

# CROESYCEILIOG SCHOOL YSGOL CROESYCEILIOG

WOODLAND ROAD, CROESYCEILIOG,  
CWMBRAN, NP44 2YB.

TEL: 01633 645900  
FAX: 01633 645901



HEOL WOODLAND, CROESYCEILIOG,  
CWMBRÂN, NP44 2YB.

FFÔN: 01633 645900  
FFACS: 01633 645901

Headteacher:  
*Mr D. Taylor*

Pennaeth:  
*Mr D. Taylor*

13 March 2020

Dear parent/carer,

## **CORONAVIRUS – SCHOOLS TO REMAIN OPEN**

The UK Government made some important changes yesterday (12.03.20) to the way we are all currently being asked to help manage the Coronavirus outbreak.

The two main messages about schools announced were that:

- schools should remain open so that children can continue their learning, but
- anyone with a **new** persistent cough or high temperature should stay at home (self-isolate) for 7 days, and we would ask you keep us informed and ring our dedicated absence line on 01633 645900 and press option 1.

At this time we are doing all we can to minimise the disruption being caused by the current outbreak. We know that we can rely on you to help us by following the advice about sending your children to school, good hand hygiene and, if necessary, self-isolation. We are also taking additional measures in school to re-inforce hand hygiene messages, and our building cleansing teams are focusing their work on key areas within school such as door handles, bannisters and desks.

The key messages from the Government's advice are:

- If you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started. (See **Ending Isolation** below for more information). This action will help protect others in your community whilst you are infectious.
- Plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home
- Ask your friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home.
- Stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home whenever possible.
- Sleep alone, if that is possible.
- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water.
- Stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions as much as possible. If you have underlying health issues you may need to consult with your own healthcare professionals.
- You do not need to call NHS111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

'LEARNING, RESPECT, AMBITION'

'DYSG, PARCH, UCHELGAIS'

Further information is available on the following websites if you need it:

- What to do if you have symptoms of Coronavirus - <https://gov.wales/what-do-if-you-have-symptoms-coronavirus>.
- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - self-isolation advice <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>.

#### Ending self-isolation

- You should remain at home until 7 days after the onset of your symptoms. After 7 days, if you feel better and no longer have a high temperature, you can return to your normal routine. If you have not had any signs of improvement and have not already sought medical advice, you should contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111.
- A cough may persist for several weeks in some people, despite the coronavirus infection having cleared. A persistent cough alone does not mean you must continue to self-isolate for more than 7 days.
- Further updates will be available from the PHW webpages available <https://phw.nhs.wales/>.

We know that people will have lots of questions over the coming days and weeks, and the best place to start to get answers is the UK government Coronavirus dedicated website <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>.

We will continue reiterating to all our pupils the importance of being safe and preventing the spread of any infection by:

- washing hands often - with soap and water, or alcohol sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport.
- covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin. ***See It, Catch It, Bin It, Kill It***
- students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:
  - before leaving home
  - on arrival at school
  - after using the toilet
  - after breaks and sporting activities
  - before food preparation
  - before eating any food including snacks
  - before leaving school

This is a dynamic situation and as a school we are working hard to minimize the impact on your child's education. However, we also have to manage a safe school site and need sufficient staff on site to do this. Currently there is minimal staff absence but as we move forward we are going to be monitoring levels of staff absence closely.

**We are preparing detailed instructions on E Learning and it is intended that every parent and pupil will be fully aware of usernames and passwords to access our various online platforms. If your child does not have access to a computer or laptop please make us aware of this. Our plans will support ongoing learning for all pupils and will particularly prioritise those sitting examinations this summer.**

**As from today, Welsh Government's guidance is that school trips are cancelled. As soon as we have more information from Torfaen LA and the Welsh Government we shall update all parents/carers who have children participating in school trips this academic year.**

**As a school, we will update you regularly all as soon as we have further information. We would like to thank you for your continued support and vigilance.**

**Yours sincerely**

**V. Harris**

**Acting Deputy Head Teacher**