



Ysgol Gymunedol Cefn Hengoed Community School

Heol Caldicot Road, Winch Wen, Abertawe/Swansea, SA1 7HX

Pennaeth - Mr C Bale – Headteacher

Dirprwy Bennaeth – Mr D McGinley– Deputy Headteacher

Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid/Masnachau – Mrs G Price – Finance/Business Director

Tel: 01792 773464 Fax: 01792 793087

E-bost/E-mail: cefn.hengoed.community.school@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

19th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this email finds you all in good health.

Thank you all for your efforts to date. Your hard work in supporting your child with online tasks and website work has been incredible. After school closures were announced our school staff and pupils embraced Google Classroom as a platform to provide work based on the structure of our current time table.

We are now moving into the second cycle of our new normal or way of working. It is clear that remote learning will be with us for the foreseeable future regardless of when and how pupils return to school. We do not yet have the dates or details of any reintegration to school, but we do know that this will involve significantly reduced numbers of pupils. This will of course mean that remote learning will be in place for those pupils not attending school.

The week commencing 25th May is half term. Teachers will not be setting any on line work for pupils – this will be a week where pupils and staff take a well-deserved break. There is no expectation for your child to be completing tasks unless they want to catch up on incomplete work.

As a school, we have been busy contacting the parents of all pupils via phone calls. This has allowed us to support with any issues you or your family may be facing. We have also been able to collate invaluable feedback regarding online work which has been helpful to us as we map a way forward. It is fair to say that we have all been on a steep learning curve in terms of adapting to managing effective distance learning for our pupils. In light of our experiences to date and the feedback from pupils and parents/carers we are refining our approach to the provision of remote learning. The aim is to simplify the process and provide clarity over our expectations.

When we return to setting work on the 1st June we will be using a different timetable to the one we are currently operating. We will be operating a streamlined provision which is more manageable for pupils and parents. It will provide **2 to 3 hours of work per day** for each pupil. Learning tasks will be renewed each week, but the organisation of the timetable will be maintained. This will provide clarity for you as a parent/carer and enable you to guide your child effectively. The learning tasks are intended to be accessible to all learners with extension tasks allowing pupils to investigate topics in greater depth where applicable.

For Years 7 to 9, the tasks will help consolidate previous learning whilst encouraging the development of essential skills. Pupils will have the opportunity to investigate new themes and topics, whilst

developing confidence and independent learning skills. For those learners in Year 10, we will follow a similar ethos, but all learning tasks will be directly linked to GCSE content. It is imperative that they engage in these learning opportunities to ensure that they are in the best position possible when they return to sit their GCSE examinations at some point in the future.

Teachers will continue to respond to pupils' questions and provide formative feedback to enhance the learning experience of your child. The online tasks may also provide immediate feedback on your child's performance. There may be instances where your child struggles to complete a piece of work. Please reassure and support them as much as possible. It is better that they are attempting to complete as much work as they can. The streamlined timetable should help ease any anxiety and children should feel confident to ask their teachers for help at any time.

As we streamline the amount of provision we will work tirelessly to further develop the quality of resources. I have no doubt that this will further improve your child's engagement in online tasks. We will be developing class, pupil and parent reports which will further inform our support to you as a parent/carer. You will shortly be receiving a link to Google Classroom. This will allow you to receive a weekly summary of your child's progress, including any missing and upcoming work. As a school, we will use these reports to identify learners with little or no engagement in online learning. We will continue to contact the parents/carers of these pupils to offer additional support.

These are challenging times for everybody and I wish to stress that my main priority is the health and safety of the whole school community. Everything is secondary to that. It is our aim as a school to ensure that when we do eventually return to some sort of normal, no child is disadvantaged by this unprecedented situation we find ourselves in. By working together we can give every child the best opportunity to succeed.

As always, I send my warmest wishes to you all. We as a school endeavour to support you and your family in any way we can and I ask you to please get in touch with us at any time.

Stay safe and well. All of the staff at Cefn Hengoed are thinking of you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C D Bale'.

C D Bale (Mr)
Headteacher

Home learning:

Timetable – pupils should receive 2-3 hours home learning per day:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7	Humanities/ French/ Creative Studies (1 hour per subject)	Mathematics	English	Science	ICT/ Welsh/ PSE (1 hour per subject)
Year 8	Humanities/ French/ Creative Studies (1 hour per subject)	Science	Mathematics	English	ICT/ Welsh/ PSE (1 hour per subject)
Year 9	Humanities/ French/ Creative Studies (1 hour per subject)	English	Science	Mathematics	ICT/ Welsh/ PSE (1 hour per subject)
Year 10	Options (1 hour per subject)	Science	Mathematics	English	Welsh/ WBQ (1 hour per subject)

This timetable will be supplemented with a list of websites, as well as suggested physical activities for the week.

Further guidance and support can be found on the school website, including links to BBC Bitesize, GCSE Pod and other virtual learning platforms – www.cefnhengoed.net