



NEWydd Modernisation Programme Update

Phase 3 Schools

Dear All,

You will be aware that due to the impact of the ongoing pandemic NEWydd are looking to move an additional 23 schools in Flintshire to a transported school meal model. This will help to enable the provision of healthy and nutritional meals can continue for your children.

In December 2020 the Flintshire County Council Cabinet approved a phased introduction model which we confidently believe will result in a smooth transition for all of our schools and most importantly the pupils when ordering their meals. Unfortunately due to the national lockdown being in place since January we have not been able to action this plan as agreed but are now ready to move forward with this.

Your school has been included in Phase 3 of the implementation plan and we are now able to share some of the finer details of what this will mean for your school.

The schools involved in Phase 3, to be served from the Central Production Kitchen (CPK) from 1st March 2021, will be:

- Ysgol Bryn Gwalia (including the Rainbow Centre)
- Nercwys Primary School
- St David's Catholic Primary School, Mold
- Ysgol Y Waen, Gwernaffield
- Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop

We have compiled the following overview of the project so that you as parents can see in more detail the extent to which we have gone to in providing both a continued high quality school meals service and a satisfactory for outcome for any NEWydd staff requesting voluntary redundancy.

Project Timeline & Staff Protection

You will appreciate that we had to secure formal agreement to our model, now we have this we can engage with you on the change to service delivery. Our central production kitchen has been

NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Services

W: www.NEWydd.wales
T: 01352 704 119
E: contact@NEWydd.wales

providing limited meals to the pupils attending schools in Phases 1 & 2 since January. We are pleased to advise that **all** employees leaving NEWydd under the Modernisation Programme will leave as part of a voluntary redundancy package. We thank them very much for the many years of service in our schools.

Your children will continue to see a friendly member of the NEWydd team in your kitchen. An existing or new member of staff will be serving lunches and ensuring all dietary requirements are catered for.

Operational Logistics

We have provided a leaflet with this letter to explain the operation of our CPK and the investment we have made to ensure we achieve our aim that the quality of the food presented at the transported schools at least matches that provided where the food is prepared on site. Our goal is that pupils cannot see any change in the quality of meals provided.

New Menu and Theme Days

We have now introduced the new full menu offer at all schools, which includes all schools served by the CPK. As you would expect the new menu is nutritionally balanced and complies with all government standards (please see attached). We will also be offering onsite prepared 'Theme Days' in all schools served by the CPK. This will be supported by mobile Cooks and we will be working with individual schools to agree the finer details of how this will work.

Future Working Relationship

As part of a commitment growing our working relationship with schools. NEWydd are planning initiatives to reduce and ultimately remove single use plastics from our offer and involving the school in new initiatives such as school environmental schemes and 'grow your own' vegetable projects. We already have several initiatives such as this in place with schools in Flintshire and we hope as many schools take part as possible.

Whilst we fully understand that some parents may have concerns, please be assured that both myself and the wider team at NEWydd are committed to and confident that the new model will be a success for the schools of Flintshire.

Yours Sincerely,



Steve W Jones
Managing Director
NEWydd Catering & Cleaning Limited

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