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March 22nd 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Friday evening, the announcement from the Prime Minister ordering the closure of cafes, public houses, restaurants, cinemas, theatres, bars, night clubs, gyms and leisure centres made the considerations regarding the childcare available at Ysgol Bro Famau from tomorrow ever more serious. The Prime Minister stated, 'We need to physically keep people apart.....As far as possible we want you to stay at home – that is how we can protect the NHS and save lives'.

The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the government has asked parents to KEEP THEIR CHILDREN AT HOME, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open ONLY for those children who absolutely need to attend.

We appreciate that these are very difficult times for you and your families and if you are front line Key Workers, you will have significant concerns about provision for your children now schools have closed. The Local Authority has been working with us to determine the best course of action to support you at this time. Ysgol Bro Famau will remain partially open, on the LLANFERRES SITE to offer 'emergency' provision for the children of Key Workers to enable you to continue to perform your critical duties at this time.

School kitchens will be open to provide meals for the Key Worker children and payment will be through the normal processes.

The arrangements outlined in this letter will be monitored and adapted as circumstances develop, which, as you will appreciate, is occurring at pace. The guidance issued is based on the most recent advice from UK & Welsh Government and from discussions across the Council.

It is important that schools and other educational establishments remain safe places for children, and we must prioritise the health of our staff. The fewer children who attend school, the lower the risk that this virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals across the authority. **If you are not a Key Worker please do not attempt to access this provision.**

On arrival on Monday, we have been asked to ensure all Key Workers are valid and that they confirm their employment details. We will be provided with a list of all parents who have filled the questionnaire.

On Monday, please ensure you provide the following details:

- organisation you work for
- your line manager
- work contact details
- work ID badge
- shift pattern for the week.

Could you also ensure that you please sign your child in and out on arrival and departure on the register.

THIS IS NOT FREE CHILDCARE – THIS IS EMERGENCY PROVISION AT A TIME OF GLOBAL CRISIS

Many of my staff are in the vulnerable category, live with someone in the vulnerable category or are needing to self-isolate. Therefore, we are operating with a greatly reduced number of staff to adhere to 'social distancing'.

At Ysgol Bro Famau we will be open on Monday 23rd March, for emergency provision ONLY, from 8am (Breakfast Club) 9am until 3.15pm (normal school time). After School Club will be available, but the terms and costs of care between 3.15 and 6pm remain as before and we will be reviewing the feasibility of this provision.

Please do not turn up on Monday if you have not registered as an approved 'Key Worker' with Denbighshire and filled in the school's Key Worker Questionnaire also.

Please do not turn up if despite being a Key Worker you have adequate care at home.

We reserve the right to turn people away if we feel this emergency provision is being abused. Please do not put us in a difficult position during these extremely trying circumstances. We will act to protect the children, staff, parents and wider community which, in turn, will PROTECT THE NHS.

Many thanks for your continued patience and understanding.