



Dear parent/guardian,

Today's bulletin is very different to the one originally planned, with last night's Government announcement leading to a lot of work by the school overnight to try and respond to the arrangements needed for next week. The school will close for pupils tonight and lessons will move to virtual teaching next week. We have tried to respond to the feedback following the 'firebreak' lockdown period when making our plans for the week.

## Daily timetable

Each day's timetable will begin with registration in the class 'Team' at 8.50. This is an opportunity for form tutors to share information and check that all is well with the pupils. The lesson timetable is available in this 'Team' and any changes to the timetable will also be noted in the class 'Team'. All live lessons will be in the Team of the teaching group and standalone tasks will be identified on ShowMyHomework.

Teams guides are available through the Teams Guide using the link (<https://spark.adobe.com/page/juZxKv7prCFRf/>)

Year 10-13 lessons follow a normal timetable. There will be some reductions in the timetable on Monday as we get arrangements in place. The year 7-9 timetable will include about half a day of live lessons, with independent tasks on top of this.

The timetable times will be similar to the school timetable, but this will be a bit more flexible - all lessons start at the specified time but do not have to end exactly at the usual time. A double lesson during a school day is 1¼ hours, but a virtual one can be between 1 hour and 1½ hours. If the double lesson is formed from a lesson before break and one after, the teacher can make this a normal double lesson and give break time at the end of the lesson.

The timetable for the last day of term is slightly different with activities including a Christmas service and pupils have received this today.

If a pupil does not log in for registration or lessons an absence message will go out by text or email on the first day. If the pupil still does not attend on the second day there will be a telephone call to check on the individual's welfare. You can send an absence message to [abs@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:abs@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk) if a pupil is ill or has an appointment.

If questions arise you can e-mail [yholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:yholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk) all week on the usual phone number between 9-12 every day.

## Year 8 Parents Evening

The parents' evening on Monday evening will still take place. Any questions that arise following the parents' evening on Monday can be directed to the progress and wellbeing leader, Mr Wil Bowen ([Bl8a9@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:Bl8a9@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk)). This system of hosting an online parents' evening is new to us too so we would appreciate any comments on the arrangements - please send them to [yholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:yholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk).

## Zoom meeting for pupils interested in a career in Sport

We are fortunate that Aled Lewis, an ex-pupil of the School who is now Head of Football Development for the Football Association of Wales, has agreed to hold a session on careers in Sport for pupils in years 10-13 via Zoom. The session will take place on **Tuesday 15 December at 16:30**. To register, email Mr John at [bl12a13@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:bl12a13@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk).

## Test-Trace-Protect over the next few weeks

The COVID contact tracking system will continue to operate over the coming weeks, and members of the school staff will be available to them throughout the holidays if there is a positive outbreak among the school community over the coming weeks. If a pupil or family member shows a COVID symptom, 119 should be called to order a test. If a case arises we will contact any affected pupil, even during the holidays.

The government has now changed the isolation period to 10 days, so no secondary school case will result in a pupil self-isolating past 21st December.

## Operation Endeavour

The school has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between schools and Dyfed-Powys Police. It is a county wide initiative across all schools in Ceredigion.

Operation Endeavour is the sharing with schools, prior to the start of the next school day, of an incident involving a child or young person being reported as missing to police.

Operation Endeavour will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to use the information that has been shared with them about the missing incident to ensure that a child is adequately supported upon their return to school.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.



## Staffing Changes

I would like to say thank you and farewell to Mrs Elen Page who leaves us at the end of term. I cannot overstate her contribution to the school.

In January Mr Dafydd Ellis will join us at the school as head of the Mathematics department.

## Start of term arrangements

Our intention is to re-open as normal on Tuesday, 5th January, unless the Government announces otherwise. This will be week 2 of the timetable.

This will be the last bulletin this calendar year, unless the government makes another significant announcement over the next week. It's been an unusual term, but I would like to thank you and your children for your response to the changed arrangements. I would also like to thank all the school staff and pupils for their hard work over the term.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope to see your children back in school safely at the start of the new term.

Dr Rhodri Thomas  
(Headteacher)

