

**Ysgol Santes Ffraid**  
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**St Brigid's School**  
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17th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following extensive discussion, a common approach has been agreed by the Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association for the return to school in January.

With transmission levels continuing to increase across Wales, and uncertainty over what impact that might have on school staffing levels over the Christmas break, there will be some flexibility built in at the beginning of term. However, minimising disruption to our children and young people's education remains a priority.

Monday 4th January 2021 remains an INSET Day for staff. From Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January 2021, all learners will be learning remotely (from home), via Seesaw for Foundation Phase (Nursery – Yr 2), Google Classroom for Year 3 – Year 11 and Microsoft Teams for Sixth Form.

Unless there is a significant rise in cases in the new year, St. Brigid's will be open for all learners for face-to-face teaching on 11th January 2021.

The school will be open as childcare for vulnerable learners and the children of critical workers (including school staff) to attend, as is the case now. If you are a critical worker and will need childcare on Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th January 2021, please email [collinss45@hwbcymru.net](mailto:collinss45@hwbcymru.net) to book a place.

A WLGA spokesperson said:

*“The plan to return to schools in January will give some certainty, whilst also allowing for flexibility to take account of local circumstances.”*

*“Teachers, school staff, learners, and parents and carers’ response has been remarkable throughout this challenging year. It has not been easy, and we thank them for their continued patience and perseverance to help keep our communities safe.”*

*“To help curb the rapid spread of the virus, we must all continue to do all we can to protect ourselves, each other and our communities.”*

A Welsh Government spokesperson has said:

*“We all recognise that these are unprecedented times and that we have to be agile in how we respond to the impact the virus has on our communities.”*

*“By agreeing to a flexible approach during the first two weeks of the new school term in January enables our schools to put in place proportionate arrangements which reflect their specific circumstances and is guided by public health and safety considerations.*

Thank you all for your support and continuing to cope in these unprecedented circumstances. I do hope you manage to have a good Christmas with your families.

God Bless.



Mrs L Crimes  
Headteacher/Pennaeth

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