

****PRESS RELEASE****

RhAG responds to the needs of non-Welsh speaking parents during lockdown

From Monday, February 1st, 2021, a new website, Welsh4Parents.cymru, will be available for parents of children in Welsh-medium education to access resources on digital platforms, including radio and television. The website aims to gather links and place them in one central place so that parents, carers and educators can easily find resources to help and support the learning and using of Welsh at home. New links will be added continuously as resources are identified.

Following a questionnaire for parents and carers conducted by RhAG (Parents for Welsh Medium Education) during the first lockdown in 2020, many respondents indicated that they had sourced and used different digital resources in the home. Many organizations created new and bespoke digital resources and ran virtual events as face to face events were not possible.

Parents reported that time had to be spent browsing and searching for different resources and it was not always easy to know how or where to find them.

Elin Maher, the project co-ordinator, said:

“This has been an unprecedented time for everyone, especially for parents and carers, with many having to educate their own children while working at the same time. Hearing and seeing Welsh being used in a number of different contexts is important in developing pupils' bilingual skills. An increasing number of children in Welsh-medium education live in homes where Welsh is not spoken. It was clear that a great deal of work had been done by many different organizations to create digital resources and hold virtual events to support those parents and their families. RhAG wanted to bring these resources to one convenient place.

Parents can email help@welsh4parents.cymru with questions, suggestions or for support. We hope that the website will be a directory of interesting and varied resources that will support pupils and parents in this period and in the future with the use of Welsh in their homes and communities.”

“We want to thank the Welsh Government for their support to enable us to respond in this way.”

****END****

Notes:

- RhAG (Parents for Welsh Medium Education) supports parents and guardians as they go on the journey with their children through Welsh medium education and beyond.
- For more information please contact the project coordinator Elin Maher: elin@rhag.cymru 07970 304219
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