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Mrs R O'Neill  
**Pennaeth / Headteacher**

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to update you on developments regarding returning to school in January 2021. At present, things change day to day as we receive updates from the Welsh Government and Denbighshire County Council.

As you can see from the attached press release from Denbighshire County Council, school opening during the first two weeks of the Spring term will be changing slightly due to the Welsh Government's new lockdown arrangements announced on Wednesday 16th December.

These are the changes agreed by Denbighshire County Council:

**Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th January** - will be staff training days as planned.

**Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th January** – Schools will offer remote learning for all pupils. Provision in school will be available to those children of key workers and looked after children. This will be available to pupils who have accessed it during the last 2 days of term this week.

**Monday 11th to Friday 15th January** – Schools will return to face to face learning in school. However, this will be dependent on the situation at the time and further guidance from the Welsh Government and Denbighshire County Council. Any further changes will be shared with you with as much notice as is possible.

I felt it was prudent to let you know these arrangements as soon as possible.

Your support is valued and appreciated during this time of change.

Have a lovely Christmas with your loved ones. Stay safe and take care of each other.

Yours sincerely

Rhona O'Neill  
**Headteacher**



**MARC  
GYRFA CYMRU  
CAREERS  
WALES MARK**



Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes  
  
Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydweith Cymru



Cyngor  
**denbighshire**  
County Council

Annwyl Rieni a Gwarcheidwaid

Fel y byddwch eisoes wedi gweld yn y cyfryngau, mae Llywodraeth Cymru a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru wedi cytuno ar dull gweithredu cyffredin ar gyfer dychwelyd i'r ysgol ym mis Ionawr.

Gyda lefelau trosglwyddo'r firws yn parhau i gynyddu ledled Cymru, ac ansicrwydd ynghylch ag effaith y gallai hynny ei gael ar lefelau staffio ysgolion dros gyfnod y Nadolig, bydd gan ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol rywffaint o hyblygrwydd ar ddechrau'r tymor.

Yn dilyn arweiniad gan Lywodraeth Cymru a thrafodaethau gydag ysgolion, mae Cyngor Sir Ddinbych yn hysbysu rhieni a gwarcheidwaid y bydd dysgu o bell ar waith yn ystod wythnos gyntaf y tymor newydd, yr wythnos sy'n dechrau Ionawr 4ydd, 2021. Bydd penderfyniad a all dysgu wyneb yn wyneb ddechrau ar Ionawr 11eg yn cael ei wneud yn ystod yr wythnos gyntaf unwaith y bydd y cynnydd a ragwelir mewn achosion a gadarnhawyd yn hysbys

I lawer o'n dysgwyr yn Sir Ddinbych, bydd y tymor ysgol newydd yn dechrau yn rhithiol ar 5ed Ionawr, gan fod y 4ydd o Ionawr yn Ddiwrnod Hyfforddi Staff. Mewn rhai ysgolion mae dydd Mawrth Ionawr 5ed hefyd yn Ddiwrnod Hyfforddi Staff ac yn yr ysgolion hynny bydd y tymor newydd yn dechrau yn rhithiol ar 6ed Ionawr. Rydym wedi cael gwybod gan Lywodraeth Cymru mai'r disgwyl yw y bydd ysgolion yn darparu dysgu wyneb yn wyneb i'r rhan fwyaf o'u disgyblion erbyn 11 Ionawr, gan arwain at ddychwelyd yn llawn yn y dyddiau cyn 18fed Ionawr fan bellaf.

Nid yw'r penderfyniadau hyn yn cael eu gwneud yn ysgafn ac mae aflonyddu cyn lleied a phosib ar addysg ein plant a'n pobl ifanc yn parhau i fod yn flaenoriaeth, ond mae'n rhaid i ni hefyd gyflawni ein cyfrifoldebau iechyd cyhoeddus yn y frwydr yn erbyn COVID 19. Darperir darpariaeth ar gyfer dysgwyr sy'n agored i niwed a phlant gweithwyr hanfodol fel sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd.

Byddwn yn hysbysu ein hysgolion a'n cymunedau cyn gynted ag y gwneir unrhyw benderfyniadau a diolchaf i chi ymlaen llaw am eich cefnogaeth barhaus yn y cyfnod digynsail hwn.

Cadwch yn ddiogel

**Huw Hilditch-Roberts**

Aelod Arweiniol Addysg, Gwasanaethau Plant ac Ymgysylltu â'r Cyhoedd

**Geraint Davies**

Pennaeth addysg dros dro

Dear Parents and Guardians

As you may have already seen in the media a common approach has been agreed by the Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association for the return to school in January.

With transmission levels continuing to increase across Wales, and uncertainty over what impact that might have on school staffing levels following the Christmas break, schools and local authorities will have some flexibility built in at the beginning of term.

*Following guidance from the Welsh Government and discussions with schools, Denbighshire County Council is informing parents and guardians that remote learning will be in place during the first week of the new term, the week beginning January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A decision whether face to face learning can start on January 11<sup>th</sup> will be taken during the first week once the full extent of the predicted increase in confirmed cases is known.*

For many of our learners in Denbighshire, the new school term will start remotely on 5<sup>th</sup> January, as the 4<sup>th</sup> of January is a Staff Training Day. In some schools Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> is also a Staff Training Day and in those schools the new term will start remotely on the 6<sup>th</sup> January. We have been informed by Welsh Government that the expectation is that schools will be providing face to face learning for the majority of their pupils by 11<sup>th</sup> January, leading to a full return in the days before 18<sup>th</sup> January at the latest.

*These decisions are not taken lightly and minimising disruption to our children and young people's education remains a priority, however we must also fulfil our public health responsibilities in the fight against COVID 19. Provision for vulnerable learners and the children of critical workers will be provided as is the case now.*

We will inform our schools and communities as soon as any decisions are taken and I thank you in advance for your continued support in these unprecedented times.

Stay safe

**Huw Hilditch-Roberts**

Lead member for Education, Children's Services and Public Engagement

**Geraint Davies**

Interim Head of Education