

Summary of work undertaken

Phase 1: Pre-lockdown

- Communication strategy agreed with Directors of six local authorities.
- Regular phone contact with each school through SIA to support head teachers to keep schools open and assuage concerns.
- Deploy GwE staff in schools and PRUs where identified to support them to stay open.
- Deploy GwE staff in the authorities to support them with essential services.
- GwE teams upload initial resources to a designated Google classroom to support schools with initial planning for distance learning.

Phase 2: Supporting schools at the beginning of lockdown

- Keeping regular contact with schools in order to ensure health and wellbeing of both staff and pupils.
- Continuing to support individual schools or Hubs when there was a shortage of staff to attend.
- Upskilling of GwE staff for digital learning.
- Developing guidance, support and learning resources for schools to begin to support distance learning in schools.
- Supporting schools with Digital Learning and producing useful 'How To' videos so that teachers can develop and vary their distance learning methodology.

Phase 3: Distance Learning (DL)

- Developed distance learning guidance for schools in collaboration with other regions.
- Initially, google classrooms populated with appropriate materials and ideas for all Key Stages to refer to.
- Support to enable leaders and teachers to act in line with best practice in creating and using online learning resources.
- Effective DL Models were developed in GwE and were shared nationally and adopted by all regions.
- Schools, leaders and teachers were encouraged to share resources across the system and to encourage schools to use Hwb to share their approaches, plans and learning resources.
- Ensured all learners have an equitable access to learning and learning resources.
- All SIAs to have appropriate Professional Learning as to what makes effective DL.

Phase 4: Supporting schools to re-open

- Joint work with 6 Local Authorities.
- Establish clear lines of communication with key stakeholders.
- Weekly meetings with Directors and Education portfolio holders.
- Created a Policy Framework and Dashboard.
- Modelled risk assessment for each sector.
- Regional and local roles identified in supporting vulnerable learners.
- Upskilled GwE staff to support school leadership in these areas.

Phase 5: Blended Learning

- Upskilling of GwE team with international research on blended learning.
- Naturally blending Curriculum for Wales into current practice.
- Multi-disciplinary units to consolidate and develop skills.
- CAGs / Qualifications / Exams.

Phase 6: Accelerating Learning / Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards (RRRS)

- Regional approach to Accelerating Learning / RRRS – included Physical wellbeing; Emotional wellbeing and Literacy and numeracy.
- Evidence based approach based on research.
- Triangle of need – GwE leading the universal, GwE and Local Authorities targeted and Local Authorities leading the acute.

Phase 7: Deepening collaboration and developing robust networks

- Work within developed collaborations or opportunities to form alliances to address gaps in provision and alternative ways of delivery to meet any future lockdown scenarios.
- Clusters and alliances to identify the appropriate level of support which will be required for the different scenarios.
- Facilitate schools supporting each other in this time of crisis. Each cluster or alliance supporting each other by sharing plans and resources so that schools can respond to different operational scenarios that they might find themselves in.
- These resources will be collated regionally, ensuring a significant bank of quality resources for all age groups across the school system in North Wales.
- The aim of the work is to reduce workload and reduce pressure on schools.
- Provided rationalised Professional Offer to support clusters and individual schools.