



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

18 December 2020

Dear ,

ATISN 14664 - Child Rights Impact Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment

Thank you for your request which I received on 15th December requesting a copy of the Children's Rights and Equality Impact Assessment that was used to inform the decision to close secondary schools from 14th December 2020.

Due to this being emergency legislation, formal consultation was not possible. The decision to introduce regulations was informed by advice from the Chief Medical Officer and Public Health Wales. In formulating the regulations we were able to draw on feedback and previous discussions with key stakeholders on the operation of schools during the pandemic. This included feedback from the Children's Commissioner for Wales, parents, learners, local authorities, third sector and education unions. The Children's Commissioner for Wales has previously raised concerns about provision of education for vulnerable learners and critical workers during such a decision. The Legislation addresses these points of concern.

An Integrated Impact Assessment was completed and published as part of the firebreak arrangements and as part of the HUB provision in April which fully explored the impact of the approach. These are published and, this is available at the following link:

<https://gov.wales/provision-education-response-covid-19-impact-assessment>
<https://llyw.cymru/y-ddarpariaeth-addysg-mewn-ymateb-i-covid-19-asesiad-effaith>
<https://llyw.cymru/crynodeb-or-cyfyngiadau-ar-ymgynnull-yn-gymdeithasol-theithio-cau-busnesau-phresenoldeb-yn-yr-ysgol>
<https://gov.wales/summary-restrictions-social-gathering-and-travel-business-closures-and-attendance-school>

An updated Impact Assessment will also be published in relation to the latest control plan.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely