
YSGOL DOLWYDDELAN



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2025 - 2026



‘Gyda’n gilydd, llwyddwn’



INFORMATION HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS

2025 - 2026



Ysgol Dolwyddelan,
Ffordd Tŷ Isaf, Dolwyddelan, Conwy, LL25 0SZ



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<http://www.ysgoldolwyddelan.cymru>



Ysgol Dolwyddelan

Strategic Headteacher : Mrs N. Jones-Artell

Chairperson - Board of Governors
Mrs Meri Williams

Statutory Head of Education Services
Dr Lowri Brown
Conwy County Borough Council
Coed Pella
Colwyn Bay
LL29 7AZ

Tel : 01492 575599

Although the details in this document were correct when they were published it cannot be assumed that there will not be any change that may affect the relevant arrangements before the start of or during the school year or in future years

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Dear Parents / Carers

Choosing the right school for your child is crucial. Parents want to ensure a good education for their children but they also want them to be happy and feel safe; at Ysgol Dolwyddelan, we believe we can offer all of these things. There is a happy, familial and productive atmosphere in the school where everyone is treated as an individual and is known and appreciated by everyone else in the school.

Our core principle is to try to develop each pupil's talents to the maximum and to confirm the self-esteem and value of each pupil. We will ensure experiences that nurture healthy, confident and independent learners, through developing a positive mindset and sound relationships that will be a solid foundation for their future.

We value our pupils and believe that their time at school should be valuable and fulfilling. We believe that education starts from within. We are proud of our Welshness and the culture of our local area and we are committed to instilling pride in it, in the Welsh language and in a bilingual life.

I look forward to meeting you and your child.

Sincerely

N.H.Jones- Artell

Headteacher

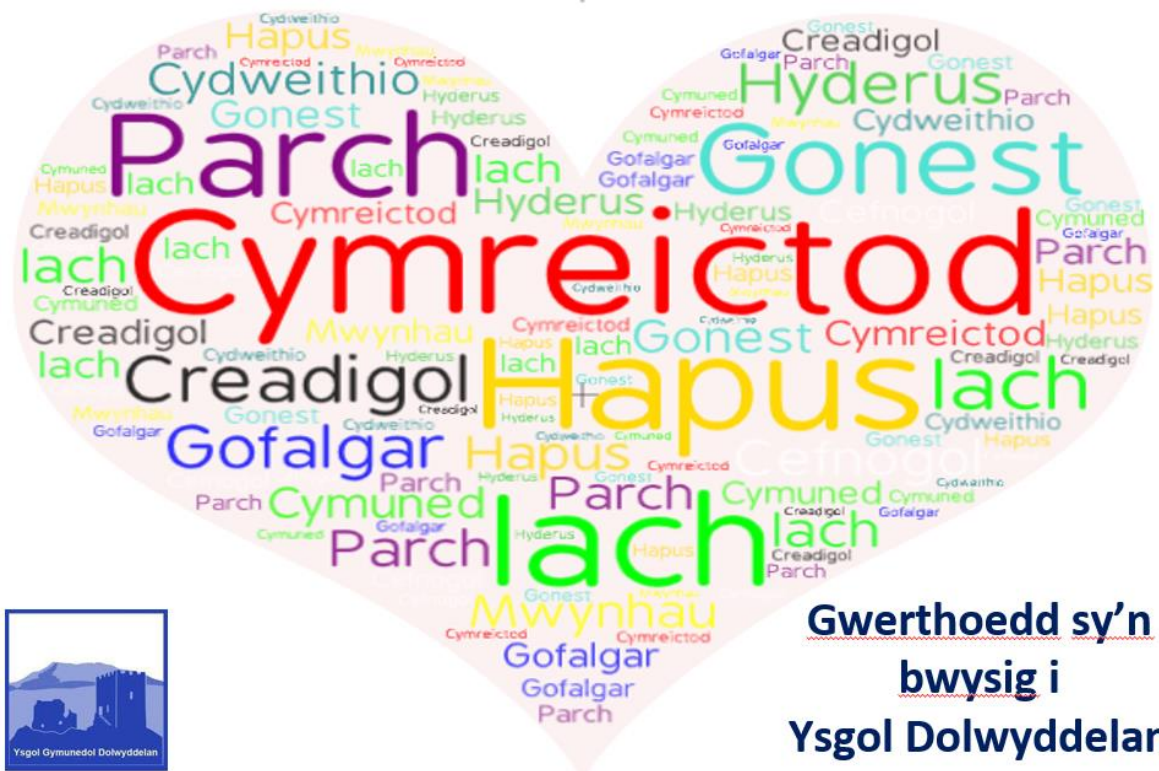


OUR VISION



- ❖ A happy and welcoming school that creates healthy and confident pupils
- ❖ Good collaboration between pupils, staff, parents and the community
- ❖ Equal opportunity is offered to all
- ❖ Everyone always does their best to reach their full potential
- ❖ Creating enterprising, ambitious and creative participants
- ❖ Foster an ethos of growth mindset and promote personal well-being
- ❖ Nurturing principled and informed citizens
- ❖ Lay a solid Foundation for lifelong learning

‘Gyda’n gilydd, llwyddwn’



**Gwerthoedd sy'n
bwysig i
Ysgol Dolwyddelan**

**Important values for Ysgol Dolwyddelan*

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the school is to ensure the best possible quality education for all children in accordance with their age, ability and interests so that they grow into complete individuals, and develop and practice all their talents and qualify themselves to be responsible members of a bilingual society.

We aim to create an environment and atmosphere where pupils can grow, develop and mature to become confident individuals and be aware of moral and humanitarian values, through developing self-respect and tolerance towards others; and therefore our motto is 'Ynghyd ar daith – tyfu â phob cam' (*'On our journey together – growing with each step'*)

We offer education of the highest possible quality that reflects the requirements of the individual, society, the Curriculum for Wales, the Governors and the Local Education Authority.

To enable all pupils to develop to be fluent in Welsh and English so that they can participate fully in the social and cultural life of the bilingual society to which we belong.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. Maintain and raise the standards of pupils' attainment in all areas of learning and experience in accordance with the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales.
2. Lay the foundations for ensuring effective learning and teaching in the school.
3. Ensure a broad, balanced, relevant and rich curriculum.
4. Enable each individual to cultivate knowledge, attitudes and skills relevant to contemporary life, to learn for life and to use leisure time creatively.
5. Ensure equal opportunities and access to the complete curriculum.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that every pupil feels part of a disciplined society that values moral, spiritual and humanitarian values in its life and work.
2. Foster respect and tolerance towards people from all backgrounds, beliefs and cultures and ensure equal opportunities regardless of their race, religion, gender, sexuality, age or disability.
3. Ensure that every pupil's ability to use Welsh and English as a medium of learning is developed in accordance with the Education Authority's Language Policy.
4. Ensure that there is progression and development in the experiences and activities provided and that a large proportion of those experiences reflect the nature of the pupils' lives and interests.
5. Ensure that all areas pay attention to the 'Cwricwlwm Cymreig'.
6. Enable pupils to use their literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology skills in a variety of curricular contexts.
7. Ensure that high quality learning and teaching methods are used which will assist pupils to develop inquisitive and lively minds, the ability to question and discuss reasonably, to solve real problems and to work independently.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL

Ysgol Dolwyddelan is one of the Capel Coed-Elan Federation Schools, which is a federation of three small, rural schools in the upper valley of the river Conwy. The other two schools of the federation are Ysgol Capel Garmon and Ysgol Betws y Coed.

The school is located on the banks of the river Lledr in the center of the village opposite the station.

It is a County Primary school from nursery class age to year 6.

It is a Welsh, co-educational daily school.

There are currently 18 children.

Two teachers are employed as well as a Strategic Head who is responsible for the 3 schools that have Federated.

One classroom assistant works in the school full time.

An ALNCo (Additional School Needs Coordinator) is employed who works strategically across the federation for one day each week.

The play areas include an extensive hard pitch, a large field, an enclosed outdoor learning area for children in the Foundation learning section which is partially covered with a canopy, and vegetable/fruit growing gardens.

ADMISSION POLICY

Pre-nursery - Part time (Monday - Friday mornings) at the beginning of the term that follows their 3rd birthday.

Nursery - Part time (Monday - Friday mornings) at the beginning of a new educational year (September) - when they will celebrate their 4th birthday during the period: September - August.

Full time in September following their 4th birthday.

The Local Authority is responsible for the school's admissions policy, and a copy of their policy is available from Conwy County Borough Council's Education Department on their website www.conwy.gov.uk and also on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

Meithrinfa 'Twt Lol' (Pentrefoelas) offers a Pre-Nursery / Nursery collection service for children from school at 12:55 to attend the nursery for the rest of the day.

For further details contact Lowri Jones - Manager of Twt Lol.



 01690 770335

 meithrinfa.twtlol@outlook.com

TEACHING HOURS

Foundation Learning Class – ‘Dosbarth Lledr’:	21.6 hours
Junior Class – ‘Dosbarth Siabod’:	23 hours
Breakfast Club	8.10 a.m. – 8.45 a.m. (last breakfast 08:30)
Pre-Nursery and Nursery Class session:	8:55 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. (20 minutes breaktime)
Foundation Learning Class, morning session:	8:55 a.m. - 12:15 a.m. (20 minutes breaktime)
Junior Class, morning session:	8:55 a.m. - 12:15 a.m. (20 minutes breaktime)
Afternoon session- ‘Dosbarth Lledr’:	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Afternoon session – ‘Dosbarth Siabod’:	1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.

THE SCHOOL STAFF

Pennaeth / Headteacher	
Mrs Nia Jones-Artell	
Athrawon / Teachers	
‘Dosbarth Lledr’ Foundation Learning Class	Mrs Ceris Elwen Assistant Headteacher
Dosbarth Siabod Junior Class	Mrs Swsan Royle
ALNCo	
Mrs Manon Tudur	
Teaching Assistant	
Miss Peri Williams	
Administrative Officer	
Mrs Helen Chapman	
Ancillary Staff	
Caretaker	Mrs Alison Valintine Miss Eirian Hughes
Cook	Mrs Alison Valintine
Breakfast Club Staff	Mrs Alison Valintine Mr Zac Tatam

There is a current list of Staff members on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

THE GOVERNING BODY

YSGOLION FFEDERASIWN CAPEL COED-ELAN GOVERNING BODY	
LEA Representatives	
Capel Garmon	Mrs Mary Williams - Chairperson
Betws y Coed	VACANT SEAT
Dolwyddelan	VACANT SEAT
Parents' Representatives	
Capel Garmon	Mr Greg Cavey Mrs Ceridwen Jones
Betws y Coed	Mr Gareth Dwyer Mrs Michelle Gilmore-Parry
Dolwyddelan	Mrs Emma Kidd Mrs Elen Roberts
Community Council Representatives	
Capel Garmon	Mrs Elin Sion
Betws y Coed	Mrs Ffiona Jones
Dolwyddelan	Miss Teleri Jones
Community Representatives	
Capel Garmon	Mrs Lyndsey Duncalf
Betws y Coed	VACANT SEAT
Dolwyddelan	Mr Aidan Thomas
Teaching Staff Representatives	
Capel Garmon	Mrs Elin Pyrs Owen
Betws y Coed	Mrs Nia Thomas-Jones
Dolwyddelan	Mrs Ceris Elwen
Headteacher	
Mrs Nia Jones-Artell	
Clerk	
Mrs Janet Hughes	

There is a current list of the Governing Body's members on our website: [Llywodraethwyr | Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan - Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

VISITING ARRANGEMENTS

Parents who are considering sending their children to this school can make arrangements to visit the school to gather more information by contacting the Headteacher / Assistant Headteacher in advance.

Parents whose children are starting with us in the nursery are invited to visit the school in the Summer Term, before the children start school in September.

Parents and all visitors should see the Headteacher / Assistant Headteacher first when visiting the school.

As part of our Strategic Equality Plan, you may contact Mrs N. Jones-Artell in order to arrange support if a parent or carer has additional needs relating to disability and/or language, or a cultural matter that they will need support from at a particular time /event.

Guidance for Visitors

Anyone who comes onto the school grounds for an activity not related to the school must confine themselves to their designated area, and not engage with the pupils and the School's activities.

CHARGING FOR ACTIVITIES

Parents will be charged **IN FULL** for the following:

1. *Loss or damage to textbooks or educational equipment that occurs as a result of misbehaviour by a pupil.*
2. *Food and accommodation for residential activities that have been arranged by the school or by the LEA (unless the pupil is entitled to statutory discharge.)*
3. *Activities which occur out of school hours.*

It will be possible to pay through the website - Parentpay.com

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Ysgol Dolwyddelan aims to ensure equal curricular and social opportunities for pupils with additional learning needs. Each pupil will be treated as an individual and no pupil will be treated more or less favorably than their peers.

The school has a support structure for children who are recognised with additional Learning Needs, including extremely able children. The school is responsible for placing children on the steps set out in the 'Additional Learning Needs Wales Code of Practice' and for monitoring and reviewing this. The school's Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) provides support and guidance to teachers and parents within the school. Progress is monitored through regular review meetings when learning programs and consideration of the need for additional support take place.

Objectives

- Develop effective targeted additional learning provision for the whole school
- Ensure a clear process for identifying, assessing, planning, providing, reviewing and evaluating the provision for children and young people with ALN, with their family as a central part of the process
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum to engage all children and young people at all levels and to promote an inclusive learning culture
- Ensure equality of provision for children and young people with ALN
- Enable children and young people with ALN to fulfill their potential
- Ensure that the family plays a full part in the decision-making process
- Consider the views, wishes and feelings of a child or young person
- Provide advice and support to all staff who work with children and young people with ALN

Refer to our ALN Policy on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

SUPPORTING SERVICES

The school nurse visits the school occasionally. It is possible to speak to the nurse by calling Canolfan Crwst, Llanrwst, 03000850048 (option 2).

The school can access support from additional services e.g. Speech and language therapist, Educational Psychologist, the Hearing Impairment Team, Behavioral Support or School Counseling if necessary following consultation with parents. Parents are asked to inform the school of any physical disability that could impair their child's development.

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

The school encourages parents to walk or cycle when bringing their children to school. We ask for everyone's cooperation to ensure the children's safety. Parents are encouraged to be mindful when parking at the school and not to park, or drop off their children, near the gates but instead to park in the station car park.

HEALTHY SCHOOL

The school is committed to the Healthy School Plan so we encourage the children to bring fruit and vegetables to school to eat during break times. We also encourage the children to drink water during the day and there is a water fountain available to fill bottles in the school. **Crisps, chocolate, biscuits and sweets are not allowed.** We hope you will support us with our healthy living principles.

SWIMMING

All children from the Reception year to year 6 will have the opportunity to attend swimming lessons for a series of 10 sessions during the educational year at Llanrwst swimming pool. The lessons are free, but a contribution towards the transport costs is requested.

We will also teach them about Water Safety which is an important part of our curriculum.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Over the year the learners have the opportunity to practice and develop skills within different sports and games. They also get to develop their skills within the areas of: swimming, dance, athletics, hitting and fielding games and adventurous activities. Use is made of the hall, the yard and the school field for this. We also use Llanrwst Swimming Pool for swimming lessons / safety in the water. As a school we take advantage of the expertise of the county's sports developers from time to time. We also attend Canolfan yr Urdd Glan-llyn / Llangrannog for outdoor/adventurous education.

All children are expected to dress appropriately for each lesson. This is an important safety feature. You are asked to inform the school (by letter) if there is any medical reason when a child cannot take part in physical education / sports sessions.

THE 'URDD'

Pupils are encouraged to join the Urdd, which is an opportunity to socialise through the medium of Welsh. There is a branch of the Urdd in the school on Mondays until 4p.m. and there is an opportunity for the children to join annually. Activities in the name of the Urdd will be held in the school and an opportunity for everyone to compete in art, computer graphics, crafts, sports and stage events.

Year 5 and 6 children will have the opportunity to attend residential visits at Gwersyll yr Urdd Glan-llyn, Cardiff or Llangrannog annually.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

Tutors visit the school to provide instrumental lessons and the providers are the Conwy Music Co-operative. The tutors offer taster sessions of various instruments at the beginning of the academic year so that the children have the opportunity to hear and play various instruments.

Refer to their website for further information: [Conwy Music Co-operative | A new vision for music provision in Conwy](#)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

This school has an official school uniform, it is not compulsory to wear it. Despite this, it is felt that school uniforms lead to fostering pride in the school and a sense of belonging to it. We have sweatshirts with the school logo for sale through Brodwaith - [Brodwaith - Home](#) but this is not compulsory. Parents are welcome to buy a school uniform from any shop or supermarket in the colors of our school uniform.

The clothing items **MUST** be clearly labelled.
The children are allowed to wear small earrings if necessary.

Winter

Black/dark blue skirt or pinafore, black/dark blue trousers
A dark blue jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan
A deep yellow/gold polo shirt



Summer

Blue/yellow check dress, blue skirt or pinafore
Black/dark blue shorts

P.E. KIT

Black shorts
White t-shirt
Trainers



SCHOOL LUNCHES

All children from the Reception to year 6 enjoy a free hot lunch as a result of the Welsh Government's free meals campaign for school children. The children eat in the school canteen under the supervision of the staff at lunchtime. A drink of water is available to them if they wish. If your child has special dietary requirements / food intolerance then a meeting will be required with our cook, Ali, to ensure that we meet your child's needs.

The pre-school pupils and the Nursery year children pay for school lunch. The current lunch prices for them are - £3.30 per day £16.50 per week

Lunch money is to be paid in advance on Parent Pay, our online payment system.

For more information about school lunches and to download a copy of the menu visit : [Primary School Lunchtime Menu Checker - Conwy County Borough Council](#) or to our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

BREAKFAST CLUB

The school has a Breakfast Club which offers free breakfast to all pupils of the school. The Breakfast Club starts at 8.10 a.m. until 8.45 a.m. with the last breakfast at 08:30.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attending school regularly and on time is very important. Our policy on Attendance defines 'authorised' and 'unauthorised' absence and the requirements from the Welsh Government. (A copy of the policy is available on request)

Family Holidays - A school cannot allow a child to miss more than 10 school days for holidays in any educational year, your child's attendance will need to be consistently very good for the request to be authorised. Leave forms are available from the Office.

Punctuality – We would like to emphasize the importance of arriving at school before 8:55 a.m. to ensure that all children are settled and ready to focus on learning and development. Arriving late causes children to feel unsettled and disrupts their learning.

Attendance Monitoring - Pupils' attendance and punctuality are monitored weekly. We will contact you if we have concerns. Our attendance is regularly monitored by Conwy's Education Welfare Officer.

Illness - If your child is absent due to illness or attending a medical/dental appointment will you let the school know by calling before 9:30am. on the day. The school will contact you if you do not receive a phone call to notify of an absence. This will ensure that the school records absences correctly and follows safeguarding protocols.

Refer to our Attendance Policy on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Pocket Money / Valuables

Children should not bring money to School if they do not really need it for a specific purpose. If that happens, they are asked to place the money or personal valuables in the School office at the beginning of the day to avoid complaints about losses from pockets, bags etc. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost property.

Toys

The children are not allowed to bring expensive toys / valuables - losing or breaking a favorite or expensive item can cause a lot of anxiety.

Bicycles / Scooters

We encourage pupils to use active methods to come to school such as walking and cycling. Bikeability training is offered in years 5 and 6 and scooter training in years 3 and 4. Children who have been successful in the National Cycling Course are recommended to bring bikes to school. Everyone who brings a bike to school will need to wear a helmet. It is the owner's responsibility to secure their bike / scooter at school.

THE CURRICULUM

What is 'Curriculum' at Ysgol Dolwyddelan?

A school curriculum is everything a learner experiences at school. When designing the Ysgol Dolwyddelan curriculum the needs of our learners are foremost in our minds. We give detailed consideration to **What** we teach, **How** we teach it and also **Why** we teach it.

The 4 purposes of Curriculum for Wales is the core and heart of Ysgol Dolwyddelan's Curriculum.

They underpin all aspects of our curriculum design, planning and teaching. Our vision and values as a school support the 4 purposes and we summarise below what they mean to us. Our learning experiences and teaching methods will aim to make the following a reality

Ambitious, capable learners... who are ready to learn throughout their lives, and who:	Enterprising, creative contributors ... who are ready to play a full role in life and work, and who:	Principled, informed citizens ... who are ready to be citizens in Wales and the world, and who:	Healthy, confident individuals... who are ready to live a full life as valued members of society, and who develop:
• set high standards for themselves • enjoy challenges and problem solving • develop knowledge and skills and apply them in different contexts • are able to discuss their learning confidently • are able to communicate in Welsh and English, • are able to use mathematics and number and digital technologies effectively	• think creatively • connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create, adapt and solve problems • identify opportunities and take advantage of them • are confident to take risks • lead and collaborate in teams • express their ideas and emotions in different ways • use their energy and skills for the benefit of others	• form opinions and discuss issues based on their knowledge and values • understand and exercise their responsibilities and human rights • understand and consider the impact of their actions • know about their culture and community, • know about society and the world today and in the past • respect the needs and rights of others as a member of a diverse society • see that they have a role to play in ensuring the sustainability of the planet	• good physical and mental health and safety • relationships based on respect and trust • personal values • the skills and independence to deal with everyday life • the ability to face and overcome challenges
			

Ysgol Dolwyddelan works hard to ensure that the aims of the 'Curriculum for Wales' are implemented in the school. Through the curriculum we will ensure that our learners:

- are ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives
- are enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play their full part in their life and work
- are principled, knowledgeable citizens in Wales and the world

- are healthy, confident individuals who are ready to live life realizing their aspirations as valuable members of society

To ensure the above we aim to provide a curriculum that:

- is valid; firmly rooted in Welsh values and culture;
- is evidence-based: taking advantage of best practice in Wales and elsewhere and based on sound research;
- responds to different needs and being relevant to today's needs (individually, locally and nationally) but also giving young people the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to face the challenges of the future as lifelong learners;
- is inclusive: easy for everyone to understand, including the right to the highest quality education for all children and considering their views in the context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the views of parents and the wider society;
- is ambitious: including high expectations and not setting artificial limits on achievement and challenge for all children and young people;
- is powerful: to develop the competence that will enable young people to be able to face the challenges of their lives in the future with confidence;
- ensures continuity and flow with elements that combine and develop to form unity;
- arouses interest: encouraging enjoyment in learning and satisfaction in mastering challenging subjects;
- inspires everyone's confidence and encourages ownership and appropriate decisions by those closest to the learning and teaching process;
- is manageable: recognizes the implications in terms of appropriate assessment and accountability arrangements and get the support of those arrangements as well.

Our interesting, stimulating and challenging curriculum has been designed to cater for all the pupils' needs, regardless of their ability. A combination of methods is used to plan the curriculum in this school in accordance with the requirements according to the age of the learners and the context of the learning. Elements of planning for direct, disciplinary and multidisciplinary teaching will take place in order to learn and practice specific skills in the mornings while cross-curricular learning takes place in the afternoon through different themes.

An emphasis on the Welsh language and creating a Welsh ethos within the school and in the themes will be an important part of developing any work at Ysgol Dolwyddelan. We are here to nurture learners who are proud of their roots and their Welsh identity.

By using the interdisciplinary and integrated elements in order to further practice skills and apply them in different cross-curricular contexts we inspire children, encourage independence and develop their natural curiosity.

Cross-curricular teaching and learning, as well as careful planning, ensures a solid and continuous development in each child's knowledge, understanding and skills across all learning areas. Considerable emphasis is placed on incorporating the development of literacy skills, numeracy and digital competence across the curriculum within cross-curricular contexts

Language, Literacy & Communication

The ability to communicate effectively and confidently is essential for all pupils. We have embedded Literacy and Communication in our curriculum taking advantage of language development in every possible situation, thus enabling pupils to see the intentional and authentic link that languages have to real life situations.

What's important:	Languages connect us to each other.	Understanding languages is key to understanding the world around us.	Expressing ourselves through languages is key to communication.	Literature fires the imagination and inspires creativity
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Each pupil is on their own learning journey. We encourage and support all children to reach their full potential as readers, writers, speakers and learners.

Impact: How do we know we have achieved our aims?

Our children will be imaginative, creative, empathetic, resilient, motivated and independent learners.	All children will take steps forward in their learning.	Pupils can communicate effectively in a range of formats such as speaking and writing in different languages, the use of technology, producing writing in different genres and performing and presenting for a variety of audiences.	Our learners will be eager and ready to learn throughout their lives, playing a full part in the next stage of their educational journey, as well as being a citizen of Wales and the world.
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Mathematics & Numeracy

We foster positive attitudes, interest, excitement and discoveries through teaching and learning mathematics at Ysgol Dolwyddelan. We encourage a 'can do' attitude especially when solving problems. It is important to us that all children use the language of mathematics confidently by reasoning and explaining to others.

What's important:	The number system is used to represent and compare the relationships between numbers and quantities.	Algebra uses symbolic systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships.	Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world.	Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed conclusions and decisions
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The 5 Proficiencies of Mathematics

Giving opportunities to demonstrate conceptual understanding by.....explaining and expressing concepts.	Giving learners opportunities to communicate with symbols by...showing an understanding of the conventions of symbols.	Giving the learners an opportunity to demonstrate strategic competence by... identifying the mathematics needed to solve a problem.	Giving learners opportunities to demonstrate fluency through... rapid retrieval of facts, relationships and techniques.	Giving learners opportunities to demonstrate logical reasoning by... understanding relationships between and within a concept.
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Health & Wellbeing

We continually strive to provide a safe, caring, inclusive learning environment that celebrates and embraces diversity. We see each child as a special individual with their own unique skills and talents. It is a privilege to nurture and develop these individuals, supporting them on their journey to become confident, healthy individuals and valuable members of our society. We pride ourselves on supporting our pupils to develop and maintain their physical health and well-being as well as their mental health and emotional well-being, as well as developing positive relationships in a variety of situations. We will foster pupils' ability to make informed decisions about their health and well-being and encourage them to critically engage with a range of social influences that could affect their values and behaviour. We celebrate our pupils' curiosity by supporting them to make sense of the world by thinking about their feelings and experiences.

What's important :	Developing the health and well-being of the body leads to lifelong benefits.	The way we process our experiences and respond to them affects our mental health and emotional well-being	The way we make decisions affects the quality of our lives and the lives of others.	The way we relate to social influences shapes who we are, and affects our health and well-being.	Healthy relationships are essential for our well-being.
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The Humanities

We learn through inquiry, exploration and research to inspire curiosity about the Bro Garmon area, the Conwy Valley, Wales and the wider world. We will do this by studying the past, present and future. Human events and experiences are complex and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways. We explore how our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by human processes and actions. We provide direct experiences through visits and experiences such as castles and historical houses/buildings, museums, Glan-Ilyn and the Urdd Center - Cardiff. Human societies are complex and diverse, and are shaped by human actions and beliefs. Our school's ethos encourages research, respect, celebration and welcoming of different cultures and faiths.

What's important :	Inquiry, exploration and investigation inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.	Human events and experiences are complex and are understood, interpreted and represented in different ways.	Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by human processes and actions.	Human societies are complex and diverse, and they are shaped by people's actions and beliefs.	Informed, self-aware citizens address the challenges and opportunities facing humanity, and are able to take meaningful and principled action.
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Science & Technology

At Ysgol Dolwyddelan we want Science and Technology to spark curiosity, surprise and wonder within our pupils. Pupils' scientific inquiry skills are developed, encouraging pupils to ask questions, predict, explore,

plan, discuss, reflect and enjoy practical experiences. We want pupils to be passionate about understanding the world around them, why it is, how connected our world is and how they could have an impact.

What's important :	Being curious and looking for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena.	Design and engineering thinking offers technical and creative ways to meet society's needs and wants.	The world around us is full of living things that depend on each other to survive.	Matter, and the way it behaves, defines our universe and shapes our lives.	Forces and energy lay the basis for understanding our universe.	Computing underpins our digital world.
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Expressive Arts

We nurture pupils to be creative thinkers. To celebrate our diverse community we explore how creative work can represent personal, social and cultural identity. In order to enable our learners to express their own creativity, we provide opportunities to explore and experiment with a variety of techniques. We want our pupils to be inspired and confident individuals, who can shape the breadth of their knowledge and skills to be ambitious, capable learners. Our pupils will be encouraged to perform, produce, design and share their creative work through various stimuli and experiences.

What's important:	Exploring the expressive arts is essential in order to deepen artistic skills and knowledge, and it enables learners to become curious and creative individuals.	Responding and reflecting, both as an artist and as an audience, is an essential part of learning in the expressive arts.	Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination.
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Assessment and Progress

A Curriculum for Wales gives us the opportunity to ensure that learners' progress is the main purpose of Assessment and not an accountability exercise. This is why we at Ysgol Dolwyddelan see the importance of developing a complete picture of each learner's development, including their well-being, willingness and desire to learn as well as the development of their skills, knowledge and understanding. We emphasize the importance of ensuring a mutual understanding of progress across the school's practitioners and on regular discussions with parents and carers to discuss their children's progress.

The assessment at Ysgol Dolwyddelan will ensure that we:

- Continuously support individual learners day to day
- Identify, crystallize and reflects on a pupil's progress over time
- Understand the progress of groups in order to reflect on practices.

We set and revisit individual targets for each child throughout the school year.

Standardised reading and spelling tests are given to Year 2-6 pupils in the Autumn and again in April, we also make effective use of national assessments – the Reading and Numeracy Personal Assessments to pinpoint aspects/ares requiring additional input/support.

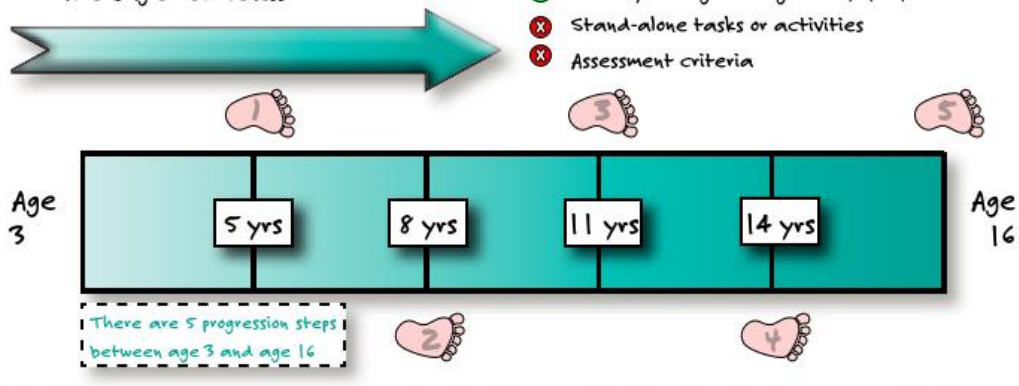
In addition to this, there are progress principles that underpin our planning for learners' progress across the fields over time.

Principles of Progression

- Increasing breadth and depth of knowledge
- Deepening understanding of the ideas and disciplines within the Areas
- Refinement and growing sophistication in the use and application of skills
- Making connections and transferring learning into new contexts
- Increasing effectiveness

Progression supported by descriptions of learning which provide guidance on how learners should progress within each statement of what matters

- ✓ Arranged in 5 progression steps to guide pace
- ✓ Framed from learner's perspective
- ✓ Framed broadly to sustain learning over a series of years
- ✓ Broadly set against ages of 5, 8, 11, 14 and 16
- ✗ Stand-alone tasks or activities
- ✗ Assessment criteria



LANGUAGE POLICY

Conwy County Borough Council has a vision to ensure that all pupils in the county have fluent and confident linguistic skills in Welsh and English. We want to ensure that the children and young people of the county have every opportunity to be full members of the bilingual / multilingual society of which they are a part so that they wish to use the language within the family, in the communities and in the workplace.

Across Welsh schools, the number of school language categories has changed from five to three in the primary sector and three in the secondary sector. An English medium school is a Category 1 school, a dual language school is a Category 2 school and a Welsh medium school is a Category 3 school.

Ysgol Dolwyddelan has been placed in category 3 linguistically. We realize our curricular linguistic needs in accordance with the statutory requirements of Curriculum for Wales in order to reach the definition of category 3.

The aim of the school is to enable all pupils to the best of their ability to be confidently bilingual so that they can be complete members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. Any correspondence between the school and the home will be bilingual.

Category 3: Welsh-medium The main language of these schools is Welsh, and contact with parents and carers will be in Welsh, English or bilingually. Category 3 schools will have a strong Welsh language ethos at their core, and they'll help and support your child to use Welsh in every situation inside and outside the classroom. All lessons will be in Welsh, until children are seven-years-old, and teachers will use some English to make sure children understand everything.

If your child attends a category 3 school, they'll be able to speak, read, write and listen in both Welsh and English according to age and ability. All learners in Welsh-medium education are taught in the same classroom, whether they speak Welsh at home or not.

Children will start English lessons when they're aged seven, and from then onwards, at least 80% of your child's activities (both inside and outside the classroom) will be in Welsh.

There is further information in the document :

Primary school categorisation guidance: Information for parents and carers (Welsh Government) which is on our website [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important tool in every school's plans to extend the experiences of the school to the home, and to facilitate the parents' interest in their children's development. The homework task is linked to the work the pupils do at school, often as a preparation task, reinforcement or continuation of an element of their class work.

Reading books will be sent home regularly in accordance with the learner's age and reading skills. The homework will be varied work such as spelling words to learn and research work to match the theme. Children are expected to complete the tasks within the designated time

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COMBINED WORSHIP

Whole school assemblies and Religion, Values & Ethics education are an important aspect of Ysgol Dolwyddelan's ethos. The religious aspect is linked to the children's experiences in their everyday lives, emphasizing the altruistic and caring aspects of religion. Other services that are held are an important aspect in order to develop the feeling of community. Children are taught about different religions with an emphasis on Christianity. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education lessons and collective worship.

RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Ysgol Dolwyddelan aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, emotional and physical development of all learners and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of adult life.

The governors and staff of our school believe that RSE is an essential element in a balanced and holistic education.

We believe that a well-planned RSE program will provide learners with the skills and knowledge to make safe and responsible choices as they grow up.

We recognize that we live in a diverse society and that learners will come from a variety of family backgrounds. Our RSE program will aim to be sensitive and respectful of differences while enabling learners to understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships and appreciate the importance of a stable, safe and loving environment for family life.

Notes

Our programs of study will aim to help learners move from childhood through adolescence to adulthood:

- Develop positive attitudes and values that influence the way they behave
- Begin to develop the skills needed to make responsible and informed decisions to keep themselves healthy and form healthy relationships
- Understand the physical and emotional aspects of early adolescence
- Respect themselves and others
- Appreciate diversity and celebrate difference
- Building successful and healthy relationships
- Appreciate the importance of stable and loving personal relationships
- Recognize the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touching and behaviour
- Know how to get appropriate advice and support

Introducing the RSE programme

Relationship and Sexuality Education has been integrated within class work in accordance with the requirements of the Curriculum. It is taught with sensitivity. It is not a separate subject but integrated into the provision of personal and social education and Health and Wellbeing.

We try to be as open as possible with the subject in class and answer questions openly and sensitively. A central feature of this aspect of the curriculum is the emphasis on the importance of family life and loving and caring relationships.

PASTORAL CARE / SAFEGUARDING LEARNERS

All members of staff within the school are responsible for the safety and protection of the children who attend. The school recognises its statutory duty to work with other agencies in protecting children from harm and responding to abuse. If there are any concerns about neglect or physical, emotional or sexual abuse, then, in accordance with Conwy's Child Protection Procedures, the staff have a duty to report the matter to the School's Child Safeguarding Coordinator. The school coordinator can consult with professional colleagues as well as relevant agencies such as health and social services. Due to the nature of the charges it may not always be suitable to discuss the matter with parents before making a referral. That responsibility is in the hands of social services and the police.

The staff try to adopt an open and accepting attitude towards children as part of their pastoral care. Staff hope that parents and children will feel free to talk about their concerns, seeing the school as a safe place if there is a difficulty at home. Children's concerns will be taken seriously if they seek help from a member of staff. However, staff cannot ensure confidentiality should concerns have to be referred to the appropriate agency in order to protect the child's welfare.

The school's Child Safeguarding Coordinators are Mrs Nia Jones-Artell and Mrs Ceris Elwen. The appointed Governor is Mrs Elin Sion.

The nominated person for protecting children within the Local Education Authority if parents were not satisfied with the school's response is **Scott Fordwhalley** - scott.fordwhalley@conwy.gov.uk. (Designated Safeguarding Leader for Education)

The member of staff responsible for children in care and looked after children is Mrs Nia Jones-Artell.

Refer to our Child Safeguarding and Protection Policy on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

Guidelines regarding bringing Children to School

Your child's safety is a top priority for the school. We thank you for your cooperation with the following matters:

- All children should be at school promptly **by 08:55**. If you arrive at school after 8:55 a.m. you are required to take your child to the main entrance and ring the bell
- Dogs must not be brought onto the school grounds at any time.
- Conwy Council's buildings and properties are smoke-free establishments, parents/guardians are asked not to smoke or 'vape' on the school grounds.
- You are asked not to drop your child outside the school gate, as this creates a very dangerous situation for children walking to school.

BEHAVIOUR & DISCIPLINE IN THE SCHOOL

The Headteacher and the staff will do everything possible to create a happy school life. We are working together to establish a calm, productive and happy atmosphere in our School and expect a responsible attitude and appropriate and considerate behavior from our pupils. We expect pupils to show respect towards teachers and school staff, classmates, school buildings and school equipment.

OBJECTIVES

To cultivate an increasing measure of self-discipline and that each pupil to learns to accept responsibility for their own behaviour.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

1. Promote caring attitudes towards others where success is recognised and appreciated at all levels.
2. Establish a consistent and immediate response to behavioral issues
3. Identify what is safe and acceptable behaviour
4. Raise awareness of what is acceptable
5. Working with parents / guardians to achieve our objectives

We strongly believe in nurturing learners who will keep to the following :

- ☺ Respect everyone and everything
- ☺ Work your best
- ☺ Help each other
- ☺ Listening the first time

- ☺ Ask for help
- ☺ Talk about something that worries you
- ☺ Behave politely
- ☺ Raise your hand

Serious discipline problems will be referred to the Assistant Headteacher and the Headteacher, and in extreme situations parents will be asked to visit the school to discuss any concerns in order to work together to resolve them.

Refer to our Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusions Policy on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

RESPECTING EACH OTHER – ANTI-BULLYING GUIDANCE

Everyone at Ysgol Dolwyddelan has the right to feel at home, and feel safe and happy; this is the only way for all members of the school to be able to reach their full potential. Any form of bullying hinders the implementation of equal opportunities. Everyone has a responsibility to prevent bullying, and every member of the school has the basic right to be respected by everyone and enjoy a happy life at school. Any form of bullying is unacceptable. The school will make every attempt to ensure that bullying does not occur.

If bullying occurs, pupils that are affected must be confident that the school can deal with the problem effectively. Our aim is to challenge any form of bullying, increase sympathy for any pupil/individual who is bullied and help develop an anti-bullying ethos within the school.

Refer to our Anti-Bullying Policy on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The Local Education Authority, in accordance with the requirements of the Secretary of State, under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1980, has established a procedure to consider complaints about the manner in which the Governing Bodies of the schools and the Authority operate in relation to curriculum school and other related matters. This procedure is outlined in a dedicated document which is available at the school.

It is emphasised, however, that many complaints can be dealt with quickly and effectively through informal consideration based on discussion with the Headteacher. This is the first reasonable step, and the Governing Body will expect this step to have been carried out before formally presenting the complaint in exceptional cases.

Refer to our Complaints Policy and Procedures on our website : [Ysgol Gymunedol Dolwyddelan | Dolwyddelan, Conwy](#)

HEALTH & SAFETY

The Governing Body monitor all aspects of Health and Safety at Ysgol Dolwyddelan and every possible care is taken to ensure the safety of the children while they are at school. The school's main entrance door is locked during the day and children are not allowed to leave the school early without permission. If there is a change in the usual arrangements, parents are asked to inform the Assistant Headteacher/Headteacher and it should be ensured that the child is collected from the school's main entrance door.

All visitors must visit the school through the main entrance and sign in to gain access to the school. There is a burglar alarm and a fire alarm in the school and 'fire drills' will be held seasonally and well as an 'emergency drill'. There is a very good ratio of adults to children during playtime to supervise the pupils with first aid practitioners available.

ACCIDENTS

Despite our best possible care, accidents sometimes happen. The required number of staff have been qualified to carry out first aid. The majority of accidents are minor and are dealt with by the staff. Parents will be notified in all cases where an injury to the head has occurred and the child will be monitored. In a serious case, every attempt is made to contact the parent. If there are serious injuries the emergency services are contacted immediately and the pupil will be comforted and receive the appropriate emergency treatment. The parents/carers will be contacted and the pupil will be escorted to the hospital by a member of staff if a parent/carer has not arrived in time.

MEDICAL

Parents are expected to notify the school of any medical condition that may affect the child. All parents will have to complete a medical/dietary information form before the child starts school. There are definite guidelines for keeping children at home after illness such as a stomach bug - 48 hours etc. Contact the school for more information if needed.

Parents must complete a 'Medication Consent' form if their children need to be given 'prescription' medicines or if the child suffers from any illness or allergy that requires special attention. This includes asthma pumps. According to the school's Medication Administration Policy, school staff members are not required to administer prescription drugs, if staff members refuse to do so, it will be the responsibility of the parents to arrange with the Assistant Headteacher/Headteacher to come and administer the drugs.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

We firmly believe that children learn best through real experiences, whether that be in the classroom or outside. During our themes we will organise activities outside the school e.g. local castles, local villages/towns, museums, etc. Parents are asked to give official permission for their children to participate in the activities if it means going during school hours, by filling in an appropriate form at the beginning of each academic year. We will inform parents/carers of the details of the visits/activities before the date.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

During the year the pupils will have opportunities to visit sites and take part in activities linked to their themes.

Places such as:

- The Urdd's Glan Llyn/Cardiff/Llangrannog Centres
- Manorafon Park Farm / Rhug Farm
- Yr Ysgwrn, Plas Mawr
- Betws y Coed, Llanrwst, Llandudno
- Conwy Castle / Dolwyddelan

We believe that children learn better when they have live experiences and are placed in real situations either inside or outside the classroom. Educational visits are part of giving the children these experiences and extend their learning. We cannot legally charge for those activities, however we cannot carry out the activities without asking for a voluntary contribution towards the cost.

MOBILE PHONES

Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school unless there are **exceptional circumstances** and there is a prior arrangement between the parents and the Assistant Headteacher/Headteacher.

The school has the right to refuse to allow persistent offenders to bring a mobile phone to school. All volunteers, visitors, governors and contractors are expected to follow our mobile phone policy while on school grounds.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

Close cooperation between the school and the home is essential if we want to ensure that the child reaches their full potential. We sincerely hope that parents will take an interest in the children's education and support the school in its daily work and activities. We value this close relationship with parents as it is together that we will best help your child.

You are always welcome to discuss any issue that affects your child's welfare or progress. We are proud of our open door policy, If you would like to speak to us, please arrange in advance.

Parents who are bringing their children to the school for the first time are invited to meet the Assistant Head/Headteacher and the Class Teacher to discuss any concerns or questions. The children who start in the nursery class or in our pre-nursery provision are invited to have a taster session in the class during the previous term. Parents are invited to attend a number of joint activities with us during the year e.g. Harvest Festival Service, Christmas Concerts/Service, St David's Day Concert, Sports Day and end of year concert.

We hold two main parents' evenings during the academic year where parents are given the opportunity to see their child's work and discuss progress with the class teacher by discussing a summary report. A written report is sent home towards the end of the summer term and an opportunity for parents to come in if they

wish to discuss the report. Person Centered meetings are organised throughout the year for children with additional learning needs. As always, if you have concerns, please contact your child's teacher and they will be happy to help.

Regular letters are sent home to inform parents of what is going on at the school; we aim to be completely paperless. We also use 'Parent Pay' to send text messages to parents to remind them about a visit/event or to share urgent information. We ask that you inform the school, immediately, of any changes to telephone numbers especially mobile phone numbers as well as any change to your email address. It is extremely important that the school has current contact details in case it is necessary to contact yourselves in an emergency.

This school cannot succeed without the support of parents. We therefore encourage you to take an interest in your children's education and to support the school in its work and in its public activities.

THE SCHOOL'S PARENT & TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The school encourages parents to take an active part in our school's Parent & Teachers Association. The group provides a number of activities that raise money for the school, they are an integral part of the school's life and work. Parental support for these activities is always very warmly welcomed, and they are always looking for enthusiastic new members.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

The school complies with new requirements regarding how to keep personal information safe.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The Freedom of Information Act requires that bodies funded by public funds, including schools, explain what information they publish. We have drawn up a publication plan which sets out all the information we publish regularly and where to find it. Ask the Headteacher to see the publication plan or provide you with a copy.

