

# Maesybryn Primary School



## Prospectus 2025-2026

*Through Endeavour We Can All Achieve  
Trwy Ymdrech Gallwn Ni I Gyd Gyflawni*



Head Teacher / Prifathro: Simon Roberts

Email / Ebost:

[Simon.Roberts@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:Simon.Roberts@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru)

Telephone / Ffon: 01443 202928

Website: <https://www.maesybrynprimary.co.uk>

***Through Endeavour We Can All Achieve - Trwy Ymdrech Gallwn Ni I Gyd Gyflawni***

1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Maesybryn Primary School. We hope that you find the information in this document useful and that you decide to place your child in our care. A prospectus outlines many aspects of the school but cannot convey the ethos of the school in a way that a visit to us would. We encourage all parents to arrange to meet with us and to visit classrooms and talk to staff. Our website and twitter pages display a great deal of the pupil's work and pictures of their learning experiences. Please use the information in this prospectus to access these and to arrange a visit.

Maesybryn Primary School is a community primary school for children from the ages of 3 - 11 years of age. There are currently 298 children in the school and they are organised into nine classes and a large nursery. In addition, we have two special needs classes that form a very important part of our school. Both classes cater for children with communication difficulties and autistic spectrum conditions, one being for Foundation Phase pupils and the other for junior aged children - there are currently 18 pupils within these provisions. Although we are a large school, we are very proud of the individual support and care that we give to all of our pupils and we react very quickly to any specific problems or difficulties which your child may encounter.

The school was last inspected by Estyn in May 2018 and rated as "Good" for all indicators. We are very proud of the report and a copy is available on our website. However, we are continually striving to improve all aspects of our school and there have been many developments since that report. We know that children enjoy learning here and every opportunity is taken to offer a rich and challenging curriculum using the experience of our excellent staff and the wonderful grounds that we possess. We believe in the benefits of a school-home partnership and welcome comments or queries at any time.

I hope that your child will be very happy here and urge you to read this brochure, visit the website and arrange a tour of the school. We appreciate that the decision on where to school your child is extremely hard and if we can help, then we will. Thank you for your interest.

Mr. S Roberts  
Headteacher

# How Can You Contact Us?



The full postal address of the school is:

Maesybryn Primary School,  
Lancaster Drive,  
Crown Hill,  
Llantwit Fardre,  
Pontypridd,  
RCT  
CF38 2NS  
Telephone Number - 01443  
202928

The name and telephone number of the Director of Education is:  
Mrs. Gaynor Davies  
Education and Children's Services Group,  
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council,  
Ty Trevithick,  
Abercynon,  
Mountain Ash.  
CF45 4UQ

Telephone Number - 01443  
744000

The name and address of the Chairman of the Governors is:

Mr. J. Fish,  
c/o Maesybryn Primary  
Lancaster Drive  
Pontypridd,  
RCT  
CF38 2NS

The name and address of the clerk to the Governors is:  
Mrs. Rachel Ashcroft  
Education and Children's Services Group,  
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council,  
Ty Trevithick,  
Abercynon,  
Mountain Ash.  
CF45 4UQ

Telephone Number- 01443  
744000

E-mail:

[Admin@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:Admin@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru)  
[Head@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:Head@maesybrynprimary.rctcbc.cymru)

## Maesybryn Primary School Governing Body

The Governing Body is responsible for the running of the school and as such plays a vital role in your child's education. This is an elected body consisting of Local Authority, parent and school representatives. As a body it also invites co-opted members to join them. The role of the Governing Body is clearly defined in law and it ensures that its duties are professionally undertaken through the Head teacher and staff of the school.

Any parent can apply to be elected as a Governor when a term of office ends and when necessary, elections are held.

Any parent has the right to contact the Chair of Governors if they feel that they want to offer suggestions or if they feel any complaint has not been dealt with satisfactorily by the Head teacher. (Please refer to Complaints Policy on website)

### MAESYBRYN PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

<b>Mr. J. Fish</b>	<b>(Chair)</b>
<b>Mr. Chris Wells</b>	<b>(Vice Chair)</b>
<b>Mrs. Kate Spear</b>	<b>(Parent)</b>
<b>Mrs. V. Lawrence</b>	<b>(Parent)</b>
<b>Mrs. Cerys Francis</b>	<b>(Parent)</b>
<b>Mrs. Zoe Jones</b>	<b>Co Opted)</b>
<b>Cllr. Karl Johnson</b>	<b>(Local Authority)</b>
<b>Cllr. Pat Fletcher</b>	<b>(Local Authority)</b>
<b>Mrs. Anna Street</b>	<b>(Teacher)</b>
<b>Mrs. Donna Fletcher</b>	<b>(Teacher)</b>
<b>Mrs. C. Richards</b>	<b>(Support Staff)</b>
<b>Mrs. B Channon</b>	<b>(LEA)</b>
<b>Mr. Paul Powell</b>	<b>(Co Opted)</b>
<b>Mrs. Rhian Smith</b>	<b>(Parent)</b>
<b>Mr. Sam Ashdown</b>	<b>(Co-opted)</b>
<b>Ms. Jodie Knezevic</b>	<b>(Community)</b>
<b>Mr. Iloyd Addicott</b>	<b>(LEA)</b>
<b>Mr. S. Roberts</b>	<b>(Head teacher)</b>

## **MAESYBRYN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **VISION**

*“At Maesybryn, we value, respect and have high expectations of everyone. We are proud of our Welsh culture and language and we celebrate individual achievements. We aim to ensure that all children and adults thrive in a happy, safe and inclusive environment. Our vision is for all children and staff to feel empowered and to take ownership of their learning, providing them with the knowledge, creativity and skills to benefit others and enrich their own futures. We want our children to grow up to contribute positively to their community and the wider world by fulfilling their own potential and achieving their aspirations and dreams. We want all of our pupils to be:*

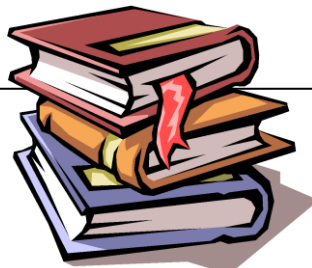
- **Ambitious, capable learners who display a growth mind-set and give 100%***
- **Enterprising and creative contributors in school and their community***
- **Ethical, informed citizens who value their own and each other’s cultures***
- **Healthy, happy and confident individuals who value participation***

*We want our school to be a safe and happy place where everybody can learn, work and achieve.”*

Our motto **“Through endeavour we can all achieve”** embodies our vision that through hard work all individuals, pupils and staff, can achieve. This is in-line with the Four Purposes embedded within “Successful Futures”.

### **AIMS**

- \* To create a happy school atmosphere, full of warmth and security where success and confidence can be achieved.
- \* To provide a curriculum which will contribute to the all-round growth and development of every child with no discrimination relating to gender, race, special learning needs or differing cultures.
- \* To develop positive personal qualities and social values:-  
a respect for people and property, honesty and consideration for others, self-discipline and tolerance.
- \* To build each child's confidence and self-esteem – celebrating achievements and attainment.
- \* Develop, in every child, a curiosity for the world and the literacy, numeracy and digital skills needed to ensure learning throughout their lives.
- \* Ensure that the school is at the heart of the local community and involves its members in all that we do.
- \* Promote the use of the Welsh language at every opportunity and to create a sense of pride in the cultural heritage of Wales.





## **How is School Organised?**

The school has 271 Mainstream pupils who are split into nine classes, a nursery of 34 pupils and two special needs classes which currently cater for 15 pupils. Each teacher is responsible for the teaching of all Areas of Learning within the new curriculum in their class but, in addition, they take responsibility in groups, for specific areas of learning throughout the school.

These are detailed below. If you have questions about the teaching of a specific subject you can contact either the Head teacher or the teacher responsible. Link Governors are also appointed for each subject and details of these can be obtained from the school.

### **Areas of Responsibility**

**Simon Roberts HT - Staff Performance Management, Child Protection Officer, Behaviour & Discipline, Equal Opportunities, Standards of teaching and learning,**

**Rachel Williams DHT - Strategic lead for monitoring standards and assessment. Member of LLC and MFL lead.**

**Anna Street SLT - Teaching and Learning, Student Mentor, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Head of Early Years, Forest Schools, Foundation Support Staff , AoLE member STEM.**

**Sarah Parker SLT - Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNco), Healthy Schools, Intervention staff . Member of Wellbeing AoLE group**

**Nikki Oldfield SLT - Curriculum and STEM Lead**

**Caroline Lear SLT - Leader for Wellbeing, Leader for Maths. Cluster lead for Maths. Member of LLC**

**Sarah Burton-Little - Leader of Humanities AoLE, Eco-schools and outdoor curriculum**

**Tracey Adams - LSC FPhase. Leader of Expressive Art group.**

**Michelle Hussey - LSC KS2. Member of Humanities Group**

**Rhiannon Davies - LSC KS2 Member of Humanities Group**

**Karen Jones - Leader of LLC.**

**Donna Fletcher - Leader of Humanities and Welsh Lead within LLC group**

**Thomas Staley - Member of STEM group and ICT lead.**



## Support Staff in our School

### Lead Nursery Practitioner

Mrs. B. Evans

### ASD Class Learning Support Assistants

Mrs. C. Richards

Miss C. Pearce

Mrs. A. Adams

Mrs. C. Palmer

### Learning Support Assistants

Mrs. K. Evans

Mrs C. Jones\_\_Mrs. A Moore

Miss J. Brush

Mrs. V. Ryan

Mrs. N. Watts Mrs. S. Hull

Mrs. J. Halliday

Mrs. R. Danie

Mrs. K. Bourne Rowlands

### School Clerks

Mrs. S. Rees

Mrs. L. Ramsay

### Site Manager

Mr. G. Hole

### Cleaners

RCT Cleaning Services

### Kitchen Staff

RCT Catering Direct

### Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs. S. Howells

Mrs. S. Jenkins

Mrs. J. Conway

Mrs. J. Vile

Mrs. A. Ford

Mrs. T. Fish

Mrs. L. Ramsay



### **Admission and Transition**

Admissions to the school are managed by the Local Authority and are governed by strict criteria based on siblings in school and distance from school to home. Parents are asked to make a preference for schooling when children enter the school into our Nursery and when they enter the Reception class. There are also times when children transfer from another school. At all times reference must be made to the RCT Local Authority policy on admissions(see RCT website) and parents are advised to speak with them by calling 01443 744000 (Admissions). Having said this, any parent who wants their child to attend our school can speak to the Headteacher for advice and guidance. **It should be noted that admission to Nursery does not guarantee admission to the Reception class as the two applications are separate.**

Admission to the Learner Support Classes is administered by the local authority.

Most children transfer to Bryncelynnog Comprehensive School at the end of Year 6. Parents, however, do have a choice and we work hard with all schools to ensure effective transition. Relevant paperwork and information is sent to parents at the start of Year 6. If you have any queries, please ask.



### **Complaints Procedures**

We hope that your child will be very happy in our school and that you will have no cause to complain. However, there are always occasions when incidents happen or where parents need to clarify certain aspects of school life.

The school has an open door policy and you are welcome to discuss any matter with the class teacher or the Department Lead, Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher. We do not generally operate an appointment system but do try to call to ensure the person you wish to speak with is in school.

If your concern is serious you can also write to the Head teacher and the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the complaints policy.

If you feel that at this stage that the matter has not been resolved you should put your complaint in writing and send it to the Chair of Governors whose address is at the front of this booklet.

We can only improve if parents tell us when they are happy and when they have concerns. It is better to raise these issues sooner rather than later!

A full copy of our Complaints Procedures document is available upon request or on the website.



### Access to Documents

Parents are allowed current copies of the following:-

- \* The authority's statement of curriculum policy and the Governing Body's Statement of Aims and all statutory instruments from the Welsh Assembly.
- \* All published reports by Her Majesty's Inspectors referring to the school.
- \* The Authority's agreed syllabus for Religious Education.
- \* The Authority's statement for charging and remission.

Details are included in the School's Publication Scheme.

Many other policies and documents are available to view on our website.

### School Times

#### Nursery

Morning session	9:00 a.m.	-	12 p.m.
Afternoon session	1:10 p.m.	-	3.25 p.m.

#### Infants

Morning session	9:00 a.m.	-	12.00 pm.
Afternoon session	1.10 p.m.	-	3.25 p.m.

#### Juniors

Morning session	9:00 a.m.	-	12.15pm.
Afternoon session	1.10 p.m.	-	3.25 p.m.



**A bell is rung at 8.50am for all children to enter school so that registration can start promptly before lessons start at 9.00am.**

## Attendance

It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly. A child who is regularly absent misses aspects of the curriculum and it can impair their educational and social progress. Children who are absent for more than 10% of a term are automatically referred to the Educational Welfare Officer as are children who regularly fail to bring absence notes to school and are therefore classed as "unauthorised. The school has a very clear policy regarding holidays. Parents are allowed to apply for a holiday of up to 10 days in a year provided that attendance has been above 96% for the previous two terms. There are other exceptions within the policy. Approval of holiday leave is at the discretion of the Headteacher and any unauthorised holiday will be referred to the local authority with a view to issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice, in line with Welsh Assembly guidelines. Before booking a holiday in school time – ASK!!!

Similarly, children who consistently arrive late cause disruption to their learning and to that of others. As a result, and in line with Welsh Assembly guidelines, children who arrive after 9.10am are recorded as unauthorised unless an adult phones the school before 9.00 and will be treated in the same way as those above. School does not open until 8.50 a.m. and a child must not be in school before this time without prior arrangements or unless they attend Breakfast Club where separate rules apply (please contact school).

## Absences

As required by education regulations, all registers now show authorised and unauthorised absences. In the event of your child's absence from school it is important that you telephone or write a note of explanation to the school. A verbal message by the child to the class teacher is not sufficient. If a child is absent and a telephone call has not been received, the school will contact the parent so that we know where a child is. If we are unable to do this, we will contact Police and Social Services as a matter of course. This is to ensure that children do not go missing between home and school. Children who are late to school (after 9.10am) will be recorded as an unauthorised absence).

## Child Protection

The school has a duty to work closely with colleagues in Children's Services with regard to Pupil Safeguarding. If we have any concerns regarding a child's welfare, safety or attendance, we will refer the matter to the local Child Protection Team as a matter of course. Guidelines dictate that there may be instances when it would not be appropriate to inform parents.

Similarly, if any parent has concerns about a child, they should speak with the designated teacher, Mr. Roberts or the nominated Governor, Mr. Ashdown, and we will refer to the relevant agencies. If a parent reports a concern to the school, we have a duty to refer this to social services. Parents may also contact the team themselves on **01443 743730. Copies of the school Child Protection and Safeguarding policy are available on the school website or upon request.**



## Security

The safety of your children is our first priority and as such we ask for your cooperation. The gates to the school are locked between (9.00am and 3.20 pm). All visitors must report to the office so that we know who is on site. If you have to collect your child please do not go directly to the classroom but go to the office first. Parents should not use the car park unless given permission for medical reasons and nobody should re-enter the school after 3.30pm unless involved in an after-school club.



## Health Care



A routine medical questionnaire is completed on entry to the school and you will be notified of all arrangements for medical and dental inspections.

Minor injuries are dealt with in school and you will receive a written report, however, should your child receive any head injury or suspected breaks, then you will be contacted. It is important that we have contact telephone numbers in case of an emergency. If we are unable to reach you, then we will contact a Doctor.

The school currently has six members of staff who are trained in First Aid and one of these will see to your child if they are hurt. (See Medical Needs Policy).

## Administration of Medicines & Illness in School

Children who are unwell should **not** be sent to school and those who suffer from sickness or diarrhoea should not return to school until 48 hours after these symptoms stop. (Please read leaflet from Central South Consortium on each particular illness) Only prescribed medicines will be administered. All medicines must be clearly labelled with the child's name, dosage and time of administration. The expiry date must be clearly visible and all liquids accompanied by the correct measuring spoon.

Request forms for the administration of prescribed medicines must be completed in line with the Medical Needs Policy (see website).

- \* The medicine should not be kept by the pupil but given to a member of staff.
- \* The medicine should be administered under the supervision of an adult and recorded appropriately.

Children suffering from asthma must bring their inhalers to school. All medicine will be kept in a central place by staff and administered under supervision. Parents should inform the school of any concerns regarding the health of their children e.g. new inhalers for asthma sufferers, children newly diagnosed as asthmatic, any medical reason for withdrawing children from physical activity.

## Head Lice

Children are not regularly inspected for head infestation e.g. head lice. We rely on the close observation of the parents and an immediate contact with us should anything be discovered. The more people who know, the quicker the problem can be solved, and the less likely it is that re-infestation will occur. It is important that you treat all members of your household on the same day. **We, strongly, advise that all children with long hair keep it tied.**



## School Meals and Charging

A free school lunch is available to all pupils in Maesybryn Primary School. A choice is offered and menus are available on demand. Pupils are allowed to bring their own packed lunch to eat with their peers at lunchtime. We ask that parents observe the healthy eating guidelines issued by the Welsh Government.

We ask that snack items are either a fruit or vegetable item. Crisps, sweets, chocolate and sweetened drinks are not allowed.

*As we have several children with nut allergies, please do not include nuts in pupil packed lunches.*

The school does ask for contributions towards school visits and for some activities. Details are available in our Charging Policy which is available on the school website or upon request.

## Additional Learning Needs

Under the Additional Learning Needs Act (2019) all children, as far as possible, should be educated in mainstream schools with extra support provided where necessary.

We acknowledge that a child may at any time have educational needs that will need additional provision, whether as learning support or to extend learning for the more able child. These needs will be identified and met as early as possible and will be reviewed regularly with parents and the child.

The Additional Needs Co-ordinator (ALNco) role at the school is **Mrs. S. Parker** who will liaise with parents and support agencies. The link governor is Mr. Ashdown.

When it is demonstrated that a child's needs cannot be met in a normal differentiated mainstream classroom, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be drawn up by the school with advice and support from the Educational Psychology Service and the local authority.

All children with an IDP will receive extra support within the classroom and may receive additional support from our Learning Support staff in small groups or on a one-to-one basis.

For some children we may need to employ the services of professionals outside of school. You will always be notified of this.

Children with disabilities are welcomed to our school and treated as equals at all times. Please see policies on Equality and Access for further details

### Support Agencies

**Senior Educational Psychologist** – Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash. CF45 4UQ.  
Telephone Number 01443 744000

**Senior Education Welfare Officer** - Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash. CF45 4UQ.  
Telephone Number 01443 744000

**Social Services** – Taff Ely Office, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd. CF37 1LJ. Telephone Number 01443 486731

## **Behaviour and Discipline**

Class teachers are responsible for the welfare of pupils in their class. The Headteacher bears overall responsibility for pastoral care and matters of concern are referred to him.

Unless children are going home for their lunch, no child is allowed to leave the school premises without the written consent of their parents/guardians. A child who does so, without permission, will receive a three day exclusion as a matter of course.

We expect every pupil to conduct themselves in a way which demonstrates their respect for others and their concern to uphold the good name of the school. Good behaviour is expected at all times and children will be referred to the Headteacher for praise and encouragement as a result of good behaviour and work. The positive approach in school achieves better results in maintaining expected standards. All classrooms have a list of rules, rewards and consequences displayed for the children so that these are clear for all to understand. Although the rules and rewards might be different within each class the consequences are the same:-

1. A warning with child's initials placed on the blackboard.
2. Withdrawal from group.
3. Work within another classroom.
4. Sent to the Headteacher.
5. Parents are contacted.

We do not tolerate acts of aggression towards other pupils or staff and we insist that pupils inform a member of staff if this happens. We would urge you as parents, to share in the task and notify the school of any incidents of bullying which come to your attention.

### **Exclusion/suspension of child from school.**

In all cases we try to avoid this but if it is necessary for a formal suspension or expulsion, the parents, Chair of Governors and L.E.A. will be kept informed. Parents have the right to appeal to any exclusion and must do so in writing to the relevant committee of the Governing Body. Details will be given at the time of exclusion.

## Home – School Agreement

All parents and pupils are asked to complete a Home – School Agreement when children enter the school. This explains what can be expected from the school, parents and pupils. Parents are also asked to sign permission for school trips and photography. A copy will be given to you when your child starts school.

## School Uniform

School uniform exists and we expect every child to wear it. (This is in line with Welsh Government advice) A uniform is important as it is smart and fosters a sense of belonging and pride. We feel that a uniform adds to the general tone of the school and, as staff and Governors, we would like all pupils to wear it.

The uniform consists of grey or black knee length skirt/trousers, blue round neck/v-neck jumper or blue cardigan and a blue polo shirt. Blue jumpers and cardigans with the school's logo and blue polo tops with the logo are available to buy from our supplier Trustmark in Talbot Green. Of course, parents may wish to purchase items elsewhere, and this is a cheaper option, but we ask that the colour stays the same and that these do not contain other logos apart from the school badge. For safeguarding reasons, please do not put names on the front or back of the uniform. In the summer girls may wear blue gingham dresses and grey/black shorts are perfectly acceptable for boys and girls. **Hoodies are not part of our uniform.**

**Footwear** - parents are asked to ensure that their children wear safe sensible footwear to school as the yard is uneven and there are steps within the school grounds. We ask that plain dark colours with no logos or stripes are chosen for school. Sandals are acceptable in the summer but only if they fasten at the ankle and do not have an open toe – no flip-flops are allowed.

**P.E./Games/Drama** - pupils are expected to provide their own kit i.e. black shorts, white T-shirt, jogging trousers and trainers. Teachers will advise parents of when PE sessions will be held each week.

**Jewellery** - the wearing of "dress" earrings is not allowed. Children who have pierced ears must wear plain sleepers or studs which should be removed before **all** forms of physical activity. For safety reasons, necklaces and bracelets should not be worn as they can catch on clothes or other children and cause serious injury.

**Make-up** – children should not wear make-up in any year group.

**Hair** - children, with long hair, are **encouraged** to keep it tied back for school, but it **must** be tied back for all physical activities to avoid it becoming caught or entangled. Children should not have hairstyles that are outlandish (This is at the discretion of the Headteacher alone). If hair is coloured, it should be of one natural tone and contrasting shades should not be used.

## Personal Property

**Parents are advised to label their children's property.** Children are discouraged from bringing toys, games etc. to school as we cannot accept responsibility for loss or breakages which may occur. No item, which is valuable, should be brought onto the school premises. If objects are brought by mistake they should be given to the office for safe keeping. The use of mobile phones by pupils in school is not allowed and they should not be brought to school. If you need to contact your school, this can be done through the office which is manned at all times. We do realise that on occasions children need a phone for after school and if this is the case, it should be given to the school secretary and signed in and out of the office. We will not accept responsibility for any phone that has not been given to the office.

In the event of malicious and/or intentional damage to school or other pupil's property the parents may be asked to contribute to the cost of repair or replacement of any damaged item.

Bicycles may be brought to school by children in Year 6 who have achieved Level 2 in the RCT cycling course. No other bikes are to be brought except for those undertaking training with RCT, usually in Year 6. We insist that all pupils wear a safety helmet when riding their bicycles and that they are kept locked by the containers close to the Nursery building.

## Equality

Maesybryn is proud to be a tolerant and inclusive school where all are welcome and where discrimination is not tolerated on any grounds with regard to race, religion, disability, gender, age or sexual orientation. A comprehensive Equality Plan exists and a policy for Racial Equality. An Access Plan for disabled pupils or parents is also available upon request. The school will not tolerate any form of abuse towards an adult or child based on any of the above and abuse may result in the matter being forwarded to the police.

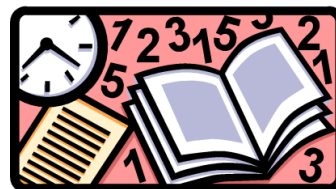
## Healthy Schools Initiative

We have secured the fourth part of our "Healthy Schools Initiative Award". As a school we:-

- **Do not allow crisps, processed food, chocolate, sweets or sweetened/fizzy drinks at break time. Fruit and vegetables are encouraged.**
- **Encourage children to drink water in class at all times.**
- **Provide extra PE time in the curriculum.**
- **Strive for a healthy playground with lots of activities for the children.**
- **Encourage healthy packed lunches and ensure snacks for all children are in-line with the Welsh Government guidelines.**

**We ask you to support us by providing water bottles, only giving your child fruit for break times and by ensuring lunch boxes contain fruit and a balanced meal.**

## Curriculum Content and Organisation



Children are taught in mixed ability classes according to their age. Sometimes it is necessary to group more than one age together because of the school's staffing arrangements – this is done by chronological age unless there are Additional Learning Needs which need to be catered for. Children work most of their time in groups according to their stage of development, but within each class, teachers use a variety of teaching styles in order to maximise the learning experience. Relevant discussion is encouraged, although some periods of the day are set aside for silent work.

The group system ensures that **all** children in a class may be catered for and all be gainfully employed on programmes which relate directly to their individual ability and attainment levels. The size of classes varies every year and consequently support staff are assigned where most needed. Learning Support Assistants are employed to assist children who have been identified as needing extra support and have been placed on the Additional Learning Needs register. These children often work in small groups outside the classroom.

All staff take responsibility for improving the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competency together with developing these key skills through the teaching of all areas of learning.

Formative assessments are undertaken each year through use of National tests and our own, in-school assessments for literacy, mathematics and well-being. These results will be shared with you. In addition, teachers use other forms of summative assessment on a daily basis to assess if children are making progress across the curriculum and these will be discussed at Parent Teacher Consultations each term or in the end of year report.

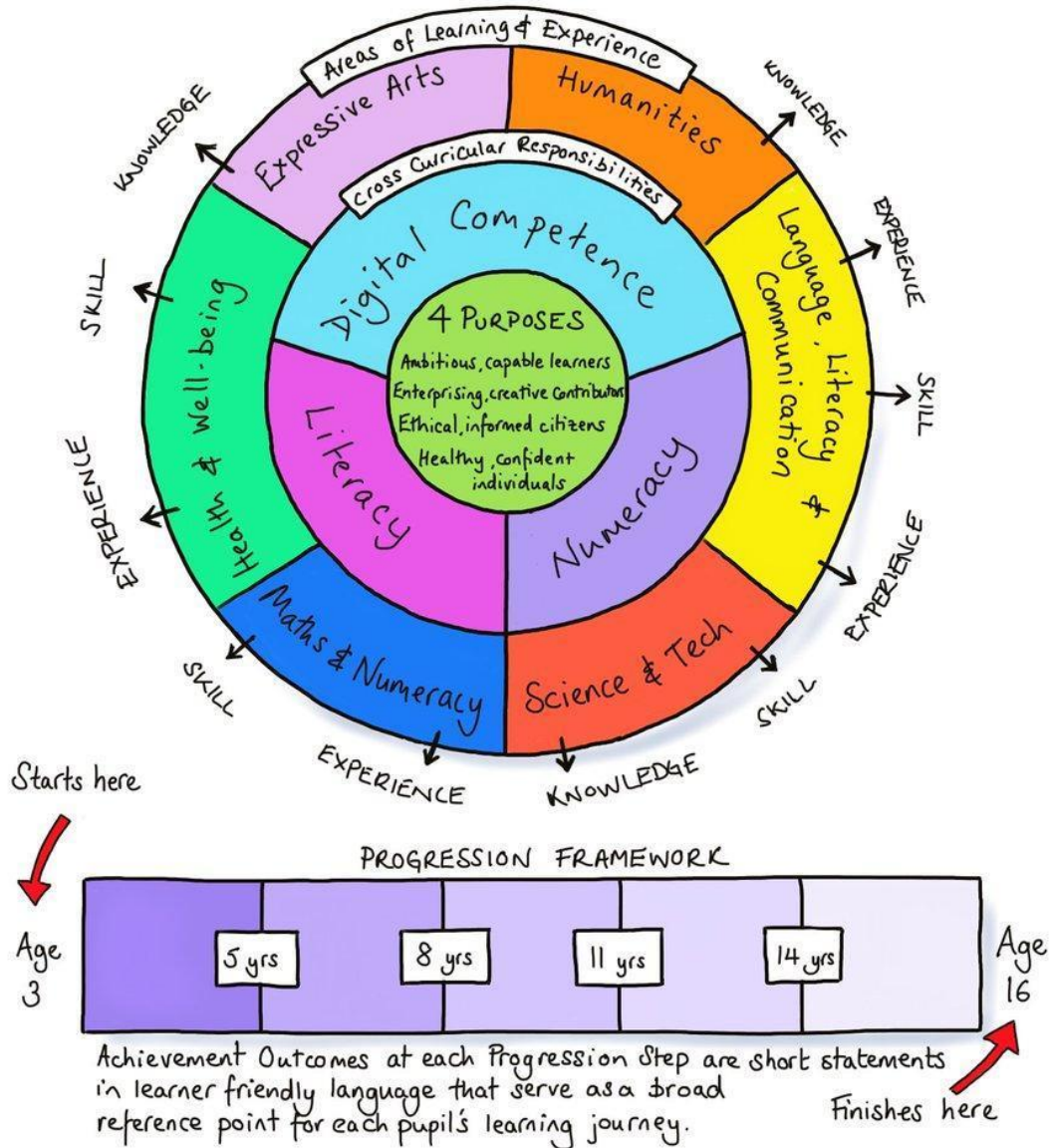
Our overall curriculum is available on our website as is the overview of what topics we cover throughout the school. Each term staff share with parents a brief outline of the topic in their child's class. Parents are encouraged to engage with school in developing this new exciting curriculum as are the children.

Our curriculum is in line with the Curriculum for Wales and can be summarised below. Whilst our topics explore and develop knowledge in each of the six Areas of Learning and the wider skills, we place high importance on children attaining the necessary key skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competence in order that they can access the wider curriculum on offer.

Copyright © 2018  
 Created by  
 @ImpactWales

# Curriculum for Wales

A transformational curriculum for children in Wales



The ages shown are guidelines and children may reach a Progression Step sooner than their age would indicate or later. The school ensures that all children are taught at the correct stage for them, regardless of their age.

## **Welsh**

Maesybryn Primary School is an English medium primary school and as such English is the language that children are taught for the majority of the day. However, we fully embrace the Welsh language and teach it as a Second Language. Children are also encouraged to use Welsh, incidentally, throughout the day and Welsh culture will be celebrated throughout the year. Please encourage your child to use the language from an early age and ask for help and guidance from our staff, several of whom are Welsh speakers.

## **Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)**

RVE is a statutory requirement and together with the teaching of moral values and attitudes, is incorporated into all themes work. We believe that the study of RVE helps children to become tolerant and understanding of others. We ensure that our topics offer plenty of opportunities to develop our pupil's knowledge of other religions, moral values and ethical understanding.

Collective worship is held daily either as a whole school or as a class and is mostly of a Christian ethos, although stories from other religions and cultures are shared. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. If so wished, a classroom can be made available where parents can educate their own child in their individual beliefs. Requests for exemption must be made in writing to the Head teacher.

## **Sex and Relationship Education (RSE)**

We follow the agreed guidelines approved by the Welsh Government and the local school improvement consortia. This starts from a young age with a concentration on managing relationships and avoiding conflict. As pupils become older they will, when appropriate, start to understand anatomical terms in-line with the agreed policy. More formal Sex Education lessons will consist of several mixed gender classes taught to Year 6 pupils during the Summer Term and some lessons taught in Year 5, including a visit by the School Nurse to speak to girls regarding menstruation. This is now a compulsory part of the curriculum. Parents are invited to view teaching materials prior to the lessons being taught and discuss concerns with the Headteacher.

Several themes we develop include:-

- \* An awareness of self - my body, my feelings, my growth, keeping clean, safe and healthy.
- \* An awareness of others - feelings, views and situations.
- \* A positive view of others - friendship, loyalty and caring.

The depth and detail of teaching is determined by the maturity of the children.

## Assessment/Reporting

All children are assessed by the teacher constantly in order to decide:-

- What needs to be studied next to ensure progression.
- Who needs a little more help.
- Who is capable of going on to the next step in the learning process.



This type of assessment is termed Teacher Assessment or T.A. The assessment is linked to the curriculum and to the National Curriculum areas of learning. A parents' evening is held during the Autumn Term and Spring Term, when parents may come and visit the child's teacher to have an oral report and to see the child's work. Written reports are issued at the end of the school year and parents are invited to discuss these reports and their child's progress. However, parents may (if they so wish) discuss any matters of concern regarding a child at any time either with the Headteacher or the class teacher.

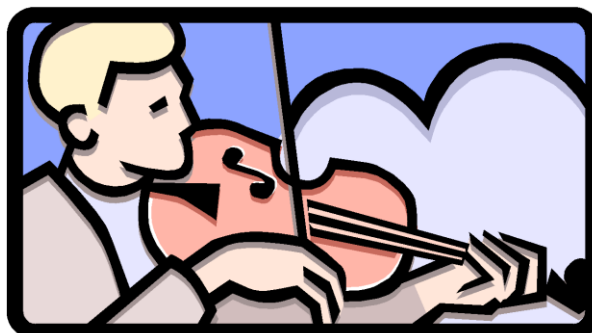
All children are formally assessed in English and Mathematics at the close of each academic year using the national testing arrangements. The assessments are carried out by the class teacher during normal classroom times using on-line tests which are marked automatically. Results are shared with parents via the secure Hwb portal, which all children and parents have access to. In addition the school carries out its own assessments for reading, maths, phonic acquisition and well-being. Parents are able to discuss these scores with teachers during Parent Teacher Consultations. At the end of the Summer Term, the annual report for these children will include a level of attainment for the assessed subjects. These results will be published by the school in the Annual Report to Parents which is published each October and placed on our website

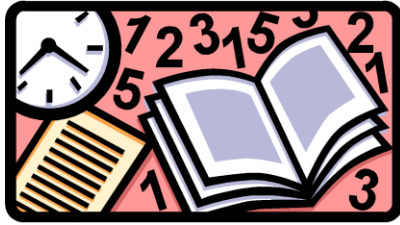
Continuous assessment in the form of marking, targets and self/peer assessment is vital to developing pupil skills. We use a range of strategies which can be found in our Assessment and Marking policies.

Details of school performance can be found in the last Estyn Inspection Report (2018) or by visiting the "My Local School website"

### Music Tuition

We now offer a wide range of music tuition, including violin, guitar, and keyboard. Parents who want their children to learn an instrument can apply through the Local Authority website for individual or group lessons and payment is made on-line. Lessons take place throughout the day in school, depending on the demand.





### **Homework**

Children are set homework on a weekly and termly basis by individual members of staff in line with the current policy. This will include maths activities linked to “Big Maths” and spelling work. Each term staff share a range of topic related tasks on-line and all children are encouraged to read at home. We heartily support all children who read extensively and borrow books from our school library.

### **Sporting Aims**

To encourage in our children, a desire to take part in physical activity to the best of their abilities.

To encourage healthy competitiveness and an understanding of fair play.

To ensure children have the opportunity to experience as many different sporting activities as possible.



How do we encourage sport in Maesybryn Primary School?

By ensuring that children have regular PE sessions throughout the school year.

By developing a curriculum in which children experience as many different activities as possible.

By ensuring that children have access to a swimming pool and by aiming for all Yr6 leavers to have gained their 25m badge or equivalent.

By entering a range of sporting competitions including football, netball, athletics, swimming and rugby.

By providing a wide range of extra-curricular clubs in association with the community.

By holding a yearly Sports Day in which all children compete.

By being actively involved in a range of local and national sporting initiatives .

### **Out of Hours Learning**

In addition to our sports clubs we also offer other out of hours learning or activities.

Music, Art and Choir Club to develop our pupils' creative talents.

Welsh club to develop the use of the Welsh language.

Coding to develop digital competency.

Breakfast Club to develop an awareness of the importance of healthy eating and to provide a calm start to the day

A range of trips and visits throughout the school year.

We hope that you find the information in this prospectus useful. If, however, there are any areas which you wish to discuss in more detail, please contact us via email, phone call or by arranging a meeting. This document will be amended each year and posted on our website with any significant changes notified to all parents via Schoop.

We look forward to educating and caring for your child during their time at Maesybryn Primary School.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr. Simon Roberts  
Headteacher

