

Ysgol Gynradd Ty-Du  
Ebenezer Drive  
Casnewydd  
NP10 9YX  
Ffôn : (01633) 894591  
e-bost: [rogerstone.primary@newport.gov.uk](mailto:rogerstone.primary@newport.gov.uk)  
[www.rogerstoneprimary.com](http://www.rogerstoneprimary.com)



Rogerstone Primary School  
Ebenezer Drive  
Newport  
NP10 9YX  
Tel: (01633) 894591  
e-mail: [rogerstone.primary@newport.gov.uk](mailto:rogerstone.primary@newport.gov.uk)  
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Headteacher/Pennaeth: **Mr. S Rayer**

January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have had a safe and happy Christmas and that everyone is well.

Much like everyone, my Christmas at home was a very different one – just the 4 of us – something we've never done before, but it was lovely family time.

So, back to school business. You may know that school site was used during the holidays as a mobile testing facility. Talking to the workers there, there were very busy. It is due to finish today, (although it was due to finish Boxing Day!) but if this arrangement needs to change again, I will let you know.

At the time of writing, nothing has changed since I last wrote to you with regard to the local authority's arrangements for schools for the start of the spring term. Full details are in my letter of 17<sup>th</sup> December. In summary:

- In agreement with Welsh Government, the Local Authority has asked schools to move to blended learning the first week of the new school term
- Newport Primary and Secondary schools will operate blended learning during the first week of term (Jan 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>)
- It is intended to recommence face to face teaching resuming on Monday January 11<sup>th</sup> (more information will follow this week)
- Our home learning will be provided in the usual way from 4<sup>th</sup> January.

### Home Learning

A reminder that the details of our home learning provision can be found on the school website: *Information- Correspondence-Continuous Learning*. For what it's worth, I think the national use of the term "blended learning" can be misleading for parents. Blended learning takes place all the time as we are always using a mixture of digital platforms and face-to-face learning to ensure learning is continuous. This week we are moving to "home learning".

### Children of Critical Workers

Childcare for critical workers will be available from Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup>. This childcare is very much for families who have no other option.

If you have no alternative and require childcare as you are a critical worker, please can you notify [distantlearning@rogerstoneprimary.com](mailto:distantlearning@rogerstoneprimary.com) by **10.00am Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**. Those individuals who have been notified to self-isolate will not be eligible for this provision. Thank you to those who have already requested childcare. I will send a confirmation letter Monday afternoon.



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INSPIRE  
ACHIEVE

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Newport  
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To answer some of the questions asked about childcare:

- There will be no formal teaching – it is childcare only
- How childcare is arranged in school will depend on the numbers who require it. It will either be in the hall\* (if numbers are low) or in classrooms (if numbers are high)
- Childcare is available 8.45pm-3.15pm
- The children will be able to work on their home learning that has been set by their teacher
- The children can also bring in things to do (e.g. games, colouring books, electronic devices)
- The children will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks – there will be no hot dinners available

\*You need to be aware that if the childcare takes place in the hall, this will create a new contact group which will increase the risk of self-isolation as the children will now be part of 2 contact groups – the other one being their year group when classes return. We will reduce this risk by ensuring staff and pupils remain socially distant. We also have 2 clear days (Saturday and Sunday) where children will not be in school which reduces the risk further.

### **Vulnerable Learners**

Mrs Dunn and Mrs Loizos will be ringing our vulnerable learners on Monday morning and inviting those who may need to come to school Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. For those vulnerable learners who use NCC school transport, we need to let Newport City Council know by noon Monday who will require it.

### **Positive Tests**

Arrangements for anyone in your household that is tested positive have not changed. Please email the address below and attach the NHS confirmation.

I will provide another update before Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. Fingers crossed that everyone will be able to return then!

Stay safe everyone.

Kind regards,

**Steve Rayer**  
Headteacher

**For anything urgent or a notification of a positive case outside of normal school hours please email me at [distantlearning@rogerstoneprimary.com](mailto:distantlearning@rogerstoneprimary.com).**

