

BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL YSGOL GYFUN Y COED DUON

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Dear Parents, Carers and Governors

16th December 2021

I hope you are well.

As you may be aware, this morning the Education Minister, Jeremy Miles, shared information regarding the start of the new term in January 2022. Given the current levels of uncertainty regarding the impact of Omicron, he stated that Welsh Government wanted to provide schools with as much clarity as they can to enable them to plan and prepare safely for their return. Consequently, he is providing all schools with two planning days at the start of the new spring term, this will allow them time to assess staffing capacity and put the necessary measures in place to support the return of learners. Our planning days will take place on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th January 2022, which means that pupils will remain at home on remote learning until Thursday 6th January.

Additionally, the Education Minister is allowing schools to return to a staggered start and finish to the school day and recommending that all staff and learners take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) three times in the week before returning to school (on Monday, Wednesday, Friday). This should continue after the start of term.

This is a fast evolving situation and we may have more information during the Christmas holidays. I will update you with more information prior to our return, including details of any potential staggered start and finish to our day.

I hope you have a safe, enjoyable and restful Christmas break and New Year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Take care.

Yours faithfully

Jane Wilkie

Headteacher/Pennaeth





