such as staff and pupil welfare, online safety and security, GDPR requirements, and the need for parental / guardian consent. There is also, therefore, an attachment outlining our expectations when offering a 'live' lesson, and **the need for you to contact us if your child is NOT allowed to attend a live session**, especially at home. We appreciate your support in seeking the best possible provision.

Another question raised is the provision for pupils awaiting the result of a COVID test. It is hoped that the result will return promptly and negatively, and allow the pupil to return in a few days. In this case, the teacher will not have prepared specific work so the children are expected to 'catch up' with the work in the usual way (usually by asking friends). If, unfortunately, the outcome is a positive result, the provision will start as shown in the self-isolation plan.

Please do not send your child to school if they display any of the following symptoms:

- a high temperature: this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough: this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste: this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

It is important that you do not send your child to school if any other member of your household is displaying COVID-19 symptoms until a negative test result has been obtained for that particular individual. If a member of your household receives a positive COVID-19 test result, please will you contact the school and keep your child home to self-isolate.

I would kindly ask you to refrain from coming to school hoping to see a member of staff without an appointment. If you would like to make an appointment to speak to a particular member of staff, please arrange this through the school office. There are current restrictions in place which advise against face to face meetings.

Thank you for your continued support in challenging times

John Hayes
Headteacher