

12th March 2021



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Newyddion Coronafeirws COVID-19



## News Headlines

### [Staying local – Wales takes first steps to relax lockdown](#)

The First Minister, Mark Drakeford, has announced that an interim rule to stay local will be introduced from Saturday 13 March in place of the stay-at-home restrictions. This rule will form part of a package of measures to begin a gradual and measured process of relaxing the strict coronavirus-related regulations.

### [An additional £150 million to support businesses in Wales](#)

A further £150 million is available to support Welsh businesses to deal with the ongoing impact of coronavirus.

### [One million people given the first dose of the vaccine](#)

One million people across Wales have received at least one dose of the vaccine against coronavirus, which means that almost 40% of the adult population now has some protection from COVID-19.

## **Launch of an online self-referral form for carers to get the COVID-19 vaccine**

Unpaid carers, who are not registered as a unpaid carer with their GP, are asked to come forward by completing a new online self-referral form to get their COVID-19 vaccine as part of priority group 6.

## **An additional £72m to support learners on their return to school**

Education Minister Kirsty Williams has announced a further £72 million to support learners as part of the response to recovery and progress following the pandemic.

## **£60m to continue contact tracing over the summer**

Vaughan Gething, the Health Minister, has announced that a further £50m is being set aside to allow health boards to continue contact tracing over the summer.

## **£18.7 million to continue incentives to help recruit more apprentices**

The Welsh Government has invested £ further £18.7 million to extend incentives to help businesses recruit apprentices in Wales.

## **£1.3m to the Welsh seafood sector to help deal with the effects of Brexit and Covid**

The Welsh Government has launched a new £1.3m scheme to help Wales' fishing and aquaculture sector following the two problems for their businesses caused by leaving the EU and the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Welsh Government extends measures to protect businesses from eviction until end of June 2021**

Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales, Ken Skates, has announced that retail, hospitality and other businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic will now be protected from eviction until the end of June 2021.

## **People who are homeless to be prioritised for COVID vaccine**

Health Minister Vaughan Gething has confirmed that people who are homeless and people who have recently been homeless in Wales will be offered a COVID vaccine as part of a priority 6 group.

## **May 2021 elections: Joint statement by welsh, UK and Scottish Governments**

Secure elections are vital to our democracy. Now, more than ever, voters have the right to be heard, and elections are planned in England, Scotland and Wales on 6 May 2021.

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### **Other News**

## **Additional £30 million for Welsh-medium education**

The Welsh Government has announced an additional £30m to develop Welsh-medium education.

## **£16m investment in fund to speed up access to life-saving medicines**

The Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething, confirmed that he would provide a further £16m to extend a scheme to speed up access to new medicines in Wales

## **£9m investment in Intensive Learning Academies to promote innovation in health and social care**

The Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething, announced that he was setting aside over £9m for the creation of new academies to support the next generation of leaders in the Welsh health and care sector.

## **£6.5 million investment to tackle obesity and help individuals at risk of developing diabetes that will 'benefit young and old' during the fight against the pandemic**

More than £6.5million is being invested to tackle obesity and diabetes in Wales, in a bid to support those most at risk of being seriously affected by the pandemic.

## **5 things you may not know about the new Curriculum for Wales**

History was made in Wales on Tuesday, 9 March) when the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill reached its final stage before being passed into law.

## **More help to ensure Wales is ready for the challenges after the transition period**

As new barriers and complexities in our relationship with Europe continue to emerge, Jeremy Miles, the Counsel General and Minister for European

Transition, today announced an additional £7m for projects to help the hardest hit sectors.

## **"Working together for the restoration of the north" – Ken Skates**

The Welsh Government, local authorities and their partners are working together for the full recovery of north Wales and making the region greener, fairer and more prosperous, said Economy and North Wales Minister Ken Skates.

## **Wales takes a step forward in tackling systemic inequality in passing the socio-economic duty**

As the Welsh Parliament passed the Socio-Economic Duty regulations today, Deputy Minister and Chief Whip Jane Hutt said that it was a truly innovative moment in Welsh history.

## **Caernarfon and Bontnewydd bypass moves on as viaduct beams are installed**

Skilful work over recent months to install bridge beams to build two viaducts as part of the Caernarfon and Bontnewydd bypass has now been completed.

## **Choosing to Challenge on International Women's Day: Wales will not tolerate abuse or inequality**

On International Women's Day, the Deputy Minister and Chief Whip, Jane Hutt, is asking the people of Wales to choose to challenge gender bias, inequality and violence against women.

## **"When we stand together, united as one community, we can make a world of difference to tackle hate crimes in our society."**

Jane Hutt on the launch of the 'Hate Hurts Wales' campaign.

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## **Guidance**

### **[Alert level 4: frequently asked questions](#)**

Guidance on how to protect yourself and what rules are in place to protect people at alert level 4.

### **[Operational guidance: further education and post-16](#)**

Guidance setting out the arrangements for the safe delivery of learning in the further education, work-based and adult learning sectors from 1 September 2020.

### **[Retailers: coronavirus guidance](#)**

How to work safely during the COVID-19 pandemic if you work or employ people in a retail environment.

### **[Guidance on protecting people clinically defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable due to coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – formerly the 'protection' scheme](#)**

Guidance on protecting and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable as a result of COVID-19.

### **[Visits to care homes: guidance for providers](#)**

Guidance on how to enable visitors to visit safely during the coronavirus pandemic.

## **What happens when you get tested for coronavirus (COVID-19) (easy read)**

An easy read explanation of when to be tested and what the NHS will ask if you test positive.

## **Testing, tracking, protection: summary of process**

Multilingual versions of what you need to do to help trace contacts to control the spread of coronavirus.

## **COVID-19 vaccination priority groups**

The procedure for vaccinating the population against COVID-19.

## **Covid-19 vaccinations for people who are homeless**

An explanation of the criteria to be used to identify people who are homeless in priority group 6 for the COVID-19 vaccination.

## **Regional coronavirus testing facilities**

Wales' testing capacity is supported by an extensive network of facilities across the country.

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## **Policy and strategy**

## **Coronavirus management plan: alert levels in Wales (gradual easing of restrictions)**

In this update, we set out what has changed since December and what this means for our decisions.

## **COVID-19 vaccination strategy update February 2021**

An update on our COVID-19 vaccination strategy, priorities and achievements to date.

## **COVID-19 vaccination programme weekly update: 9 March 2021**

Update on the COVID-19 vaccination programme to 9 March 2021.

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## **Legislation, Technical Advice and Statistics**

### **Coronavirus legislation and guidance on the law**

The laws and guidance on these laws were passed in Wales in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

### **Evidence and data used to inform coronavirus restrictions**

The evidence the Welsh Government is using to decide how to protect everyone from coronavirus.

### **Coronavirus advice from the Technical Advice Cell**

Information to help ministers respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a way that is in the best interests of the people of Wales.

### **Technical Advice Cell latest modelling: 12 February 2021**

Information used by ministers to make informed decisions in the best interests of the population of Wales, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Technical Advice Cell: council summary 9 March 2021**

Summary of COVID-19 advice provided to Welsh Ministers on 9 March 2021.

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) related statistics and research**

Latest data and analysis on the impact of coronavirus on Welsh society.

## **Impact assessments: coronavirus**

Assessments of how our measures to manage COVID-19 impact on equality.

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## **Promotional Material and Toolkits**

Here's sharing with you the latest Safeguarding Wales assets. You can use them on your communication channels – website, newsletter, social media.

## **Keep Wales Safe promotional material**

This link has been updated to include StayIng Local promotional material.

## **Keep Wales Safe promotional material - vaccinations**

Keep Wales Safe on vaccinations promotional material. Here's a new link.

## **Education promotional material**

This link has been updated.

## **Test, Trace and Protect promotional material**

Test, Trace, Protect is the Welsh Government's strategy for testing the public and tracking the spread of coronavirus in Wales. There are ongoing Test, Trace, Protect communications to let people know about symptoms, test, self-isolate, contact tracing, self-isolation support and the NHS COVID-19 app. The latest posters, explanation documents and multilingual assets are available here

New videos and social media assets are also regularly produced for stakeholders to share through their own channels. The assets are available to download here - spread these to your networks and use them across your internal and external channels to help share information about Test, Trace, Protect.

## **Business Wales Toolkit**

Practical resources to help employers keep their employees safe in the workplace.

## **COVID-19 risk assessment tool for the workforce**

This resource helps you consider your personal risk factors for COVID-19 and recommends how you can stay safe.

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## **NHS COVID-19 App**

Do you use the NHS COVID-19 app? The app allows you to report symptoms, order a coronavirus test, and register at locations by scanning a QR code. The app does this while protecting your anonymity. If you have already downloaded the app, remember to use it - the more people use the app, the greater our chances of reducing the spread of the virus. The app is an important part of our Test, Trace, Protect program.

## **Self-isolation support scheme**

If the NHS COVID-19 app has notified you to self-isolate, you can now apply via the app for £ payment of £500 as part of the self-isolation support scheme to help with loss of earnings.

## COVID Symptom Study

Help us fight coronavirus by reporting your health on a daily basis, even if you are feeling ok.

You can help the NHS in the fight against coronavirus by completing a daily health survey on the [COVID Symptom Study app](#). This app is suitable for everyone, not just for the individuals with symptoms.

The app will help us understand the symptoms and spread of COVID-19. By answering some quick questions, you can help us plan our response to coronavirus.

We will not share your answers beyond the NHS and trusted organisations working directly with the NHS to respond to coronavirus.

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## Testing, tracking and protection

A campaign is underway to raise public and key worker awareness of the Welsh Government's Test, Trace and Protect strategy. The latest information on the strategy, including guidance for employers, can be found on the website. (<https://gov.wales/test-trace-protect-coronavirus>). Video material has produced for use in campaigns and for stakeholders to share on its channelling. You can download the [digital material here](#) and we would appreciate it if you would share on your social channelling, in order to share information about the Test, Trace and Protect strategy.

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## Information



## [Education and childcare](#)

Coronavirus guidance for parents, all those working in education and childcare providers



## [Businesses and employers](#)

Support to help businesses and third sector organisations affected by coronavirus



## [Health advice](#)

Staying at home, self-isolating, being supported as an extremely vulnerable person



## [Health and social care professionals](#)

Coronavirus guidance for the NHS and people working in social, community and residential care



## [Or](#)

Guidance for landlords, park homes (mobile) and rough sleeping services during the coronavirus pandemic



## [Travel](#)

Coronavirus advice for people coming back from abroad or planning to travel



## **Volunteering (third sector)**

Volunteering during the coronavirus pandemic, support for the third sector



## **Community services**

Planning, fire, domestic abuse and sexual violence



## **Jobs, skills and financial support**

Help with benefits, staying at work and gaining new skills

## **Useful links**

[Welsh Government](#)

[Public Health Wales](#)

[Business Wales](#)

[Looking at each other](#)

[Volunteering Wales](#)

A newsletter to provide the latest information and advice from Welsh Government on Coronavirus (COVID-19).

More information on the web:

[gov.wales/coronavirus](https://gov.wales/coronavirus)

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