

To: To all parents/carers

Gofynnwch Am: Please Ask For: Rhif Est:

Telephone N°: Ffacs:

Fax: E-Bost: E-Mail:

Cylchlythyr: Circular: **Gaynor Davies** 

Fy nghyf: My Ref:

GD

Eich Cyf: Your Ref: Dyddiad: Date:

11.12.20

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

We recently wrote to all parents/carers to explain end-of-term arrangements for our schools. Yesterday afternoon, Councils in Wales were made aware of a clear recommendation made by the Chief Medical Officer that all mainstream secondary schools should be closed to all learners (Year 7 to Year 13 inclusive), with the exception of the most vulnerable, from Monday 14 December.

The Chief Medical Officer's directive does not apply to infant, junior, primary and special schools, or pupil referral unit settings. In view of this, the revised end-of-term arrangements for our schools are as follows:

- the last day of physical attendance for all learners (excluding the most vulnerable) at mainstream secondary schools will be Friday 11 December;
- all secondary school learners will be able to access on-line or distance learning at home during the week commencing Monday 14 December;
- the last day of physical attendance for all learners (excluding the most vulnerable) attending our infant, junior, primary and special schools, and pupil referral units will be Tuesday 15 December; and
- all learners attending infant, junior, primary (including the primary phase in all through schools) and special schools, and pupil referral units will access on-line and distance learning at home on Wednesday 16, Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December;
- if a school has a pre-arranged INSET day then your child may not be provided with on-line or distance learning opportunities on these designated dates.
- high priority vulnerable learners will be selected through a prioritisation process involving colleagues in Children's Services, Education and schools. You will informed if your child is deemed as being a priority for school based learning by the school.

Tŷ Trevithick

Abercynon, Aberpennar, CF45 4UQ Abercynon, Mountain Ash, CF45 4UQ Ffôn/Tel: 01443 744000 Ffacs/Fax: 01443 744024

## **Gaynor Davies**

Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant | Director of Education and Inclusion Services

## Dewiswch iaith a diwyg eich dogfen | Available in alternative formats and languages

Croesawn ohebu yn Gymraeg a fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg ddim yn arwain at oedi. Rhowch wybod inni beth yw'ch dewis iaith e.e Cymraeg neu'n ddwyieithog. We welcome correspondence in Welsh and corresponding with us in Welsh will not lead to a delay. Let us know your language choice if Welsh or bilingual.







- provision for high priority vulnerable learners will be available in mainstream secondary settings (including the secondary phase of all-through schools) between the 14th and 18th of December;
- provision for high priority vulnerable learners will be available in infant, junior, primary (including the primary phase of all-through schools) and special schools, and pupil referral units on Wednesday 16, Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December;
- high priority vulnerable learners that are eligible for free school meals and home to school transport will continue to access this when in school.

Due to the growing increase in positive cases in our communities and the consequential impact that this has on staffing in schools, it is possible that further measures will be necessary. If this happens, further communication will be issued to parents/carers.

It is important to note that these measures have been put in place as a Public Health and Protection measure. The move to on-line or distance learning is part of a national effort to reduce coronavirus transmission. Your support in ensuring that your child maintains social distancing and minimises social contacts with others will make an important contribution to this national endeavor to reduce transmission.

We are extremely grateful to parents and carers for your continued support, understanding and patience at this challenging time.

A safe Christmas and New Year to you all.

Best wishes,

**Clir Andrew Morgan** 

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Leader of the Council

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**Gaynor Davies** 

**Director of Education and Inclusion** 

**Service** 

Jan Rosser

Cllr Joy Rosser **Cabinet Member for Education &** Inclusion

Richard Evans

**Director of Human Resources**