

Gorwel Addysg Gwybodaeth



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Comprehensive School

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Headteacher/Pennaeth: M. J. Stephens NPQH, P Dip Ed, BA (Hons)

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Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: C-A. Painter BA (Hons)

8th December 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you are safe and well. Over the weekend, extreme winds from Storm Darragh have caused damage to a number of buildings on our school site.

By means of a brief update:

- A large section of the roof has been damaged on G Block. This has impacted the surrounding areas/buildings.
- Large pieces of debris are currently spread across parts of the school site in sections. These are blocking a few walkways and entrances to buildings. We continue to work with BCBC about the safe removal of this material.
- Several skylights and fans have been lifted and/or damaged on different buildings and these need to be secured.
- Water has entered classrooms and foyer spaces in a number of areas across the school.
- There has been damage to shelters/walkways/windows/fences.
- We have experienced some electrical and cabling issues.

Over the weekend, we have been working with the Local Authority to assess, review and make safe areas of the school site. However, progressing with this works safely has proven to be difficult due to the on-going weather conditions and the number of works needed.

As a result of this damage a decision has been made to partially open Porthcawl Comprehensive School on Monday 9th December 2024. The school will be open **ONLY for pupils in Year 10, Year 11 (Key Stage 4) and Year 12 and Year 13 (Sixth Form).** Pupils will follow their normal timetable of lessons, however there will be room changes for identified subjects.

Pupils in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 (Key Stage 3) will not attend school on Monday 9th December. Work will be posted on your child's ClassCharts account as 'homework'. Some subjects may also publish tasks on another digital platform used by their subject teachers such as Google Classroom.

I have a statutory duty to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the pupils, staff and visitors. Reducing the number of pupils on site allows for examination classes (Yr10, Yr11, Yr12 and Yr13) to be re-roomed as required. It reduces pupil movement and it also enables parts of the school site to be kept free so that the required work / planning can take place.

On Monday 9th December, a series of works will be completed to ensure the school returns to normal operations. I will fully assess the site on Monday afternoon, and I will update about our arrangements for Tuesday 10th December in due course.

Important Information for Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 pupils attending school on Monday 9th December.

- The entrance at the top of the school site by Severn Road will be locked. The section of the school is cordoned off whilst the roof damage is assessed further, and debris is cleared safely. Therefore, all pupils must enter school through the main entrance/gate.
- At the start of the school day, pupils will be informed of any room changes by their form tutor.
- There will be a controlled movement around the school site and areas will be out of access. E.g. the surrounding areas of G Block and the Geography bungalow (D11-D14). This will be explained in more detail on Monday.

I apologise in advance for the disruption this may cause and I thank you for your full support and cooperation as we move forward.

Cofion cynnes / Kind regards,

M. Stephens

Headteacher/Pennaeth