

Senedd Cymru  
Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

Ymchwiliad i effaith argyfwng Covid-19 ar blant  
a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru

COV 154  
Ymateb gan: Unigolyn

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Welsh Parliament  
Children, Young People and Education Committee

Inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak on  
children and young people in Wales

COV 154  
Response from: Individual

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I am writing in relation of the Rejection of Estyn / WG document published June 2020 - Developing Integral Approaches to support blended learning for the phased reopening of schools June 2020as published this week .

The push for "blended learning " has been driven by the 2m SD rule being applied in schools . I reject that 2 m is required in schools given the very low risk to children and young people by C19 .

Please be aware that I am calling for a full return to school in September 2020 for all children in Wales .

In response to your document published this week , the delivery of the blended learning model is solely dependent on interaction at home by a person who is educated to teacher level given that your document states that not every school will be required to provide live lessons . How will a CYP understand the work that has been set without teacher assistance?

Your document does not include any Equality Impact statements for CYP and parents and carers with the only mention in regards to "child care " directed at teaching staff .

\* ~~Could the document explain how the benefits workers (unable to work from home ) who have the house for work every day .~~

\* Working parents of children who have to leave the house every day for work

\* Children in care/ vulnerable backgrounds and or challenging background / alcoholic / drug addicted parents .

The implications of introducing "blended learning / part time school " is far riskier and problematic than the issue of C19 and poses more problems to children than the risk of the virus itself .

I have attached a variety of scientific evidence to support the above email and urgently request a reply to my email ,

### **The Effects of social deprivation on adolescent development and mental health**

The Lancet, 12 June 2020

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642\(20\)30186-3/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR2MntAwF9r2DsW5miVPaG4EGfUN3TEcMQoHoDGk6CRRt92bXx1HTpDqW7w](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642(20)30186-3/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR2MntAwF9r2DsW5miVPaG4EGfUN3TEcMQoHoDGk6CRRt92bXx1HTpDqW7w)

*“With physical distancing being enforced by governments around the world, society is at the start of a period of intense and widespread reduction of face-to-face social contact. This Viewpoint highlights the urgent need to consider the wellbeing and development of adolescents. Adolescents are at a unique period in their lives when the social environment is important for crucial functions in brain development, self-concept construction, and mental health.”*

### **COVID-19 in children and adolescents in Europe: a multinational, multicentre cohort study**

The Lancet, 25 June 2020-06-28

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642\(20\)30177-2/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR2dlglgKI8ole2QVA09zU5H7rT9FYjC73YAhz7ngntiMivDtIeYOj3EgFw](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642(20)30177-2/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR2dlglgKI8ole2QVA09zU5H7rT9FYjC73YAhz7ngntiMivDtIeYOj3EgFw)

*“COVID-19 is generally a mild disease in children, including infants. However, a small proportion develop severe disease requiring ICU admission and prolonged ventilation, although fatal outcome is overall rare.”*

### **COVID-19 in primary schools: no significant transmission among children or from students to children**

Institut Pasteur, 23 June 2020

<https://www.pasteur.fr/en/press-area/press-documents/covid-19-primary-schools-no-significant-transmission-among-children-students-teachers>

*“In late April 2020, scientists at the Institut Pasteur, with the support of the Hauts-de-France Regional Health Agency and the Amiens Education Authority, carried out an epidemiological survey on 1,340 people linked to primary schools in Crépy-en-Valois, in the Oise department. Based on some cases of infection detected in the students before the schools closed, it appears that the children did not spread the infection to other students or to teachers or other staff at the schools.”*

### **Children are not COVID-19 super spreaders: time to go back to school**

British Medical Journal

19 June 2020

<https://adc.bmj.com/content/105/7/618>

*“At the current time, children do not appear to be super spreaders...Governments worldwide should allow all children back to school regardless of comorbidities.”*

### **Moray House Online Conversations**

**Mark Woolhouse, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology**

**23 June 2020**

[https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1\\_manc94er?fbclid=IwAR12wgjF8r0PIIIGQJkleTQVYn769A93WHx2wv82h4ppK3TqWHncgUEwgHk](https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_manc94er?fbclid=IwAR12wgjF8r0PIIIGQJkleTQVYn769A93WHx2wv82h4ppK3TqWHncgUEwgHk)

### **Novel coronavirus 2019 transmission risk in educational settings**

Oxford

25 June, 2020

[https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/doi/10.1093/cid/ciaa794/5862649?fbclid=IwAR0W2NNa\\_NjY0Mm1B83LMmL6FYxJ-olmwYQ9s\\_rua5KjZGegNa-MhvRBzTk](https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/doi/10.1093/cid/ciaa794/5862649?fbclid=IwAR0W2NNa_NjY0Mm1B83LMmL6FYxJ-olmwYQ9s_rua5KjZGegNa-MhvRBzTk)

*"The data suggests that children are not the primary drivers of SARS-CoV-2 transmission in schools and could help inform exit strategies for lifting of lockdowns."*

### **Report: COVID-19 in schools – the experience in NSW**

NCIRS (Australia)

[http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-](http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf)

[04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID\\_Summary\\_FINAL%20public\\_26%20April%202020.pdf](http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf)

*"Our investigation found no evidence of children infecting teachers."*

### **COVID-10 – research evidence summary**

RCPCH

17 June 2020

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/covid-19-research-evidence-summaries>

*"Deaths in children due to COVID-19 have been extremely rare: mortality seems to be consistent at around 0.01% (similar to the incidence seen every year with seasonal influenza)... there is some evidence that their role in transmitting the virus is limited."*

### **Transmission of COVID—19**

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

11 June 2020

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/transmission>

*"Child-to-adult transmission appears to be uncommon. Children most likely contract COVID-19 in their households or through contact with infected family members."*

### **DFTB COVID-19 Evidence Review**

WHO

22 April 2020

<https://dontforgetthebubbles.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-data-top-10.pdf>

*"COVID-19 appears to affect children less often, and with less severity... The role of children in transmission is unclear, but it seems likely they do not play a significant role."*

### **Children and COVID-19**

RIVM

24 June 2020

<https://www.rivm.nl/en/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/children-and-covid-19>

*"Data from the Netherlands also confirms the current understanding: that children play a minor role in the spread of the novel coronavirus. The virus is mainly spread between adults"*

*and from adult family members to children. The spread of COVID-19 among children or from children to adults is less common.”*

**Return to School Planning: A human rights briefing paper for the Education Recovery Group and other education decision makers**

Children and Young People’s Commissioner Scotland

<https://cypcs.org.uk/coronavirus/our-coronavirus-work/return-to-school-planning-briefing-paper/?fbclid=IwAR1R9F8cg1PVDNcNPbfK8HiA0aLFkQiluWKzGyet1h9wjKcplfecqqUpHGM>