



GwE
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](#).

Diolch

STAFF ADDYSGU CYMRU SCHOOL STAFF



Message from GwE

At the end of what has been a very different educational year, may we once again take this opportunity to acknowledge the substantial work undertaken by yourselves, and your colleagues, in opening the school to more learners in the past few weeks. Developing and implementing strategies to look after the health and well-being of your staff and young people is a tremendous achievement. We are aware of the work and planning involved in welcoming pupils back to check in, catch up and prepare for September.

Alongside the various challenges you have encountered, the last weeks of this term have also allowed you to re-engage and reaffirm the positive relationship within the school community. Putting plans in place has involved prioritising the health and well-being of learners, staff and adults on school sites. School leaders, staff, governors and families have made the return to school a positive experience for children and young people. The feedback from children and their parents has been extremely positive. It is both pleasing and inspirational to see and hear our children and young people's happiness as they return to their familiar settings and see their friends once again. It is evident that they are not defeated by the current situation.

Your support is sincerely appreciated, as is your continued commitment to collaboration and cooperation. Constructive discussions have taken place and we will continue to work with colleagues region-wide as we move to the 'new normal' in the Autumn term.

We fully appreciate the considerable challenges ahead, especially as you prepare to open to all pupils in September. Rest assured that we will continue to prioritise support for you and your teaching staff.

In September, schools will need to assess the fitness of learning of their pupils before introducing new learning.



To help school's preparedness or approach to ensure learning for all pupils, GwE and the six local authorities will provide a resource that will initially focus on three inter-related components that would help address pupils' fitness for learning skills:

- Emotional and mental well-being;
- Health and physical fitness; and
- Core skills of numeracy and literacy, learning to learn, independence skills.

We are working with Welsh Government to try and get extra funding into North Wales to help target those learners who will have the greatest needs. The intention is that this will complement your allocation of the £29 million that Welsh Government will be allocating to you soon. We will let you know if we have been successful in our approach in September.

A sincere thank you for all that you, your staff, and school community, are doing.

Best wishes to you all, keep safe and enjoy a well-deserved break over the summer.

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the letter.

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.



Press Release: All Eyes on Wales

The recent 'All Eyes on Wales' International conference was a resounding success. During the day over 350 joined the suite of workshops live with many being viewed by groups of learners.

There were clear messages and themes running throughout the day regarding Curriculum for Wales especially the four purposes, Schools as Learning Organisations, Leadership and Learner voice.

The full press release can be viewed [here](#)

Blended Learning Guidance

Take a look at the [guidance for Developing Integrated Approaches to Support Blended Learning for the Phased Opening of Schools](#) developed collaboratively between the four regional consortia and Estyn to support the reopening of schools.



Blended Learning Website

PRIMARY: See the link for the 'primary blended learning' website: <https://t.co/ByTNtoK2nG?amp=1>

SECONDARY: Please follow [this](#) link to the 'secondary blended learning' English-medium site.

STEM Gogledd Newsletter

[Click here](#) for the latest copy of their Newsletter.



Newly Qualified Teachers (NQT) Induction

In 2020-21, there will be **significant** changes to induction regulations, and it will be more important than ever for every school Induction Mentor (IM), NQT and External Verifier (EV) to engage in one of the national training/briefing sessions. There will be a range of bespoke online sessions for each role.

[Schools should appoint an IM to attend a session even if they have not currently recruited a teacher who will be newly qualified in September, since most schools employ NQTs at some point during the academic year].

Click [here](#) for more information / training session dates.

Development Programmes

NPQH 2020-21 – Assessment Only Model

Given the current circumstances and the effect on the usual processes for the NPQH assessment, an additional **NPQH – Assessment Only** model is available for the 2020-21 academic year. This is specifically to support those school leaders who are on the cusp of headship and expecting to apply for headship within the next 12 months. It is intended for those practitioners who are ready for assessment **now** and does not include any developmental support. Applicants will need to secure the endorsement of their Headteacher and of their region. Click [here](#) for further information about the process, the closing date for application etc. If you wish to follow a programme leading to the NPQH qualification but are not on the cusp of headship, you should consider following the developmental pathway by applying for the following programme:

National Aspiring Headteacher Development Programme – Preparing for NPQH 2021-22

This one-year development programme is a professional learning opportunity for experienced school leaders who wish to become headteachers in the future. Completion of this 5-day programme is an expectation for gaining access to NPQH assessment in 2022. Click [here](#) for further information about the process, the closing date for application etc.

Top Tips for Supporting More Able and Talented Learners

Following the pandemic, developed by the consortia cross regional MAT team, [click this link](#) for timely, practical suggestions for supporting our more able and talented learners in these challenging times.

North Wales Online Reading Project – Keeping Pupils Reading!

HEADSPROUT

There are now **FREE** 30 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

Welsh Language Resources

Flipgrid

A Resource to support the development of speaking and listening skills using Flipgrid has been published on Hwb.

[Click here to view it.](#)

Diary

Keeping a journal can be very beneficial, and is a special way of sharing things that are important . [This is a link to create a diary online using Adobe Spark.](#)

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](#)

Please contact WendyWilliams@gwegogledd.cymru to receive the new access code for Google Classroom for Teaching Assistants.



GwE Resources on Google Classroom

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

GwE Covid-19 Updates

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

Newsletters

[Welsh Language Newsletter](#)

Webinars

Details of each webinar are available on our [website](#).

Welsh Government Information and Guidance

Education Minister announces 'back to school' plans for September

The Education Minister, Kirsty Williams, has [confirmed](#) that all pupils will be able to return to school in September. [Click here](#) to read the Minister's letter to schools.

Whole-school Approach to Mental Health Consultation

The Welsh Government has [launched](#) an open consultation on embedding a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. The consultation ends on 30 September 2020.

Teacher Recruitment Campaign

Right now is a perfect time to begin your career in teaching - whether you're a new graduate, or are considering changing your career. Visit <http://discoverteaching.wales> to start your journey today.

Publication of Guidance for the Autumn Term

Welsh Government recently published guidance for the autumn term to support schools and settings to further increase their operations from September 2020.

The **operational guidance** for the autumn term provides a framework for local authorities, schools and settings. It reflects the latest medical and scientific advice and also sets out more detailed information on how schools can estimate and manage the risks of transmission.

The **learning guidance** for the autumn term provides schools and supporting partners a common set of national priorities for learning which is flexible enough to respond to changing conditions. This guidance will help support our schools in ensuring that learners continue to access a broad and balanced curriculum and continue to make progress in their learning regardless of how operations change. The learning guidance is consistent with the longer term aims and principles around curriculum reform.

Links

[Operational guidance](#)

[Learning guidance](#)

[Written Ministerial Statement](#)

[Press release](#)

Written Statement: National School Categorisation System 2020/21

On 6 July, the Minister for Education announced that, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, she has taken the decision to suspend the National School Categorisation System for the 2020/21 academic year. This means that schools will not be assessed or placed in a colour-coded support category for the forthcoming academic year, and no support category will be published on My Local School in January 2021.

Further information available [here](#).

Covid 19 - Welsh Government Updates

- Welsh Government coronavirus website: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid19>
- Welsh Government guidance for educational settings: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-educational-settingsguidance>
- Welsh Government: Education and childcare: coronavirus: <https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus>
- COVID-19: travel guidance for the education sector: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-travel-guidance-educationsettings-and-students-html>
- Public Health Wales advice: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- [Education Minister Announcement - 03/06/2020](#)
- [Letter sent to all Headteachers and Governors - 06/06/2020](#)
- [Letter sent to all school staff in Wales - 12/06/2020](#)
- [Plans for increasing operations in schools and settings](#)
- [Written Statement: Publication of guidance to support educational settings increase capacity.](#)
- [Operational Guidance](#)
- [Guidance on learning over the summer term](#)
- [Childcare guidance](#)
- [Welsh Government: FAQ Section](#)
- [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](#)
- [Support 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](#)
- [Young Person's Mental Health Toolkit](#)

Information and Guidance from Others

Exciting STEM Enrichment Opportunities with Techniquest

Techniquest have risen to the challenge of ensuring that they continue to provide schools with STEM enrichment activities and for the autumn term they're going DIGITAL! And this means that geography is no longer a challenge - they can offer their programmes for the whole of Wales and even globally!

Further information available [here](#).

Theatr Iolo - Children and Young People's Playwriting Competition

We are chasing hopeful young writers between the ages of seven and sixteen to write an original ten-minute drama. The winners see performing their play by professional actors in a sharing event at the Sherman Theatre in 2021.

We want to hear from children and young people across Wales and we ask for presentations to be original, imaginative and for anything they want to write about. [Click here](#) for more information.

Cerdd Iaith CPDL training and website uses music and drama to teach Welsh and Spanish

Primary school teachers can now harness music and drama to help children learn Welsh and Spanish by using a new, free to use [website](#)

The Cerdd Iaith resource, produced by British Council Wales, includes more than 30 activities and complements a training programme offered by the British Council.

To find out more please contact TeamWales@britishcouncil.org

NAEL Vacancy: Assistant Director for Leadership Development and Quality Assurance

The Leadership Academy is looking to recruit an Assistant Director for Leadership Development and Quality Assurance. The post will be responsible for all educational leadership development and leading on the development and delivery of the full range of quality assurance work of the Leadership Academy, specifically leading the work on endorsement for leadership provision.

Full details available [here](#).

CLOSING DATE: 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

BBC Bitesize

Remember there is a wealth of educational content available for learners of all ages on the Bitesize website. It may be the summertime, but the opportunity to learn continues.

bbc.co.uk/bitesizedyddiol

New Parents' Survey - Coronavirus and schools reopening

Thank you to the 257,000-plus parents who responded to our previous survey in May about the impact of coronavirus and school closures on families with school-aged children. Such an amazingly high level of response saw the results mentioned on the main BBC news and gain wide media attraction. Pushing parent voice to the top of the news agenda enabled us to share your views with education policymakers in three of the UK's governments.

[Click here](#) for further information.

Parentkind
Bringing together home & school



SSCE Cymru Newsletter – Summer 2020

Please click [this link](#) to download a copy of the SSCE Cymru Newsletter (Summer 2020 edition).



Bangor University: Free Online Reading and Spelling Instruction

Researchers and educators at Bangor University are currently offering a *FREE online literacy course* for Key Stage 2 pupils over the rest of the term and into the summer. Lessons are in English. This programme is specifically designed for online provision in which pupils receive 8 weeks of literacy tuition, delivered by expert educators, completely free of charge. They can do this either from home, with their caregiver, or if your school is now open, in the classroom. They just need access to a computer and internet. All we ask schools to do is to forward [the pre-packaged information to parents](#). We provide the programme along with all the technical assistance.

Further information available [here](#).

If you are interested in joining this study or would like more information, please email Cameron Downing (c.downing@bangor.ac.uk) or Manon Jones (manon.jones@bangor.ac.uk).

Welsh Sabbatical Courses

[Click here](#) for further information regarding the Welsh in a Year Sabbatical Course and to apply.

[Click here](#) for more information on the Intermediate Level Welsh Language Sabbatical Course and to apply.

post@gwegogledd.cymru

