



Pontyclun Primary School

Hwb Additional Services for Learners



Overview

Hwb is an online platform which gives all teachers and learners access to a wide range of bilingual digital tools and resources to support teaching and learning. Many of the resources are available to the public at <https://hwb.gov.wales> and parents/carers are encouraged to visit the website. Hwb is funded and managed by the Welsh Government for the benefit of all maintained schools in Wales.

During 2018/2019 the Welsh Government's statutory National Reading and Numeracy Tests began to transition (over a three-year period) to personalised assessments and will eventually replace the current paper-based national tests. All learners will be provided with a secure 'Hwb login' in preparation for these online assessments and our school will securely send specific information (as detailed in the Hwb Privacy Notice) to the Welsh Government to facilitate this.

Hwb Additional Services

As well as facilitating the personalised assessments, the Welsh Government offers, through Hwb, additional educational services to every learner. Your child will benefit from online access (on any web connected device) to educational resources including Microsoft 365 (including Word, Excel and Outlook e-mail), Google G Suite for Education, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Just2easy, Flip grid and other relevant educational tools and resources.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on education in Wales, the Welsh Government believes that it is in the public interest to ensure **every** learner in maintained schools in Wales has full access to Hwb. Therefore, from **Monday 23 March 2020**, every learner in maintained schools in Wales will be able to access Hwb Additional Services. **Schools will no longer rely on consent and instead will provide these additional services as part of their public task.** Further information is available on the ICO website at <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/does-an-organisation-need-my-consent/>

Parents, carers or learners who have serious data protection concerns have a right to object and should contact their school explaining why the provision of these Hwb services infringes on the learner's rights and freedoms. The school will weigh up whether providing access to Hwb Additional Services is outweighed by the gravity of the objection. Further information is available on the ICO website at <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/the-right-to-object-to-the-use-of-your-data/>

The Welsh Government has been considering making this change for some time, but has brought forward the decision due to the unprecedented closure of schools in Wales and the need to provide distance learning support to all learners. This decision has been reached following legal advice and the ICO's office in Wales has been informed. This decision will be reviewed once the current urgent situation has ended.

Hwb

For more information about Hwb and how information about your child is used, please visit <https://hwb.gov.wales>, <https://hwb.gov.wales/termsandconditions> and <https://hwb.gov.wales/privacy>.

Personalised Assessments

For more information please visit <https://hwb.gov.wales/personalised-assessments>.