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YSGOL I.D. HOOSON

18.12.20

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to thank you for your continued support during this very difficult term. It has been extremely challenging and we appreciate the continued impact that this situation is having on all of our lives. Unfortunately, as we start to make arrangements for the Christmas break, the situation is rapidly changing. As you will have seen in the news, a national statement has been made regarding the beginning of the new term.

In consideration of the rapidly changing picture, Local Authorities have been advised by the Welsh Government that a flexible approach at the beginning of the term will be necessary, particularly as it is anticipated that numbers may rise following the Christmas break. As a result, we have considered the best and safest way to put in place arrangements for the new term. This has been done with the Local Authority and the Governing Body.

As you are already aware, Monday January 4th will be a staff training day. The new term will begin for the children on Tuesday January 5th, and education provision will made through online learning for the first week of term. This decision has been taken on the basis of the local context and concerns regarding the potential position after the Christmas break. Face to face provision will be available for children of critical workers and children who are considered to be vulnerable on the third day of opening, which will be Thursday January 7th, and available for Reception to year 6 pupils. However, it is understood that provision may be required for some children of ***frontline critical workers*** on the first two of the online learning days(5th and 6th of January). If you require provision and are unable make alternative arrangements please contact us by 12.00 on Monday 4th January so that we can discuss the required arrangements. You should do this by emailing mailbox@hooson-pri.wrexham.sch.uk
PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS PROVISION SHOULD ONLY BE USED IF YOU HAVE INVESTIGATED ALL OTHER POSSIBLE CHILDCARE OPTIONS. The main purpose of the arrangements introduced by the government is to minimise contact of children and adults with each other, and therefore in our effort to bring the virus under control, your child would be safer not attending the school and avoiding unnecessary contact with staff and children.

Whilst it is intended for all pupils to be in school for face to face learning by Monday, 11th January, 2021, if it is safe to do so, we will contact early during the first week of term to inform of arrangements for the following week.

I appreciate that this is a very stressful and anxious time for us all and I apologies for informing you of these recent developments and changes before Christmas, but I felt it would be useful for you to be notified of these changes as soon as possible, to enable you to plan your childcare arrangements for the beginning of term. The current situation regarding the pandemic continues to be extremely worrying for us all, and these actions are required to ensure everyone's health and safety. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Please continue to take care and to keep safe with your families over the Christmas break.
Yours sincerely,
Rhodri Jones
Headteacher