



Academi Genedlaethol ar gyfer
Arweinyddiaeth Addysgol Cymru
National Academy for
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How to survive the start of the new term? Did you?



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Routine, routine and more routine - a perfect sentence to describe the start of our normal academic year. Everyone knows the pattern and everyone is aware of the routine.

But nothing has been normal for the year 2020 and the start of a school term was no exception. It has certainly been world changing.

At some point I feel like the little hamster who runs and runs in a wheel without eventually getting anywhere. I've used a trolley of energy but to no avail.

I'm sure that moving furniture, cleaning tables, measuring rooms and desks, carrying water and sanitizers, ordering masks and towels and aprons were not in my job description this time last year. So what happened? The pandemic of course and the side effects of all the changes forced upon us, for better or for worse.

And what about the frustrations and challenges? No answers - lots of questions. Change of mind. Change of address. New publication. New decision. Nowhere to turn. Lunch arrangements. TTP arrangements. New acronyms. The list is endless.

School life will never be the same I suppose. I am sure we will no longer have to travel miles for short meetings as Teams is very dominant. Our digital knowledge will have greatly improved and there will be no turning back. One-way systems may be here to stay, the day-to-day running of the school has improved, more flexibility in distance learning and more creativity in our learning.

The month is over and in retrospect we have certainly learned a great deal. There is no light at the end of the tunnel yet, but the little hamster is starting to slow down!

Further information and resources can be found at
www.nael.cymru