



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

This afternoon Education Minister, Kirsty Williams, published details of the next phase for schools in Wales, providing opportunities to “Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for summer and September”.

The 6 Local Authorities and GwE working in partnership will continue to support you as you work with your school community to plan a phased approach that is right for your school. Please feel reassured that we will continue to be in regular contact with you to inform, support and listen as you continue preparing for the next phase.

As part of today's statement, Welsh Government will publish guidance to support schools next week, including information on managing facilities and logistical arrangements, including buildings, resources, cleaning and transport. However, regional work on developing a supportive framework has been ongoing and we will share with you tomorrow, Thursday 4th June, the first of these which will include:

- a risk assessment and aspects for your consideration within your own settings as a crucial first step in the process
- documentation to support universal wellbeing for all
- some examples of communication with parents and community
- release schedule of further documentation

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult and challenging time.

CONTENT

GwE News

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

Welsh Government

- [Young Person's Mental Health Toolkit](#)
- [£5m for mental health in schools will include new support for under-11s and teachers](#)
- [Plan Launched to Support Education for over-16s](#)
- [“Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for summer and September” – All schools in Wales to enter next phase](#)
- [Stay Safe. Stay Learning](#)
- [Covid-19 Welsh Government Updates](#)
- [Dysg Newsletter](#)

Other News

- [Xplore! Science Discovery Centre, Wrexham](#)
- [Service Children - funding guidance for schools in Wales](#)
- [Cysgliad – software that helps with Welsh language spellchecking and grammar checking](#)
- [Clwb Cylch \[#ClwbCylch\]](#)
- [Covid-19: 24/7 Parenting](#)
- [North Wales Online Reading Project – Keeping Pupils Reading!](#)
- [Useful Links](#)



"Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for summer and September" – All schools in Wales to enter next phase



All children will have the opportunity to "Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for summer and September", the [Education Minister Kirsty Williams announced](#) recently as she published details of the next phase for schools in Wales.

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 and we'll get back to you ASAP.



Welsh Newsletter

Follow [this link](#) to see a Welsh Newsletter which sets out how the consortia are 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.

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 Government Information and Guidance

Young Person's Mental Health Toolkit



The [Young Person's Mental Health Toolkit](#) directs young people, aged 11 to 25, to a variety of online resources which can help them through the lockdown and beyond. In each of the six sections there are websites, apps, helplines, and more which support mental health and wellbeing.

£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

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

Xplore! Science Discovery Centre, Wrexham

After 17 years on the Wrexham Glyndŵr University campus, we are busy putting the finishing touches to our Xplore! Science Discovery Centre in Wrexham town centre (as much as is practically possible!) and we can't wait to welcome everyone when it's safe to do so. Excitingly, we have already started to use our new brand Xplore! on our website www.xplorescience.co.uk and social media channels www.facebook.com/XploreScience / www.twitter.com/xplorescienceuk

We are currently releasing STEM videos, quizzes and bilingual activity sheets through our social media channels and at www.xploresciencecentre.blogspot.com on a weekly basis for schools and families, free of charge. We are also looking ahead and adapting our centre and activities to ensure we can support schools while social distancing measures remain in place.



Please contact us at projects@xplorescience.co.uk if you have any suggestions or requests for how we can support each other during these difficult times.

Service Children - funding guidance for schools in Wales

Members of the SSCE Cymru Network produced [this document](#) to provide schools and local authorities in Wales with information about the funding streams available, along with advice on completing the application forms. The advice comes from members of the funding panels, as well as schools and local authorities that have been successful in applying for the grants.

Cysgliad – software that helps with Welsh language spellchecking and grammar checking

Free Welsh language software released to help with lockdown home schooling and working - [click here](#) for more information.

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](#).



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

Useful Links

- [Leadership Academy](#) - Wellbeing Survey - closing date: **05/06/2020 @ 5:00pm**
- [Estyn](#) - Cameos and ideas from schools and PRUs on continuing with school business
- [Primary Science Teaching Trust](#) - Support
- [The National Library of Wales](#) - Teen Blog
- [BookTrust Cymru](#) - Home Time Digital Tour
- [NSPCC and Department for Education Campaign](#) - Toolkit for the helpline

post@gwenorth.wales

