



Growing & Learning Together through Faith, Friends and Fun

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Dear Parents/Carers

As you know, from today all schools in Wales will be closed as providers of statutory education. This is to reduce the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) by social distancing. Therefore, I write to tell you that as of Monday 23rd March, Ysgol y Llan will be closed to **most** pupils.

The government have made it quite clear that parents should prevent their children from attending school for fear of further spread of the virus.

We have now received information from Flintshire County Council with regards to how we can provide childcare support next week for 'Key Workers'. This is currently based on the Flintshire list emailed out to parents yesterday.

We will be open from Monday 23rd March to Friday 27th March, providing childcare from 8.00am - 5.30pm for one week in the first instance.

The expectation is that any child who can safely be cared for at home should be and it is ONLY in exceptional circumstances that you will need to access this provision. The purpose of school closure is ultimately to reduce social contact. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in the wider society. The criteria that has been issued by the Council for the allocation of childcare places is:

If you are a

- 1. A single parent (who is a key/vital worker)**
- 2. Both parents are key/vital workers**

Please do not send your child to school if you do not meet the Flintshire criteria. Children of these key workers will be able to have access to the childcare next week in school. Newydd Catering service will provide cold meals to cater for all children at no charge but feel free to bring packed lunches.

We realise that this Flintshire list differs from the UK Government list and we are waiting for further clarification about which jobs now come under the title of key/vital workers. However, at this moment in time we have to follow the advice of Flintshire County Council. Please be rest assured that we will pass on any further information as soon as we receive it.

The Council's Emergency Planning Team are clear that this arrangement will be in place for one week only so that planning towards the implementation of 'Resilience Hubs' may continue, with a view to implementation w/b Monday 30th March.

We will continue to follow the latest Welsh Government and Public Health Wales advice and guidance when considering our provision, particularly with regard to social distancing and self-isolation, see link below:

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

Communication with yourselves as parent and carers is very important. We will continue to communicate key messages to you using ParentMail and OurSchoolsApp.

I know that this situation is difficult and complex for everyone involved. The government and council are striving to put plans in place in a rapidly changing situation. They are sharing information with us as and when they can.

We find ourselves in unprecedented times with a lot of uncertainty as to what the immediate future holds. However, I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support and patience during this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Mr Griffiths