

The Highway  
Hawarden  
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CH5 3DN

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Yr Highway  
Penarlag  
Sir y Fflint  
CH5 3DN

5 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to wish the whole school community a Happy New Year and share some hope and optimism for a brighter 2021, despite perhaps the start that we would not have wished for. Whilst the Christmas period was certainly different for us all, I do hope that families enjoyed some rest and relaxation.

Further to the communication you will have received on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 about school closures, there have obviously been a number of developments at a national level which impacts the return to school for pupils this term. This includes the announcement of a new and highly transmissible variant of the virus; the highest level of restriction being placed on everyone in Wales; and updated advice from the Chief Medical Officer with regard individuals who were previously shielding. The [announcement](#) by the Education Minister yesterday evening, which indicates that the UK is now at the highest level of risk, means that all return to school plans change. The statement made by the Joint Chief Medical Officers for the UK can be accessed [here](#).

The revised arrangements mean that:

- The initial period of remote learning for pupils is now extended until Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> January.
- The emergency childcare provision offered to the children of key workers and those pupils identified as vulnerable will continue for the initial period until Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> January. Booking forms should be completed for each new week, are available to download from the school website and should be returned to [childcarebooking@hawardenhigh.flintshire.sch.uk](mailto:childcarebooking@hawardenhigh.flintshire.sch.uk) as far in advance of Monday as possible.
- Students who have scheduled public examinations during this time will still travel to school to sit them and then depart. Mrs. Bowdler, Data and Examinations Manager, is contactable to discuss this further, if required.

Throughout this latest period we will continue to undertake wellbeing phone calls to pupils, particularly those that have not engaged with online learning for whatever reason to check whether there is anything we can do to further support. Similarly, the school office remains open so please do contact the school if you think we can help in any way.

I recognise that these late announcements and changes are disruptive to your own lives and commitments. I trust you understand that these are beyond the school's control and we will continue to communicate with you as soon as information is shared with us.

Please do be assured that we are doing everything we can to support pupils with their learning remotely during this time, however, I am grateful to you for your ongoing support, partnership working and encouragement of your daughter/son with their school work.

Yours sincerely



Mr. S. Budgen  
Headteacher