

WG Announcement / PCC Press release

The decision to close schools to most pupils up to 18th January has now been extended to the end of January 2021. However, please be aware that this will be reviewed every three weeks. If the rate of community transmission of the COVID virus does not reduce significantly by the end of January, the period will be extended further to half term (up to Monday 22nd February).

The latest Powys County Council press release is attached at the end of this newsletter. As you will appreciate, we are working with rapidly changing circumstances and we will ensure you are kept up to date with all information that impacts your child's education.

Access to school for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners

School will remain open for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners. If you are classed as a key worker and wish to access this provision, please complete the form sent out with this newsletter to book for next week (Monday 11th-Friday 15th January).

Teams meetings with teachers

Starting next week, there will be an opportunity for pupils to meet their teacher on Tuesday and Thursday via Teams. This will be a chance for pupils to check in with their teacher, ask questions about their work and to speak to friends in their class. We will keep to the same times/days each week.

9:10 Dosbarth Ysgawen

9:45 Dosbarth Collen

10:30 Dosbarth Bedwen

Each meeting will last about 20 minutes.

We understand that not all pupils will be able to attend each meeting, but it would be lovely to see them at one of their class meetings each week. The frequency of these meetings may be increased in future weeks.

Pupils can find their class Teams by logging into Hwb/office 365/Teams. Pupils will be able to join the meeting once the teacher has started it.

Engagement with school work

There is a requirement for schools to monitor pupil engagement with school. We are asking, that as a minimum, pupils log in to j2message each day to read any messages from their teacher and access their tasks set for the day. The link to school assemblies will also be posted in j2message under the Forden-CIW-School tab as well as their class tab. (Monday/Wednesday/Friday).

If you are having any issues with accessing, completing or uploading work, please contact the school (01938 580334 or office@forden.powys.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support.



Powys County Council News Release

January 8, 2021

Schools Update – Friday 8 January

Schools across the county are likely to continue with online learning until at least February half term unless there is a significant reduction in coronavirus cases, Powys County Council has said.

This morning (Friday, January 8), the Welsh Government announced that alert level four restrictions will continue and unless there is a significant reduction in cases before 29 January – the date of the next review – schools will continue to provide online learning until February half term.

Schools will remain open but only for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners.

Cllr Phyl Davies, Cabinet Member for Education, said: “I welcome the Welsh Government’s announcement, which provides greater clarity for our learners, their families and for our school staff. We will work with our school leaders to ensure that appropriate measures are in place to support all our learners over the coming weeks.

“We are committed to returning to face-to-face teaching and learning as soon as possible but only when it is safe to do so.

“The Welsh Government has made it clear that unless there is a significant reduction in coronavirus cases before January 29, online learning will continue until February half term.

“The situation remains very serious and it is important that we all follow the advice to stay at home and protect our health service.

“Schools will remain open but only for children of critical workers as well as vulnerable learners where absolutely necessary. However, it is important that children remain at home wherever possible, as this is the safest place for everyone.

“Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our learners and school staff. Until there is a significant reduction in coronavirus cases and medical and scientific advice allows learners to return to school, online learning will continue in Powys until further notice.

“I would like to thank schools for their ongoing efforts to support pupils during this difficult time and I would also like to thank parents for their patience and co-operation during this unprecedented period of disruption to our schools.”