

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen,
YTyllgoed,
Caerdydd,
CF5 3PZ

 029 20 405 499

 post@ysgolplasmawr.cymru

 @YsgolPlasmawr

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes

Pentrebane Road,
Fairwater,
Cardiff,
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 @YsgolPlasmawr

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

Hydref 9fed, 2020

Annwyl riant / warcheidwad

Fel y gwyddoch, mae wedi bod yn gyfnod pryderus iawn yn hanes yr ysgol ac yn brawf o'n dygnwch fel cymuned ysgol. Yn galonogol, mae nifer yr achosion positif o COVID-19 wedi arafu wrth i'r wythnos fynd yn ei blaen.

Isod, fe welwch grynodeb o nifer yr achosion positif o COVID-19 yn yr ysgol hyd at brynhawn dydd Gwener, Hydref 9fed:

	Nifer achosion COVID-19 +ve
Blwyddyn 7	1
Blwyddyn 8	15
Blwyddyn 9	2
Blwyddyn 10	2
Blwyddyn 11	0
Blwyddyn 12	0
Blwyddyn 13	0
Staff	7

Yn ystod yr wythnos nesaf, fe welwn nifer gynyddol o staff yn dechrau dychwelyd i'r ysgol wrth i'w cyfnodau hunan-ynysu ddirwyn i ben. Edrychaf ymlaen yn fawr at weld pawb nôl yn yr ysgol ar ddydd Llun, Hydref 19eg.

Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r cyfnod heriol hwn wedi fy ngorfodi i gymryd penderfyniadau pwysig, gan gynnwys gorfod gofyn i flynyddoedd cyfan weithio gartref er budd a llesiant cymuned yr ysgol. Seiliais fy mhenderfyniadau strategol ar flaenoriaethau clir:


- Sicrhau iechyd a llesiant holl aelodau cymuned yr ysgol
- Sicrhau parhad dysgu trwy ddull dysgu cyfunol
- Creu sefydlogrwydd mewn amgylchedd oedd yn gynyddol ansefydlog

Mae'r neges ganlynol gan Brif Weithredwr Cyngor Caerdydd, Paul Orders, at holl staff Cyngor Caerdydd brynhawn dydd Mercher yn crynhoi'r sefyllfa bresennol yng Nghaerdydd ac yn atgyfnerthu'r angen i weithredu i atal lledaeniad y firws yn yr ysgol. "The rate of new cases in Cardiff (per 100,000 over the last 7 days) is now at 107.9 with the number of positive tests at 7.9%. These figures are now over and above Welsh Government's red alert threshold and public health experts consider the rapid spread of the virus a serious risk. We have a duty to do all that we can to prevent the spread of this virus. This must be a foremost priority for the council and, as council employees, everyone must play their part in ensuring we halt the spread of COVID-19, protecting our families, our loved ones and our colleagues in the process. It is also vitally important that everyone is clear on what you must do if you, or other members of your household, develop COVID-19 symptoms, such as a high temperature, a new continuous cough, and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. If this happens - and I cannot stress this enough - you must not come to work".

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Dysgu cyfunol / dysgu o bell:

Mae'r wythnos yma wedi bod yn gyfle i ni weithredu ein strategaeth dysgu cyfunol am y tro cyntaf ac rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r rhieni hynny sydd wedi cysylltu â'r ysgol gydag adborth am brofiad eu plentyn. Fe fydd yr adborth yma yn ein galluogi i fireinio ein gweithdrefnau ar gyfer wythnos nesaf a thu hwnt. Pwy a wŷr, mae'n bosib y byddwn angen dibynnu ar ddysgu cyfunol am gyfnodau eraill yn ystod y gaeaf, yn ôl llediad y firws. Mae'r ffaith fod cymaint o athrawon yn hunan-ynysu ac yn gweithio gartref wedi cyfyngu rhywfaint ar ein darpariaeth ond, yn fras, dyma'r sefyllfa bresennol o ran dysgu cyfunol:

CA3: Mae gan bob dosbarth gyfrif Microsoft Teams dynodedig lle bydd athrawon yn cyfathrebu â'u dosbarthiadau trwy gyfleuster sgwrsio a thrwy bostio adnoddau fel cyflwyniadau PowerPoint â throsleisio, fideos a chyflwyno tasgau ac aseiniadau o fewn eu tîm penodol. Mae'n bosib y bydd athrawon yn gallu cynnig rhywfaint o ddysgu cydamserol fel rhan o'u dull dysgu cyfunol, cyn belled â'u bod yn cadw at ganllawiau cyfredol clir Llywodraeth Cymru. Serch hynny, oherwydd ein sefyllfa staffio bresennol, gyda llawer o athrawon yn gweithio gartref, gan fod angen dau aelod staff yn bresennol yn y wers at ddibenion diogelu ar gyfer dysgu cydamserol yn CA3, ni allwn staffio'r trefniant hwn ar hyn o bryd a bydd dysgu 'byw' yn gyfyngedig iawn yn CA3.

CA4: Mae disgyblion blynyddoedd 10 ac 11 yn dilyn eu hamserlenni arferol yn yr ysgol. I'r disgyblion hynny sydd yn gorfod hunan-ynysu, mae'n bosib iddynt ymuno â'r wers yn fyw o adref trwy Teams tra bo'r athro yn bresennol yn yr ysgol. Os oes ganddynt unrhyw ansicrwydd ynglŷn â'r trefniant hwn, gofynnir iddynt gysylltu â'r athro drwy e-bost. Os yw'r athro yn hunan-ynysu, fe fydd yn trefnu bod y gwaith ar gael ar gyfrif Teams y dosbarth.

CA5: Mae mwyafrif y gwersi yn rhai 'byw' a disgwylir i fyfyrwyr gael mynediad i'r wers trwy 'Teams'. Os oes unrhyw broblem, cysylltwch â Mr Aled James (Pennaeth Cynorthwyol - Arweinydd 6ed Dosbarth).

Os nad oes gan eich plentyn ddyfais bersonol, a allwch chi gysylltu â swyddfa'r ysgol er mwyn i ni eich cynorthwyo yn y sefyllfa hon? Ni allwn ymrwymo i fenthyg gliniadur i bawb oherwydd bod adnoddau yn gyfyngedig, ac rydym yn blaenoriaethu yn ôl meini prawf penodol. Er hynny, cysylltwch i drafod eich sefyllfa er mwyn i ni weld beth sy'n bosib.

I'r nifer fechan o ddysgwyr CA3 sydd yn cael trafferth defnyddio ein llwyfannau digidol, a wnewch chi eu hannog i wyllo'r gyfres o fideos sydd yn y llyfrgell rithiol ar Moodle? Anfonwyd manylion am hyn mewn e-bost ar Hydref 6ed (testun: 'Reminders regarding Distance Learning Provision and Digital Platforms' / Llwyfannau Digidol a Dysgu o Hirbell).

Yn ystod yr wythnos nesaf, fe fyddwn yn parhau i adolygu ein hasesiad risg COVID-19 gyda chefnogaeth ein swyddog iechyd a diogelwch dynodedig o awdurdod Caerdydd. Fe fyddwn yn ystyried yn ofalus addasiadau pellach i'n gweithdrefnau iechyd a diogelwch ar y safle erbyn i bawb ddychwelyd ar Hydref 19eg.

Diolch i chi am bob neges o gefnogaeth a dderbyniwyd dros yr wythnos ddiwethaf.

John Hayes
(Pennaeth)

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October 9th, 2020

Dear parent / guardian

As you can appreciate, it has been a really worrying time for us over the past week or so and it has been a real test of the resilience and resolve of our whole school community. Fortunately, the number of +ve COVID-19 cases reported in school has slowed during the course of the week.

You will see a summary below of our +ve COVID cases as it stands on Friday afternoon, October 9th:

	Number of +ve COVID-19 cases
Year 7	1
Year 8	15
Year 9	2
Year 10	2
Year 11	0
Year 12	0
Year 13	0
Staff	7

During next week, we will see a growing number of our staff who have had to self-isolate return to school. I look forward immensely to having the whole school return on Monday, October 19th.

As you know, over the past few challenging days, I have had to make some difficult decisions, including instructing certain year groups to work from home for the benefit and wellbeing of every member of the school community. I've based my strategic decisions on the following priorities:

- To ensure the health and wellbeing of all members of the school community
- To ensure the continuity of learning through a blended learning approach
- To create stability in what was an increasingly unstable environment

The following message from Paul Orders, Chief Executive Cardiff Council, to all council employees on Wednesday afternoon affirms the need to act decisively to stem the rapid growth of the virus within our school community. "The rate of new cases in Cardiff (per 100,000 over the last 7 days) is now at 107.9 with the number of positive tests at 7.9%. These figures are now over and above Welsh Government's red alert threshold and public health experts consider the rapid spread of the virus a serious risk. We have a duty to do all that we can to prevent the spread of this virus. This must be a foremost priority for the council and, as council employees, everyone must play their part in ensuring we halt the spread of COVID-19, protecting our families, our loved ones and our colleagues in the process. It is also vitally important that everyone is clear on what you must do if you, or other members of your household, develop COVID-19 symptoms such as a high temperature; a new continuous cough, and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. If this happens – and I cannot stress this enough - you must not come to work".

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Blended learning / distance learning:

This week has given us an opportunity to test our blended learning strategy for the first time and I am grateful for the feedback of parents in order for us to evaluate our provision and amend if necessary. We may need to return to this provision in the weeks and months ahead depending on the spread of the virus. Unfortunately, as we have so many teachers self-isolating at home, our provision is not as comprehensive as we would wish for, but, in summary, here is our current provision:

KS3: Every class has a designated Microsoft Teams account through which teachers will be communicating with their classes through a chat facility and by posting resources such as voice-over PowerPoint presentations, videos and presenting tasks and assignments within their particular team. Teachers may be able to offer some synchronous learning as part of their blended learning approach as long as they adhere to clear current Welsh Government guidance. However, due to our current staffing situation, with many teachers working from home, synchronous learning at KS3 requires two members of staff present in the lesson for safeguarding purposes, which we cannot currently staff, therefore live lessons for KS3 will be extremely limited.

KS4: Pupils in years 10 and 11 are currently following their normal timetable in school. Pupils in these year groups who are currently self-isolating can join the lesson 'live' through Teams as long as the teacher is in school. If there is any uncertainty regarding this arrangement, I would expect the student to e-mail the teacher for clarification or instruction. If the teacher is self-isolating, the work will be available on the Teams account for that particular class.

KS5: The majority of the lessons are 'live lessons' through Teams. If there are any issues, please contact Mr Aled James (Assistant Head – Head of sixth form).

If your child does not have a personal device, please could you contact the school office for us to support you in this predicament? We cannot guarantee a device on loan to all pupils due to limited resources, and we will try to prioritise according to certain criteria. However, do make contact to discuss your situation and to discuss what is possible.

For those few younger learners who are still struggling to get to grips with our digital platforms, please encourage them to use the video guides on the online Moodle libraries; these were publicised in an e-mail sent to parents on October 6th, 'Reminders regarding Distance Learning Provision and Digital Platforms'.

During the next 10 days, we will be conducting a thorough review of our current COVID-19 risk assessment in liaison with our designated local authority health and safety officer and will adopt further working practices if deemed appropriate in readiness for the full return to school of all our pupils on October 19th.

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful messages of support throughout the week.

John Hayes
(Headteacher)