



Ysgol Greenhill School

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PRIFATHRO/HEADMASTER: Mr. R McGovern MA, FInstLM

18 June 2021

Dear Greenhill School Community

COVID Management – Move to online Learning for all Learners

As you will be aware, this week we have been managing a number of confirmed positive COVID tests. This has required us to manage a very significant Track, Trace and Protect operation alongside NHS Wales and we are most grateful to them and the Local Authority for their support. I would also like to reassure everyone that whilst a number of the individual who have tested positive are unwell, none are seriously so and most report what might be best described as the usual season flu symptoms. I am sure you will join me in wishing everyone currently unwell a speedy recovery.

By now you may have seen or heard the First Minister's statement. Mark Drakeford stated:

"...For the first time this year, we have seen a sustained, week-on-week increase in the rate of coronavirus cases across Wales. Cases fell steadily from their peak over the winter to the very low levels we saw last month. But since the end of May, cases have begun to rise once again.

When I spoke to you a fortnight ago, there were fewer than 10 cases per 100,000 people in Wales; today the rate is 22.5 and there are two local authority areas with rates above 50 cases per 100,000 people.

The positivity rate has more than doubled to 2.3%. And we have seen a rapid increase in the number of cases among people under 25. We believe these increases are being driven by the delta variant.

Clearly, our locality and the school are part of this picture of increased rates. We are doing and will continue to do all we can as a school to reverse this trend and minimise the impact on individuals' health, but this will require everyone to do their part. The analysis of the data shows that transmission of the virus is mainly via community contact. It is therefore imperative that we all reinforce and observe Welsh Government Guidance to limit the spread of the virus, particularly regarding self-isolation when required, and the observance of good hand hygiene and social distancing.

During the week we have fogged every classroom and communal area to ensure every space was hygienically clean. We continue to thoroughly clean every area of the school, including every classroom on a daily basis. Throughout the day high frequency touch points such as door handles, desktops etc. are cleaned every hour. Hand wash and sanitizer is available throughout the school.

Currently, due to the number of students identified as a 'close contact' of an individual who has tested positive and being required to Self-isolate, all of our Year 10 learners are learning online from home.

In other year groups we have a number of learners either self-isolating as a result of a confirmed case or pending the outcome of a PCR test to confirm a previous positive LFT. This is also having an impact on staff for the same reason.

As a precautionary measure and to enable us to deliver learning to all pupils in a consistent manner from **Monday 21st June all learning will move online and be delivered remotely**. The school will be closed to learners. Staff will continue to work from school as usual.

The arrangements for remote, online learning will be the same as during the spring lockdown period and all learners, who are well, should attend all timetabled lesson via Google Classroom. Staff will provide online learning from school and will continue to be available to learners throughout the usual school hours.



Arrangement for vulnerable and Key Worker children will operate as they have previously, during normal school hours. If your child previously accessed this provision and has not been told to self-isolate or tested positive, please use this [link](#) to **request** a place as part of that provision.

The plan is to reopen the school to face to face learning on Monday 28th June to all learners, expect those who continue to be unwell or are required to self-isolate. This will, however, be dependent on the number of cases and numbers being required to self-isolate falling substantially.

As part of the community response to the current increase in rates a Mobile Testing Unit to be set up in the Tenby area for two weeks from Monday 21st by Public Health Wales.

I regret having to make this decision, especially after such a successful start to the summer term but in consultation with PHW and the Local Authority I believe this is the most prudent option for everyone and gives us the best chance of breaking the chain of transmission. However, I do need to stress, this will only be the case if everyone observes the rules around social contact. Whilst these have been relaxed recently, what is in place must be strictly observed or we will find our school closed for longer and greater restrictions once again being imposed.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raymond McGovern'.

Mr. Raymond McGovern
Headmaster