

19th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Positive COVID case in the Year 8 contact group

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Year 8 parents/carers for your swift response today in collecting pupils from school having been informed of there being a positive case in the Year 8 contact group. I am pleased to say that our systems and procedures were robustly followed and all pupils were self-isolated and collected from school safely. I must commend the maturity of Year 8 pupils who were absolutely brilliant in the way in which they conducted themselves today; supported by a great team effort on site and from you of course as parents/carers.

Please remember that it is only pupils within the Year 8 contact group who need to self-isolate; specifically there is no need for siblings of Year 8 pupils to be self-isolating.

Welsh Government's announcement about a 'circuit breaker'

The First Minister has announced that there will be a two week circuit-break in Wales beginning Friday 23rd October at 6pm. We are in the process of digesting how this impacts on our school community and I will be in touch later this week to confirm all arrangements for after half-term. In summary:

Half term will remain a holiday period for schools. During week two (Monday 2/11 – Friday 6/11 inclusively):

- Primary Schools will remain fully open.
- Special Schools (including PRU's) will remain fully open.
- **Secondary schools will remain open for years 7 and 8 only.**
- **Any secondary pupil sitting an exam will be allowed to attend school for that specific exam only.**
- School transport will continue to operate.
- Secondary staff will be in school during week 2 in order to provide online learning and teaching for years 7 and 8.
- Childcare for Early Years will remain open.
- Family members can continue to support childcare where no other option exists.

You will already be aware that our 'blended learning' protocol is ready and therefore all pupils in Years 9-13 will be able to access their full timetable remotely from Monday 2nd November to Friday 6th November. For the remainder of this week, please be reassured that we will reinforce with pupils, how to access their lessons remotely to ensure that they continue to be fully engaged in their learning and make progress.

We have received a number of calls from parents/carers since this announcement querying why the school has made the decision to open for Years 7/8. It is important that I clarify that this decision is one which has been made by Welsh Government and not the school.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Cofion cynnes



Victoria Lambe
Headteacher

