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29 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well. Well done to our students for continuing to engage with the distance learning work.

It was confirmed today that students will not return to school until after half term at least. The Welsh Government plan is for a staggered return from Monday 22nd February commencing with primary children. Therefore, the indication is that students at secondary schools will not return to school immediately after half term. We hope to receive further information on the return of secondary schools from the Welsh Government next week.

Thank you to those of you who completed the parental survey. Your comments and suggestions are very helpful for us to consider for the weeks ahead. It is important that we find out about your experiences. Some parents have signed up to the parent forum. I look forward to meeting you online next week.

The staff have appreciated the overwhelming positive feedback that we have received from parents. A reminder that if you have any individual concerns about your child's education during lockdown, we are the best people to communicate with so please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Distance learning for w/b 1 February 2021**

Distance learning will continue next week but we have decided as a school that there will be a focus on supporting students in catching up on missed/incomplete work so that we can ensure that gaps in their knowledge and understanding are closed.

### **Year 11 Pathways**

Over the coming weeks, we will be supporting our Year 11 students in making choices about their future pathways. This will begin next week with guidance about the options available to them if they choose to stay with us in the sixth form.

From **Monday 1st February**, students and parents/carers will be able to access our Pathways Booklet and recorded videos prepared by subject specialists on the school website. It is essential that you familiarise yourselves with these materials to gain an understanding of the courses and the requirements associated with them.

In addition to the resources on the website, we will be hosting live 'drop-in' sessions (using Google Meet) with teaching staff between 1600 and 1815 on **Thursday 4th February**. These are short sessions that pupils and parents/carers can join to ask any questions that they may have that have not been addressed in the supporting materials.

The sessions are not intended to replace a parents evening and will have others in attendance. If you wish to discuss an individual matter concerning your child's Post 16 pathways, or if you cannot attend the sessions, email addresses along with details of how to access the sessions are included in the information on the school website. A letter with more detailed information will be sent to Year 11 parents next week.

### **And finally ...**

Don't forget to contact us if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or if you need any support or advice with home learning. Please email your child's progress leader or call the school on 01633 224490; lines will be manned during normal school hours (8am-4pm) as usual.

Have a good weekend. Stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Mr. D. Curtis  
Headteacher/Pennaeth