

Kirsty Williams AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Addysg
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-1147
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/02173/21

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair
Welsh parliament
Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

9 April 2021

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Petitions Committee, seeking views on the issues raised in Petition P-05-1147 requesting consideration of the options available for parents to raise future concerns regarding live lessons with local authorities.

Let me assure you that I am aware of the significant impact that missing school can have on the development, mental health and wellbeing of our young people. That is why on 31 March, as part of the [latest 21-day review](#), the First Minister again set out the priority placed on ensuring all children and students in Wales will return to face-to-face education on Monday 12 April.

Additional mitigating measures are in place to make the school environment safe for a return to face-to-face learning and we have updated our [guidance](#), having taken into account the anxieties of learners, schools staff and others who may be exposed to the virus in the classroom or workplace, and schools have some flexibility in terms of how they choose to implement these. With these additional measures in place, there should no longer be a requirement for cohorts of learners to be required to learn from home.

The responsibility for the schools including the measures that they put in place during school closures, such as the provision of live lesson rests with local authorities. I would therefore continue to urge any parent or learner that has any issues with the learning that is being provided to contact their local authority directly to discuss these issues; they are best placed to provide the rationale for the decisions taken locally.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsty Williams".

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

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