



Ysgol Gymunedol Cefn Hengoed Community School

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

Pennaeth - Mr C Bale – Headteacher

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your ongoing support during this term. I am happy to say that, considering the challenges we are facing, it has been a successful return to school. Yes, there have been a number of occasions where whole year groups/bubbles have been forced to self-isolate, but this has been due to the occasional communal transmission of the virus. This is very much the theme across schools in Swansea and Wales. Whilst this can be frustrating for all of us, the best way to keep our whole community safe is by listening and adhering to the advice given by Public Health Wales and Track & Trace.

This week, Welsh Government confirmed that all secondary school pupils will revert to blended/remote learning for the last week of term. From Monday, all pupils will be set remote work using Google Classroom. You will find on our school website an online guide that outlines how parents/carers can support their children with home learning - <https://www.cefnhengoed.net/index.php/pupil-resources/guide-to-google-classroom>.

Our dedicated staff will set work in line with your child's timetable. They will also be assessing completed work in a timely manner. I would encourage you to ensure your child follows their current school timetable so that they can access their subject teachers' support using the text tool bar or during a live streamed lesson. The staff will only be available during the lesson, which is why it is imperative that your child follows their timetable whenever they can.

Your child is at a critical stage of their education and it is vitally important that pupils engage with the online work that has been set by our dedicated team of teachers. Please work with us to ensure your child engages in all set work. It would help us greatly if you could double check that your child has accepted all invites to Google Classroom for each subject area. This will ensure that your child is in a strong position when they return to school on Tuesday 5th January.

I understand that many of you may currently be facing much bigger challenges than education, which is why we will look to provide wider support to you and your family wherever possible. I wish nothing more than for you to have a restful and enjoyable Christmas with your loved ones. I am sure that many of you will be catching up with family that you have not seen for some time. Enjoying Christmas whilst still acting responsibly will be a fine balancing act. However, by limiting community contacts and respecting advice with regards to PPE and hygiene, we can collectively mitigate the risk of further community outbreaks. We all want to enjoy our Christmas break, but not at the risk of others.



Free School meals

Free school meals provision will continue over the Christmas holidays. You will receive a food parcel or a BACS payment for this period. This has been arranged by the Local Authority's catering service and more information will follow next week.

Return to School in January

Face Coverings

All pupils are required to wear face coverings in all communal areas. Parents/carers should continue to provide face masks and a small plastic bag in which pupils can store their covering when not in use. Face coverings are not required in classrooms or outdoor recreation areas where pupils are within their contact group.

Pupils that use home – school transport are required to wear face coverings during each journey. ***Please remind your child to wear their face covering at all times during the journey to and from school.***

PE Lessons

Pupils will still be required to wear their school PE kit on any day where they have a timetabled PE lesson. However, in order to support your child during the cold winter months, please note the following:

- You can purchase PE uniform from Bergoni and pupils can wear it underneath their school jumper.
- In cold weather pupils can wear tracksuit bottoms over their PE shorts or in place of their PE shorts, **but these must be plain and dark in colour e.g. navy or black.**
- Bright coloured tracksuits with no PE or school uniform visible is not acceptable and this will be monitored by our pastoral staff who will contact home.

Our main priority is the health and safety of the whole school community. Everything is secondary to that. 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. In the meantime, please stay as safe as you possibly can. Look after yourselves and your loved ones. We are thinking of you all.

Merry Christmas all.

Yours sincerely



C D Bale
Headteacher