



# GwE Bulletin



Please share our Bulletin with your whole staff team in your school and encourage all your colleagues to subscribe to our [mailing list](#).



## Message from GwE and the Region's Local Authorities

We hope that you are all keeping well and safe in this very difficult period.

Welsh Government recently published 'The Decision Framework for the next phase of childcare and education: considerations, planning and challenges'. To support you in your preparations we (Local Authority and GwE) will meet with the primary and secondary federations in each authority to discuss:

- Draft risk assessments;
- Framework of advice and guidance which will support your decision making when it is clear who the targeted learners will be when more pupils are to be admitted; and a
- Dashboard (screenshot below) that will be a one stop shop for you in this important next phase.



## CONTENT

### GwE News

- [Contacting GwE](#)
- [Useful Links](#)
- [Welsh Newsletter](#)
- [STEM Gogledd Newsletter](#)

### Welsh Government

- [£5m for mental health in schools will include new support for under-11s and teachers](#)
- [Plan Launched to Support Education for over-16s](#)
- [Education Minister sets out 'thinking' on return to schools](#)
- [Stay Safe. Stay Learning](#)
- [Covid-19 Welsh Government Updates](#)
- [Dysg Newsletter](#)

### Other News

- [Clwb Cylch \[#ClwbCylch\]](#)
- [Covid-19: 24/7 Parenting](#)
- [Leadership Academy wellbeing survey](#)
- [Cameos and ideas from schools and PRUs on continuing with school business](#)
- [#CoronavirusAndMe Survey](#)
- [Primary Science Teaching Trust](#)
- [Teen Blog](#)
- [BookTrust Cymru Home Time Digital Tour](#)
- [NSPCC Campaign](#)
- [North Wales Online Reading Project – Keeping Pupils Reading!](#)



In the first instance and due to their own unique circumstances one to one discussions will be held with PRUs and Special Schools.

Although no decision has been made to re-open schools we want to work proactively with you so that schools across the Region will be in a sound position when such a decision will be made.

Many of you will have started collecting your thoughts about the next steps. We look forward to holding these discussions to receive your views and how best we can share thinking in this very important and critical phase.

#### Half Term

We realise schools are still providing care for children of key workers this week, however, to confirm that in line with Welsh Government guidance, there is NO expectation that schools deliver learning content during the May half term break. This is a statutory school holiday and the physical and emotional well-being of staff, parents and pupils will benefit from a much needed rest.

[Click here for a copy of the letter](#)

Cadw'n Ddîngel.  
Dal ati i Ddysgu.



Stay Safe.  
Stay Learning.

## Education Minister sets out 'thinking' on return to schools

The Welsh Government has [published a document](#) setting out how it is considering the next phase for schools, in response to COVID-19.

## Stay Safe. Stay Learning

#### USEFUL LINKS:

- [Stay Safe. Stay Learning' programme](#)
- [Advice for settings, schools and pupil referral units \(PRUs\) to support them in their work with learners - Developing approaches to support distance learning](#)
- [Advice for parents/carers](#)
- [Distance learning tools through Hwb](#)
- [New Advice to Support School and PRU Leaders to Continue with School Business](#)
- [Supporting your Children to use the Welsh Language at Home](#)

In addition to the guidance, there are resources available to help prepare learning activities and these are being shared with you via your Supporting Improvement Advisers.

# GwE Information and Guidance

## Contacting GwE

We're here to help! We're online and available to support schools and governors.  
Contact us at [post@GwEGogledd.Cymru](mailto:post@GwEGogledd.Cymru) and we'll get back to you ASAP.



## Useful Links

#### Google Classroom for Teaching Assistants

- [Instructions on how to access the page using your Hwb account](#)
- [Guidance on how to use Google Classroom](#)
- [Voiceover explaining what's included in the Google Classroom](#)

#### GwE Resources on Google Classroom

- [Guidance on Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams](#)
- [Further information](#)

#### GwE Covid-19 Updates

- [GwE information & updates sent to schools](#)



## Welsh Newsletter

Follow [this link](#) to see a Welsh Newsletter which sets out how the consortia is working together in terms of Welsh resources for distance learning.

## STEM Gogledd Newsletter

The STEM Gogledd Project is still operational during the current Covid-19 situation. The focus has shifted to supporting pupils at home through on-line methods. [Click here](#) to see their newsletter.

# Welsh Government Information and Guidance

## £5m for mental health in schools will include new support for under-11s and teachers

The Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams, and Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething, have announced £3.75 million of funding for mental health in schools that will include new support for children under the age of 11. School counselling services currently provide direct support to young people from the age of 11, or Year 6, up to the age of 18. The funding will extend support to provide mental and emotional support to children younger than Year 6. Click here to read [more](#).

## Plan Launched to Support Education for over-16s

Kirsty Williams has [announced](#) the [publication](#) of the Welsh Government's resilience plan for the post-16 education sector, setting out how the Welsh Government will work with colleges, universities and training providers to help ensure that learners are supported throughout.

## Covid 19 - Welsh Government Updates

Welsh Government links regarding the coronavirus can be found below:

- Welsh Government coronavirus website: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid19>
- Welsh Government guidance for educational settings: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-educational-settings-guidance>
- COVID-19: travel guidance for the education sector: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-travel-guidance-education-settings-and-students-html>
- Public Health Wales advice: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- Follow on Twitter [@WG\\_Education](#) or [www.facebook.com/educationwales](https://www.facebook.com/educationwales)

## Dysg Newsletter

Make sure you receive Welsh Government's weekly updates and developments on education and training sectors in Wales. Sign up to Dysg [here](#)



# Information and Guidance from Others

## Clwb Cylch [#ClwbCylch]

During the period of the Coronavirus pandemic, Mudiad Meithrin is contributing to Welsh language activity in the home by providing open sessions under the banner of 'Clwb Cylch' (#ClwbCylch) for children of nursery age and their parents via digital platforms. Particular emphasis will be placed on children from families where Welsh is not spoken at home.

From 1 June, a session will be held every Monday to Friday morning at 10.00. The session will be based on the experience of a fun-filled session held at the usual Cylch Meithrin with an experienced Cylch Meithrin leader, using Mudiad Meithrin's language immersion scheme, 'Croesi'r Bont' and Mudiad Meithrin's CPD training department, Academi. The daily sessions will be 20 minutes long, and each week will have a different theme.

## Covid-19: 24/7 Parenting

Researchers from Bangor University have recently been working with the World Health Organisation and UNICEF to put together a series of evidence-informed guides for parents to help them through the school closure period.

Follow [this link](#).

## Leadership Academy Wellbeing Survey

The Leadership Academy is working to develop a Well-being strategy for Leaders in Wales today. We are keen that our strategy is focused around your experience so we would appreciate [your contribution to our well-being survey for school leaders](#)

## Cameos and ideas from schools and PRUs on continuing with school business

Estyn and other partners have gathered cameos to bring to life how some schools and PRUs have responded to keeping their school business going.

Read the cameos

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/document/cameos-and-ideas-schools-and-prus-continuing-school-business>

## #CoronavirusAndMe Survey

People who can make a difference to your life want to hear from you about how life has been over the last few weeks.

The Children's Commissioner for Wales, the Youth Parliament and Children in Wales have been working with the Welsh Government, to make sure that they hear and listen to what you have to say. All of those people want to make sure they are doing their best for all children and young people in Wales. They want to make sure that they are giving you the information and support you need to feel as happy as possible during this time and afterwards.

The survey should take you around 15 minutes.

**The survey closes on 27th May.**

Please share your views. The survey is on this link: [www.childcomwales.org.uk/coronavirusandme](http://www.childcomwales.org.uk/coronavirusandme)



## Primary Science Teaching Trust

The Primary Science Teaching Trust would like to support you during these difficult times.

[Click here](#) to see what support is available.



## North Wales Online Reading Project – Keeping Pupils Reading!

### HEADSPROUT

There are now FREE 90 day Headsprout licences giving access to online reading tuition, supported by a FREE comprehensive online training package from Bangor University. [Click here](#) for further information.

**If you would like to join the project, or if you have any questions, please e-mail [sarah.e.roberts@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.e.roberts@bangor.ac.uk)**

## Teen Blog

The National Library of Wales is redesigning the Welsh Libraries / Llyfrgelloedd Cymru website and introducing some new features that will hopefully support and promote reading activities in Wales. One of the features will be a Teen Blog, which hopefully could be a platform for young people in Wales to write about any subject relating to their reading experiences. Some ideas for the Blog could be the following:

- A review or insight into a book you are reading / have read.
- A comparison of books you have read
- An introduction to a number of books in a particular subject area you are interested in.
- Your experience of the RBdigital eComics service
- Your experience of using Borrowbox or RBdigital eAudioBooks or eBooks during 'lockdown'.
- A piece about 'What's so special about my local library.'



The word count for the Blog should be 300-600 words. We will choose several Blogs each year that will be published on the Welsh Libraries website. These will each win £20 Book tokens. The Blog can be written in Welsh or English. Please return the completed Blogs to [jhe@llgc.org.uk](mailto:jhe@llgc.org.uk)

## BookTrust Cymru Home Time Digital Tour

The digital tours of BookTrust Cymru Hometime and online support sessions have been very popular. Teachers or practitioners working with children in Wales can register to attend one of these sessions by clicking the Eventbrite link below.

### [REGISTER HERE](#)



This will be an interactive session and we welcome feedback on BookTrust Cymru HomeTime and the digital support and resources currently offered.

Please check our [Eventbrite pages](#) to find out about additional digital training and engagements sessions offered by BookTrust Cymru as they are added

## NSPCC Campaign

The NSPCC are running a campaign alerting adults to report concerns they have about children to them.

**NSPCC AND DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT FOR THE HELPLINE**

**NSPCC**



post@gwenorth.wales

