



Sir Caerdydd
County of Cardiff

**YSGOL Y WERN
HEOL LLANGRANOG/LLANGRANOG ROAD
LLANISIEN/LLANISHEN
CAERDYDD/CARDIFF
CF14 5BL**

Ffôn / Phone 029 20762114

**e-bost/ e-mail : ysgolywern@cardiff.gov.uk
Gwefan/ Website www.ysgolywern.co.uk**

**PENNAETH / HEADTEACHER:
Mr Aled ap Iwan
DIRPRWY BENNAETH / DEPUTY HEADTEACHER:
Miss Elen Reader**

**CADEIRYDD Y LLYWODRAETHWYR / CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: Mrs
H. Fernandez -Arias**



Anelwn am y Brig Uchaf

Llawlyfr a Gwybodaeth Cyffredinol 2026-27

General Information Handbook 2026-27

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Ysgol Y Wern

If your child is to join us for the first time we welcome you as parents/carers and look forward to a happy and successful association over the coming years. If you already have a child here we are pleased to renew the links between us.

This prospectus provides information on the school, its aims, curriculum and activities

Confidence in a school comes from knowing and understanding what is happening within it. We have an 'Open door' policy in the Wern. This means that parents can contact teachers at the beginning and at the end of the school day. I hope all parents will take that opportunity to get to know us the staff – our philosophy and activities to foster understanding and trust between the home and school that will be the foundation for our joint responsibility towards your child. I hope you can help us by encouraging your child to do well at school-your support will make all the difference. We take pride in the school's high standard of achievement and the wide range of extra-curricular activities offered is also important to us with pupils experiencing success in a variety of fields from the Urdd eisteddfod to sporting activities and the Arts.

The information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of printing but could change at the start or during the year or in the years ahead.

Read on for more information. This booklet is not intended to replace a school visit; you are welcome to come to the school at any time to experience the ethos of this vibrant and busy school. Please phone before hand to ensure that I am in school so that you do not make an unnecessary journey.

Yours sincerely

Aled ap Iwan

Aled ap Iwan
Headteacher

The School's Vision for the Future

Our vision at Ysgol y Wern is to provide a school where children, parents, staff, governors and the community can work together to provide a welcoming, safe, caring and active atmosphere for all individuals. We strive to celebrate our achievements together as a school community with all individuals valued and respected. We aspire to give the whole school community respect for our own language and heritage as well as for other languages and cultures. Our children's welfare and education is central to every decision made at Ysgol y Wern. We aim to provide a rich, balanced and well-resourced curriculum to promote the natural curiosity of all children. Our aim will be that the lives of those leaving Ysgol y Wern will be enriched and extended through their experience with us and that every child will have the ability and desire to learn more and face the challenges of their future lives.

Governing Body

The Governing Body works with the Headteacher to

- agree on the aims and values of the school
- decide what is taught
- set standards of discipline
- review progress at the school
- appoint teachers
- decide on school budget expenditure and approve school improvement plans
- provide parents with information about the school
- prepare action plans to ensure improvements following school inspections

The governing body consists of:

Parents

Teachers at the school

LEA representatives

Non-teaching school staff

Co-optees

A Parent Governor is:

A parent of a child at the school

Elected by the school's parents

Serves as do other governors for four years

Chairman

Mrs Hannah Fernandez-Arias

Vice Chair

Mr Nicholas Brown

Teacher Governors

Mrs H Walker
Miss E Reader

Auxilliary Staff Parent Governors

Mrs Karen Richards
Mrs Hannah Jones
Mrs Hayley Floyd
Mr Jamie Hallett
Mrs Rebecca Owen
Ms Fiadhna Murphy McEvoy

Co-opted Members

Mrs Nia Williams
Mr John Rawnsley

LEA

Mr Mike Landers
Ms Bethan Proctor

Clerk of the Governors. Mrs Hannah Carlson

Education Office

Chief Schools Officer:
Atlantic Wharf
Cardiff

Tel 029 20872000

History of the School

Ysgol y Wern was opened in 1981 on the site of Cefn Onn Infant School in the village of Llanishen in North Cardiff, as a result of the growth of Welsh education in Cardiff and it was intended initially that the school would serve the North East of the city.

The school has grown and there are approximately 670 pupils on roll. We have 22 classrooms which includes Nursery and 21 mainstream classes. The staff include teachers, headteacher, deputy headteacher and a number of teaching assistants. Three members of staff work in the School Office.

Ysgol Y Wern is a Welsh Medium County Primary School. Any parent wishing to send their child to Ysgol y Wern may visit the school at any time if they have made an appointment with the Headteacher previously.

The school operates within the City of Cardiff Local Education Authority and is a 'Locally Managed School' (LMS). This ensures that there is local autonomy in the development and management of the school. Ysgol y Wern takes full advantage of the independence that this system provides.

We have a mixture of green fields and playing surfaces which contribute towards the excellent activities our pupils' experience. The main green field is an excellent space for children to play freely as well as a good space to hold rugby, football, cricket and more.

The hard standing includes a MUGA (multi use games area). Our younger pupils have their own open-air spaces for learning. These areas are used for lessons as well as giving our children an opportunity to use their imaginations during free play activities. The school has a wild garden for nature study and allotments which nurture gardening activities (Gardd Glyndŵr).

Aims and Objectives

All children are equal to each other but we also accept that children differ from each other and that they can succeed in different ways. We hope to teach the children to develop a respect of all cultures and creeds based on their respect of the two languages and cultures in their own country.

We expect children to work hard, to enjoy school life and to keep the rules of the school. In other words, we expect them to work at their tasks and to be pupils of a Welsh Medium Primary School

It is our aim to develop the pupils into independent learners who can research well and can work together as a team in a caring and respectful atmosphere.

The Welsh Language

Ysgol y Wern is a Welsh medium school and Welsh is the language of communication for the children in all aspects of their school life. Welsh is the language of the class, the yard and all extra curricular activities. We strive, on every occasion to promote and enrich the children's language and their knowledge of Welsh culture, if it is the context of the curriculum, social and extra curricular. Pupils are expected to speak Welsh at all times and to maintain the tradition and privilege to be able to enjoy cultural riches through the medium of two languages.

We participate in Welsh activities in the community, in the County and nationally.

The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Welsh is the medium of education and life in the Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 with English introduced in Year 3.

The normal expectation is that pupils, regardless of home language, will be able to transfer easily to Welsh medium

secondary provision and by the age of 11 will have reached a standard in English equivalent to that reached by pupils in predominantly English medium schools.

GENERAL INFORMATION

There is a definite catchment area for the school and the Headteacher does not decide which children attend the school. The admission number for the school is **90** and these are decided by the LEA. Please refer to the admissions policy for further information.

Parents are invited to contact school if they wish their child to attend Ysgol y Wern. Parents may send their child to one of the playgroups of Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin in the city if they so wish, before sending them to Ysgol y Wern's nursery class. Children are entitled to a part-time nursery place from the start of the term after they have turned three.

Children are admitted to the Reception Class full time in September following their fourth birthday. Parents are invited to visit the school during the term before their child is admitted in order to meet the Reception Class teachers, Headteacher and Deputy, to have an informal chat over coffee and a short presentation by Year 6 pupils on school life.

Children who join our school later than Reception Class

Children who arrive at Ysgol y Wern in other year groups are given the opportunity to visit the school with their parents and to spend some time in their new class before they start if they so wish. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's previous education and needs with the Headteacher. We will discuss how we can help settle your child into school. Your child will be looked after by peers to help them settle into their new class.

If a child transfers from another school and has not previously been educated through the medium of Welsh, they are given the opportunity to attend the Welsh Language Unit for a term or two for four and a half days with one afternoon per week being spent at their primary school i.e. Ysgol y Wern. This will ensure that they have acquired a level of Welsh to be able to cope with full time Welsh medium education.

Class Numbers 2025 – 2026

Reception	-	67
Year 1	-	88
Year 2	-	69
Year 3	-	90
Year 4	-	71
Year 5	-	86
Year 6	-	90

SCHOOL HOURS

INFANTS	JUNIORS
8.50 – 10.30	8.50 – 10.30
Break	Break
11.00 – 12.00	11.00 – 12.30
Lunch	Lunch
1.15 -2.30	1.30-3.20
Break	
2.40 – 3.20	

The doors will open at 8.40 a.m. Pupils are expected to arrive in school between **8.40 – 8.45a.m.** Children should not be left on the yard before this time as there is no supervision.

End of school day is at **3.20p.m.** Please ensure you allow enough time to pick up your child at the end of the day. If you are running late – please contact the school.

Homework

Homework plays an essential part in the learning process and is fundamental to the success of our pupils. Homework tasks may vary: written homework is not the only type of homework that is set. Reading, research, spelling, tables are equally important as well as practical tasks, and all contribute towards the learning process.

Arrangements for the General Wellbeing of Children/Ethos and Values of the School

Every community needs clear enforceable rules in order to protect pupils and property and to ensure an efficient organisation. Rules are based primarily on consideration and respect for other people. Pupils are disciplined by class teachers but then if need be, by the Headteacher. The ultimate sanction is a period of suspension. Copies of the Behaviour Policy which includes the Anti bullying Policy is available from the Headteacher. We have agreed as a school to the *Five Golden Rules*

-
- Speak Welsh
 - Respect adults
 - Be friendly towards others
 - Do our best at all times
 - Be proud of our school

School Values

Respect

Happiness

Welsh Identity

Fairness

Co-operation

Parents are greatly appreciated for their co-operation in helping to keep the following rules.

School Rules

- School starts at **8.50** am every morning.
- There will be no running in the corridors and children will walk one behind the other.
- Play will not take place on the school field during bad weather.
- Children are expected to be courteous to their contemporaries and to adults eg. At the doors etc.
- Pupils are not allowed to bring any toys to school unless they are requested by teachers.
- Pupils are expected to respect their environment especially school toilets and use of toilet paper for its proper use.
- Children shall not be allowed off school premises unaccompanied unless a letter has been sent to school.
- Parents must give an explanation regarding a child/children's absences by letter or telephone call to the School Office.
- The wearing of jewellery in school is not encouraged. Any jewellery worn is the child's responsibility and is to be removed before P.E and Games lessons.
- Children must not bring dangerous items to the school.

Each class goes through the process of discussing and creating their own set of class rules each year. 'Pupil Voice' is important to us.

Behaviour and Discipline

The Headteacher and staff will do their best to create a happy school for everyone. It is a primary aim of Ysgol y Wern to ensure that every member of our school community feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community whose values are built on mutual trust and

respect for all. The school's behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment in which everyone feels happy, safe and secure. Our aim is to help children to become confident, polite, patient, inquisitive and kind members of the community. We believe that praise and encouragement increases success and motivation.

Educational Visits

Children enjoy visiting places and learn much from first hand experience. We have an extensive programme of educational visits linked to different areas of the curriculum. It is essential to ask for a voluntary contribution from every pupil if activities are to take place. It is not compulsory to contribute, and no child will be excluded because of this. There is an opportunity to discuss any problem confidentially with the Headteacher. A substantial contribution must be made, or the school reserves the right to cancel the activity.

Traffic

There can be enormous traffic problems outside the school. It is essential that parents park carefully – not across driveways or double parked. Cars are not allowed on Llangrannog Place during drop off and pick up times. We ask this for the safety of pedestrians using the road. It is important for the welfare of your children to keep within these parameters please. No parking within school grounds except in an emergency.

Non-smoking Policy

The school operates a non-smoking policy that applies to all staff and visitors and includes the whole site.

Dogs

No dogs are allowed on site.

Complaint Procedure

If there is a complaint, the Headteacher should be contacted immediately. The Headteacher will make every effort to answer the complaint satisfactorily. If you are not satisfied, then you should re-discuss the matter with the Headteacher. If you are still dissatisfied, then you should take your complaint to one of the parent governors or to the Chair of the Governing Body. The Governors will investigate the matter and try to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion. If you are still unhappy then you should contact the Education Offices (Pupil Services Section). A complaints policy is available from the Headteacher.

Mutli-Cultural Policy – Statement

Ysgol Y Wern aims to ensure that the ethos of the school gives the right environment for children to grow up in a multicultural society with respect for others and a true interest in their welfare. It is important to respect other people's beliefs and cultures but it is also important to help them to respect different ways of living and to be aware that there are ways of living life in a moral and purposeful way which are common to all nationalities and cultures and to be kind and compassionate human beings regardless of their cultural background.

Visitors to School

Visitors are welcomed into the school, but they must arrive via the School Office. Security procedures must be adhered to. A security sticker is available for them to wear whilst at school.

During school hours every visitor is asked to park in the visitors car park. If there are meetings on weekends or after school, visitors may park on the yard. This is not possible during school hours.

Parents/Carers are not allowed access into the car parks when dropping children off at the start of the school day nor to pick up children at the end of day.

The Police

The Community Constable is made welcome in the school at any time. He/she is welcome to talk to the children and to show films and videos on every aspect of safety.

School Nurse

The school nurse no longer visits the school to examine heads for head lice. This is the responsibility of every parent. Reception Class pupils are assessed during the year for sight and hearing.

Safety in School

Every classroom and storeroom is alarmed. Outside classrooms are connected electronically to the offices and main building. Gates are closed during the day. The gate between the school yard and Templeton Avenue is locked during the school day. Security measures have been taken at the doors too. All external doors are closed during the day.

The exterior of the building & the school yards are well covered by security cameras, strategically located, while the entire site is secured by a fence.

The school's Safeguarding Officers are Mrs Nia Jones (DSP), Mrs Helen Walker and Miss Elen Reader.(Deputy DSP). All members of staff must undergo DBS(Disclosure and Barring Service) check before they join the school.

We ask all parents to call in the office before visiting and to use the door phone at the main entrance for access. On site visitors will need to sign in and out and safeguarding procedures are read on arrival.

Fire drills are conducted on a regular basis.

Toilet Facilities

The school has sufficient number of toilets for the pupils in the main building. There are sufficient toilets for boys and girls in the Infants and Juniors. The facilities are appropriate to the age of the children who use them. There are additional toilet areas for the exclusive use of school staff and visitors. All toilet areas are cleaned daily.

Parent/ Teacher Association (PTA)

The school has a very flourishing Parents Teachers Association which is registered as a charity.

The aims of the Association are:

To advance the education of children at Ysgol Y Wern by preparing and helping to prepare facilities and amenities for education at the school (not normally provided by the LEA) and as an ancillary thereto and in furtherance of this object the Association may:

- (a) further a more extended relationship between staff, parents and others associated with the school.
- (b) engage in activities which support the school and advance the education of the children attending.
- © to raise and collect funds by means of subscriptions, grants and any other lawful means.

The activities of the Association shall be directed solely and exclusively to the pupils of the school. Parents are welcome and their support is requested.

School Uniform

The sweatshirts/polo shirts/PE t-shirt are available through **YC Sports on Crwys Road. 029 20237968**

Grey trousers/ skirt /pinafore.
Dark green/white Polo Shirt
Dark Green Sweater/Sweatshirt with school logo
Summer- White and green striped or check cotton dresses

Shoes – black/dark footwear

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children

P.E. and Games Uniform

Outside Lessons - Trainers or suitable footwear.
Suitable clothing.

Inside Lessons - No footwear.
Suitable clothing

P.E. lessons are statutory and suitable clothing must be worn for safety. Children are encouraged to keep clothes in school for half a term. They must be labelled. T shirts /kits for P.E. are available from **YC Sports**.

Jewellery

School does not encourage the wearing of jewellery – accidents can occur or unhappiness caused.

If children have pierced ears only 'studs' are allowed. On some occasions school will ask the children to take them out before certain P.E. activities. If your child wants their ears pierced please ensure that this takes place during summer holidays so that the required six weeks period can elapse before they return to school in September.

Sun Safety

Children are encouraged to wear sun hats and we ask parents to apply suncream on their child before they come to school. Children may bring suncream to school and apply it themselves.

Swimming Lessons

Our annual swimming lessons for Year 4 are arranged over a fortnight. Children must bring a towel and swimming clothes. More information will be given out at the time.

Primary Liaison

The school has a very close connection with the nursery schools that feed Ysgol y Wern through invitations for the children to spend a morning in school the term before they start. The school corresponds by letter to these children's homes before the September in which they start.

There are very close and definite links with Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf through meetings, visits and curricular liaison.

Illness

Children are not expected in school if they are ill. Children should be kept home for 48 hours following the last episode of vomiting/diarrhoea.

If your child is taken ill in school, we will contact you. Therefore, the School has to be given an emergency contact number. If we are not able to contact you, we will need other numbers to contact.

The school has members of staff trained as First Aiders.

Medication

The school follows the County of Cardiff Health Policy on administration of medicines. Generally, asthma pumps are kept in school providing they are suitably labelled. Children are expected to administer these themselves. Epi pens are also kept in the medicine cabinet.

A medication form needs to be filled by parents/guardians if a child has to receive prescribed medication during the school day. A record is kept of the administration.

Accidents

Accidents may occur in school and normally the school will deal with them. Occasionally, depending on the type of accident, we will inform the home.

If the accident is of a more serious nature the school will contact the home or the emergency telephone number to make arrangements to deal with the situation. If necessary the school will carry out the emergency policy of the school (ie ambulance etc.) and inform the home.

Emergency Contact Numbers-Parents/Carers must ensure that these numbers are correct and kept up to date.

Inset Days (In-Service Training)

In-service training and curricular development is organised during the academic year. On these days the school will be closed for pupils. There will be **6** days during the school year.

INSET Dates 2026-27:

- **1.9.26**
- **25.9.26**
- **7.10.26**
- **4.1.27**
- **19.7.27**
- **20.7.27**

Extra Curricular Activities

These activities are deemed important ones to the school. They are vital to the development of the whole child and a valuable extension to their contact with the Welsh language. We offer a wide range of activities which raise self esteem, broaden experience, build confidence and provide experiences where success is shared. Our children are able to enjoy a wide range of sporting activities such as rugby, football, cricket, swimming, netball, dance groups and music experiences include an ensemble, cello, violin, harp, brass, clarinet lessons, choir, Performing Arts club, chess, gardening, cookery, animation.

Breakfast Club

A free Breakfast Club is available daily. This scheme is intended to improve the health and concentration of children to assist in the raising of standards of learning and attainment. For health and safety reasons we have to adhere to a particular number of children in the breakfast club every day. The breakfast club will start at **8.20a.m.** No child will be admitted before this for any reason. The Breakfast Club will close at **8.30a.m.** The staff have to tidy and clean ready for the beginning of the school day. At **8.40a.m** your child will proceed to their classes. Members of staff are on duty from **8.40a.m.** Every child that attends must eat breakfast. Please note a free breakfast is not a right. Schools can refuse entry to any child on grounds of unacceptable behaviour. We expect the children to use the appropriate table manners at all times. If during the year you decide that your child will no longer be attending Breakfast Club please inform the school office so that we can offer the place to another child.

Clwb Carco (After School Club)

Clwb Carco operates before and after school. The club is privately run on the school site. For further details please contact -
07866594744

Music

Music lessons are given by peripatetic teachers as well as class teachers.

Cello lessons are offered from Year 3 upwards.

Violin lessons are offered from Year 3 upwards.

Harp lessons are offered from Year 3 upwards

Brass lessons are offered from Year 3 upwards.

Clarinet lessons are offered to Year 4 upwards

Parents are expected to contribute towards these lessons. For further information please contact Cardiff and The Vale Music Service.

School Dinners and Healthy Eating

Reception, Years 1& 2 have lunch at **12.00p.m.** and the Juniors at **12.30p.m.** The school has mid-day supervisors who look after the children both in the canteen and on the yard.

Hot dinners are cooked on the school premises but pupils can opt to bring sandwiches if they so wish. However, for safety reasons, no glass bottles are allowed. The school is a member of the Healthy Schools Network and puts great emphasis on healthy eating and regular exercise.

Menus are available on Cardiff Council's website.

Universal Free School Meals- All pupils are in receipt of free lunches. Meals need to be ordered on-line on a weekly basis through ParentPay. Orders have to be placed before **7.30 a.m.**

Breaktime

We recognise the importance of drinking water regularly during the day. Children are encouraged to have their water bottles available to them in class. No foods containing nuts should be brought into school due to the number of pupils who have severe allergies.

Free milk

Free milk scheme is available to all children in the Reception, Years 1& 2

Punctuality and Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance is vital if pupils are to benefit from the opportunities school has to offer to the individual and to the smooth running of the class and whole school.

Absences may be authorised for:

Illness, Medical or Dental

Domestic emergencies

School must be notified before hand wherever possible. Parents are requested to either phone school or send a note to explain all **absences**. We are legally obliged to publish annual details of any unauthorised absences. We appreciate parents' co-operation to keeping absenteeism to a minimum.

Without permission, your child's absence will be marked unauthorised

Ysgol y Wern has high attendance figures within the County.
Our target is **98%**.

Absences

Similar to all other schools, we must show the difference between absences with permission and absences without permission. We must therefore receive a letter or phone call from the parents/carers explaining this. We ask you to do this by 9.15 a.m. Please remember that school starts at **8.50am** promptly.

Leaving the School During the Day

A letter must be sent to explain the situation to the class teacher before a child is taken out of school.

Changes in Arrangements in The Evening

A letter must be sent to explain any changes in arrangements. This is for safety reasons.

Meeting Teachers

There is an opportunity to meet the teachers once a term. A convenient time must be arranged for the Parents Evening. In addition, an introductory meeting is held in September for each year group. A written full progress report will be shared at the end of the year. The school has an 'open door' policy. You only need to phone to arrange a suitable time.

Sport

We arrange a host of competitive sports in the more traditional games: rugby, football, netball, hockey, cricket, athletics and swimming. The fixtures are usually held after school hours. We believe that games offer pupils of all abilities the opportunity to exhibit their strengths and through team playing build a sense of partnership and of responsibility towards others. We also applaud the outstanding achievements of individuals. We are fortunate that teachers train the school's different teams and thereby offer a wide range of opportunities.

Lost Property

If your child has lost any clothes etc. you should contact the class teacher in the first instance. Lost property boxes are available in school. Children's names should be placed on everything. Valuable items should not be brought into school.

Our Inclusive Curriculum

Our curriculum will raise the aspirations for all learners. As a school we have considered how all learners will be supported to realise the four purposes and to make appropriate progression. We have considered our ALN provision and how we will meet the needs of different groups of learners.

The Four Purposes

The four purposes underpin our vision and our curriculum is tailored to develop our children to be:

- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

As our teachers design the curriculum, we will consider the experiences, skills and knowledge we want our children to have, as well as the specific topics, activities and contexts that will best support learning within the Curriculum for Wales Framework. Our focus will be on:

- What should we teach and why?
- How should we teach it? (pedagogical principles)
- How will this support our learners to realise the four purposes?

Areas of Learning and Experience

The Areas of Learning and Experience are designed to help learners fulfil the four purposes. They also allow teachers to develop a more integrated approach to learning. Every opportunity is taken for learners to be able to make meaningful and strong connections across different disciplines within and across the Areas of Learning and Experience.

- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Expressive Arts
- Science and Technology
- Humanities

-
- Maths and Numeracy
 - Health and Wellbeing

Within each Area of Learning and Experience there are statements of 'What matters'. Our curriculum will provide opportunities and experiences to develop the key concepts, knowledge and skills as described in the 27 statements. 'Descriptions of Learning' are contained within each statement of what matters and are organised into progression steps. They are there to provide reference points on how learners should progress along their learning continuum. As the Framework is a continuum, and pace of progress will differ for our learners, the progression steps can only broadly correspond to age.

5 years old – Progression Step 1
8 years old – Progression Step 2
11 years old – Progression Step 3

Cross Curricular Skills

Literacy, numeracy and digital competence will weave through our thematic work. We will provide rich experiences that will deepen our children's understanding of these skills. Our rich curriculum will enable learners to develop competence and capability in these skills that will enable them to extend and apply them across all Areas of Learning.

Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)

Our teaching will be based on the RSE Code which sets out the mandatory learning elements at appropriate stages of development. Our RSE provision will have a positive and empowering role in our learners' education and will play a vital role in supporting them to realise the four purposes as part of a whole-school approach. Helping learners to form and maintain a range of relationships, all based on mutual trust and respect, is the foundation of RSE. These relationships are critical to the development of emotional well-being, resilience and empathy.

Religion Values and Ethics (RVE)

Our curriculum reflects an agreed syllabus of what should be taught within the local authority. We will use this guidance when planning our learning.

UNCRC: The Rights of the Child

Developing an understanding of children's rights is integrated into our curriculum. When planning lessons, teachers take every opportunity to promote children's rights

Progression and Assessment

The purpose of assessment at Ysgol y Wern is to support each individual learner to make appropriate progression, ensuring that they are properly

supported and challenged. We ensure that our processes identify learners who need further support or challenge. Assessment is integrated into the learning and teaching and contributes to developing a holistic picture and understanding of each child's progress - their strengths, the ways in which they learn, and their areas for development, in order to inform next steps in learning and teaching. Progression is an integral part of teaching and learning and we will use the mandatory curriculum progression principles as the basis for our processes. Our learners will develop a deep understanding of their progress as they become active participants in the process e.g. self-assessment, peer assessment, responding to teacher feedback and contributing to progress discussions during learner reviews.

Review and Refinement

Our school curriculum will be regularly reviewed as part of our self-evaluation procedures. We will reflect on feedback from staff, learners, governors and parents during the review process. We will publish a summary of our curriculum and revise the summary if changes to the curriculum are made during the review process. As part of the process, we will continue to provide high quality learning and teaching with the importance of providing our pupils with rich and memorable experiences. We will work at school level, cluster level, and in partnership with all stakeholders to further develop a common understanding of progress and to ensure a high quality 3-16 learning continuum for all individuals.

The Outdoors

The Curriculum for Wales places great importance on staff using the outdoors as another classroom where children can work (e.g Forest School). There are many reasons for encouraging our children to use the outdoors such as

- children's health and fitness benefit and using resources and equipment that cannot be used inside
- to experience nature at first hand-how the weather changes and how plants and animals react to different seasons
- problem solving can relate to real experiences
- experience aspects such as conservation and sustainability at first hand
- develop a love of nature and undertaking activities out of doors

School Organisation

The classes are divided according to age. Within the class there will be groups of mixed ability and at times pupils are grouped according to ability in order to ensure the best provision for pupils of all abilities.

School Council

Members are elected from amongst our pupils by their peers to serve on the School Council. Regular meetings are held under the guidance of a teacher where matters of importance to all pupils are discussed. This gives learners an excellent opportunity to voice their opinions in order to shape the sort of school they wish to see.

Eco Committee

We're an Eco and Fairtrade school and have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award. The Eco Club is very effective and contributes substantially to protecting the environment.

Senedd

Representatives from the different committees are also members of Ysgol y Wern Senedd. Pupils have the opportunity to discuss matters with the Headteacher/Deputy and voice their opinions relating to decisions that affect pupils in the school.

Special Curricular and Other Arrangements Made for Particular Categories of Pupils, Including Those with Statements of Additional Learning Needs

The Welsh Government has recently changed the way that children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) will be supported.

The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 makes provision for a new statutory framework for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN) from the age of 0-25 to support the creation of a fully inclusive education system where all learners are given the opportunity to succeed and have access to an education that meets their needs and enables them to participate in, benefit from, and enjoy learning.

The ALN act aims to transform the expectations, experiences and outcomes for children and young people with ALN placing learners' views at the heart of the process.

From September 2021, this system began to come into force with a three-year phased implementation period. A series of links and documents can be found on the Welsh Government website:

<https://gov.wales/additional-learning-needs-aln-system-parents-guide-html>

If you'd like to discuss anything relating to Additional Learning Needs, please contact Mrs Confrey ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator)

Equal Opportunities

Ysgol y Wern is committed to achieving equality regardless of race, gender, faith, sexual orientation, language, disability, age, ethnic origin, nationality, religious or non-religious belief, family background or any other individual characteristic which may limit a person's opportunities in life. We promote positive approaches to difference and foster respect for people of all cultural backgrounds. We are committed to the creation of an inclusive culture in which every individual, regardless of disability or background, is valued and enabled to participate as a member of the school community. Any language or behaviour which is racist, sexist, homophobic, disablist or potentially damaging to any group will not be tolerated and will be challenged and monitored. Information derived from monitoring will be used to plan whole-school strategies to combat incidents.

Facilities for pupils with physical disabilities

All pupils have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum regardless of their disabilities. The school strives to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils. The school has installed a ramp to access the main corridor, hand rails to aid pupils with physical disabilities to climb external and internal stairways. There are 2 toilets for individuals with a disability.

Equality Duty

In accordance with the above legislation (2007) and our school Action Plan, you are invited to inform the Headteacher about changes in your circumstances in relation to the above.

These changes might be in connection with the following, in the context of your child's disability or your own disability:

- your child's progress in school
- your child's accessibility to the curriculum and the school site
- your ability to access the school site
- any other aspect (e.g large print in official school documentation)

It is not compulsory to provide the school with this information

Any information provided will be treated confidentially. The school is committed to the need both to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equality for pupils, staff and others using school facilities. Construction work in and around the school has ensured that there is appropriate provision for pupils with disabilities

Safeguarding Child Protection

The school has a legal duty to promote and safeguard the welfare of children. We comply with the following statutory responsibilities:

- Follow local procedures and promptly refer suspected cases of child abuse
- Have a written child protection policy

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- Identify a designated senior member of staff –Mr Aled ap Iwan(DSP)/Mrs Walker, Miss E Reader (Deputy DSP) and a named governor (Mrs Rebecca Owen) responsible for child protection

Due to the nature of the allegations it may not always be appropriate to discuss matters with parents/carers prior to making a referral. The responsibility for investigating allegations lies with Social Services and the Police.

Photographs-

From time to time, we take photographs of the children for various purposes. If a parent/carer does not wish a photograph of his/her child to be taken, the school should be notified.

Please note: No photographs taken in school by a parent /carer which include other children/staff should appear on any social networking site without the school's knowledge. The school has a social media policy.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Every member of the school has a basic right to be respected by everyone and to enjoy a happy life at school. Any form of bullying is totally unacceptable. The school reacts firmly and thoroughly to every instance of bullying. The school will make every attempt to ensure that bullying does not occur. Parents should contact the school immediately if they are concerned about an instance of bullying.

Internet Safety

The purpose of Internet access in school is to raise educational standards, to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school's management information and administration systems. It is an entitlement for all children who show a responsible and mature approach. As part of the curriculum the school is providing supervised access to the Internet including e-mail. Steps are taken to deal with the risk in school. Our system operates a filtering system that restricts access to inappropriate materials.

As a school we use the internet and social media in a responsible way to support the work of the school. We are aware that parents use social networking sites and mobile apps to speak to their friends e.g. Facebook, Twitter. Please remember that these 'conversations' may be publicly available. According to law, statements, defamatory or otherwise, can have the same legal consequences as if they were made directly to another person.

Communication

We communicate with parents/carers in a number of ways-by text, letters, school website, school notice boards. You are welcome to

meet the Headteacher as long as you make an appointment before hand.

You can contact the class teacher by written note or by a message via the secretary.

In the case of any urgent matters concerning your child or if you need to contact the class teacher please contact the Headteacher directly initially.

Bilingual letters are sent out with relevant information. Please ask your child for these or look in school bags as occasionally these do not arrive home. A weekly newsletter will be available to view on on a Friday afternoon. If you're not able to access the newsletters please contact the Office.

If you have a query or are unclear regarding an event or activity, please contact the Scool Office rather than using social networking sites. This avoids confusion.

Charging Policy

A request is made for voluntary contributions to cover transport costs for educational visits, theatre companies and other speakers, Year 5 and 6 are given the opportunity of residential visits at the Urdd Camp at Llangrannog .Costs are subsidized by the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) The relevant information is sent to parents in the form of a letter when relevant. If a child is elligible to receive free school lunches then no payment is needed. Parents are able to stagger payments through Parentpay. The school is always ready to discuss when a parent/carers is worried about costs relating to school. In such a case, please contact the Headteacher.

The Role of Parents

Ysgol y Wern is a Welsh medium school and its Welsh ethos is very important. We expect the pupils to speak Welsh on all occasions e.g. extra curricular activities. In this way we can raise the awareness of the relevance and value of the language being taught. The best way to support your child's learning is to make sure that they don't miss lessons. Give your child the best possible start in life by making sure they attend school at all times. Your support is important and valued.

Term Dates 2025-2026

	Term Starts	Half term starts	Half term ends	Term ends
Autum	01/09/26	26/10/26	30/10/26	18/12/26

Spring	05/01/27	8/02/27	12/02/27	19/03/27
Summer	5/04/27	31/05/27	4/06/27	20/07/27

- **Tuesday September 1st – INSET Day-no school for pupils**
- **Monday and Tuesday 19 + 20th July – INSET days – no school for pupils**

Thank you for reading our prospectus.