



**Cyngor Sir Powys / Powys County Council
Neuadd Y Sir / County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys LD1 5LG**

20-09-21

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope your child/children have settled well into school over the past two weeks. It has been an extremely busy start to the new school year with numbers of positive Covid cases in some schools rising significantly higher than at any other time during the pandemic. We are pleased that we advised a cautious return to school.

As of Monday 20th September the new national framework for schools is expected to be in place in all schools to assist with the day to day running of each school. It is therefore possible that some schools will need more measures in place than others depending on the number of positive cases in the school in line with the school's risk assessment.

However, there are some measures that we advise should be consistent throughout the Local Authority in line with the new framework. We strongly encourage all staff and all pupils from year 7 upwards to take LFD tests twice a week on a Sunday and Wednesday. You will be able to collect the tests from libraries and pharmacies throughout Powys.

It is also an expectation that there are good hygiene regimes such as handwashing regularly throughout the day for all staff and pupils both at home and at school. This will help prevent the spread of the virus.

We are also advising that open evenings and parents' evenings take place remotely this term. Virtual open evenings were very effective last year with schools producing high quality information to parents so that they were able to make informed decisions in choosing the secondary school for their children. Parents' evenings were also very successful undertaken remotely as well.

Once again we thank you for your co-operation to date and hope that children and young people can remain in school throughout the autumn term and things can be back to normal in our schools as soon as possible.

**Cllr Phyl Davies
Cabinet Portfolio Holder for
Education and Property**

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