



Byddwch yn Hapus, Dysgwch a Chadwch y Ffydd
Be Joyful, Learn and Keep the Faith



St Therese's Catholic Primary School Ysgol Catholig San Therese

<https://st-thereses-catholic-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/>



UNCRC -

Erthygl 28: Mae gan blant yr hawl i addysg

Article 28: Every child has a right to an education

Prospectws yr Ysgol School Prospectus 2025-2026





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St Therese's Catholic Primary School



Cyfeiriad | Address:

St Therese's Primary School
Southdown Road
Sandfields
Port Talbot
SA12 7HL

Prifathro | Headteacher:

Mrs Ruth Lewis

Cadeirydd y Corff Llywodraethu | Chair of the Governing Body:

Ms Debbie Evans

Dirprwy Gadeirydd y Corff Llywodraethu | Vice-Chair of the Governing Body:

Fr Paul Brophy

Cysylltwch | Contact

Ffôn/Telephone: 01639 882797

Ebost/Email:

office@stthereses.npt.school





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Croeso | Welcome

Our School Vision

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are a school family that lives according to the teachings of Christ; providing care, encouragement and ensuring all pupils reach their full potential.

St Therese's Primary School is a happy, friendly and caring Catholic school where we pride ourselves on being inclusive, developing a nurturing ethos and offering a warm welcome to families in our community. Parental involvement is key to our success and we strive to engage families in all aspects of school and parish life.

We believe our school to be an amazing place with fantastic pupils and dedicated staff. We are always very proud of our pupils and the staff strive to provide a wide range of exciting opportunities and innovative experiences for pupils in order for them to become independent and self-motivated learners who have respect for themselves, for others and for their environment.

As a school, we promote high levels of wellbeing, both physical and emotional. We encourage children to have confidence, embrace new challenges and feel secure enough to take risks.

*We have
our say in
PAG
Groups*



*We
support
each other*

*I like learning
about new topics
like 'Chocolate'*

*I like 'Feel
Good Friday'*





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Estyn 2023



Please find a copy of our recent ESTYN report using the following links:

[St Therese's R.C. School - Estyn \(gov.wales\)](#)

[ESTYN 2023 \(j2bloggy.com\)](#)



Please find a copy of our recent Section 50 report using the following link:

[Section-50-Report-St-Thereses-Catholic-Primary-School-15.10.25-1.pdf](#)

Staff - Teaching Staff

Headteacher	Mrs Ruth Lewis
Deputy Headteacher/Class Teacher	Miss E Carlsen
Senior Leadership Team/Class Teacher	Mrs Debra Perry
	Mrs Annaliese Stanier
ALNCo/ Class Teacher	Mrs L Griffiths
Class Teachers	Mr Hywel Davies
	Mrs Donna Hughes
	Mr Morgan Rees
	Mrs Cleo Sollars
PPA Cover	Mrs Lisa Baker
PPA Cover	Mrs Leanne Gittins





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 Mrs R Lewis Headteacher		 Miss E Carlsen Deputy Head
 Mrs D Perry SLT	 Mrs A Stanier SLT	 Mrs L Griffiths ALNCo

 Mr H Davies Class Teacher	 Mrs D Hughes Class Teacher	 Mr M Rees Class Teacher	 Mrs C Sollars Class Teacher
 Mrs L Baker PPA Cover	 Mrs L Gittins PPA Cover	 Rae Rees Emotional Support	 Mrs L Davies Bursar





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Staff - Non-Teaching Staff





















Teaching Assistants	Mrs Michelle Bamford
	Mrs Kathy Brooks
	Mrs Annamaria Campisi-Jones
	Ms Claire Dilworth
	Mrs Aarti Gavade
	Miss Jodie Jackson
	Mrs Tracey Langridge
	Mrs Krystle Lloyd
	Miss Megan Ronan
	Mr Brandon Stephens
	Mrs Jeanette Stiles
	Miss Lacey Williams
	Miss Kaidy Williams
	Mrs Elaine Valletta
Emotional Support Dog	Rae Rees
Family Engagement/ Pastoral Support Worker	Mrs Teresa Seymour
Admin & Organisation	Miss Millie-Louise Ryan
Caretaker	Mr Mark Hanbury
Dinner Supervisors	Mrs Kathy Brooks
	Mrs Annamaria Campisi-Jones
	Mrs C Evans
	Miss Jasmin Greenwood
	Mrs Krystle Lloyd
	Mrs Jeanette Stiles
Cook in Charge	Mrs Rachel Davies
Kitchen Assistant	Mrs Patricia Greenwood
Kitchen Assistant	Mrs Lisa Wilkins
Kitchen Assistant	Miss Rebecca Williams
Cleaners	Mrs Kathy Brooks
Cleaners	Mrs Denise Jones
Bursar	Mrs Louise Davies





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 Mrs M Bamford Teaching Assistant	 Mrs K Brooks Teaching Assistant	 Mrs A Jones Teaching Assistant	 Ms C Dilworth Teaching Assistant
 Mrs A Gavade Teaching Assistant	 Miss J Jackson Teaching Assistant	 Mrs T Langridge Teaching Assistant	 Mrs K Lloyd Teaching Assistant
 Miss M Ronan Teaching Assistant	 Mr B Stephens Teaching Assistant	 Mrs J Stiles Teaching Assistant	 Miss K Williams Teaching Assistant
 Miss L Williams Teaching Assistant	 Mrs E Valletta Teaching Assistant	 Mrs T Seymour Family Engagement	 Miss M Ryan Admin
 Mr M Hanbury Caretaker	 Mrs C Evans Dinner Supervisor	 Miss J Greenwood Dinner Supervisor	 Mrs D Jones Cleaner
 Mrs R Davies Cook in Charge	 Mrs P Greenwood Kitchen Assistant	 Mrs L Wilkins Kitchen Assistant	 Miss R Williams Kitchen Assistant





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Y Corff Llywodraethu | The Governing Body

Governors work together with the headteacher and staff to make sure that the school provides successful teaching and learning for our children and raises standards.

A governor is someone who: -

- is a **volunteer**;
- **cares** about teaching, learning and children;
- **represents** those people with a key interest in the school, including parents, staff, the local community and the Local Authority;
- is part of a **team** which accepts responsibility for everything a school does;
- has **time** to commit to meetings and other occasions when needed;
- is willing to **learn**;
- is able to act as a critical friend who **supports** the school but also **challenges** and asks questions about how the school works and the standards it achieves;
- acts as a **link** between parents, the local community, the LA and the school.

Chair of Governors – Ms Debbie Evans

Vice-Chairperson – Fr Paul Brophy

Headteacher – Mrs Ruth Lewis

Teacher Governor – Mrs Debra Perry

Staff Governor – Mrs Annamaria Campisi-Jones

Parent Governor – Mrs Sadie Ranford

Foundation Governors – Mr Vincent Flynn, Mrs Sinead Hanford, Miss Sophie Larkman, Mrs Catherine Reynolds

Local Authority Governor – Miss Deena Cook



All can be contacted via the school.





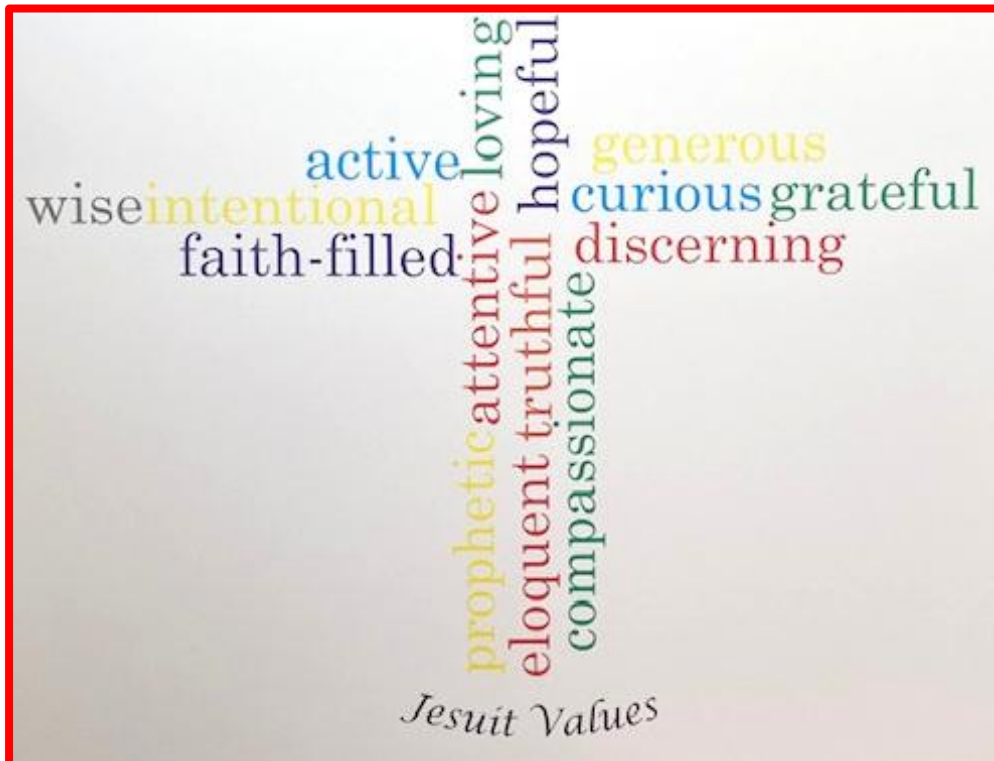
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Ethos Gatholig | Catholic Ethos

The Catholic ethos of our school can be summarised in the words of Pope Francis (Oct 2017):

“The mission of schools and teachers is to develop an understanding of all that is true, good and beautiful.”



Respect Everyone. Serve Others, Nurture the Whole Person (Mind, Body and Spirit).
Changing the world for the better.





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Datblygiad Ysbrydol a Moesel | Spiritual and Moral Development

The Second Vatican Council declared that it is the religious dimension that makes the Catholic School distinctive. This is to be found in:

- the educational climate
- the personal development of each student
- the relationship established between culture and the Gospel
- the illumination of all knowledge with the light of faith

The curriculum, in all its aspects, must reflect the fact that the person of Christ, and the message, which the Church has received from Him, is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in a Catholic school. This must be known and understood by all connected to the school.

St Therese's staff members and governors ensure that Christ is at the centre of our learning and integrate Gospel values into everything we do. Liturgical celebrations and daily prayers are at the heart of school life and we focus on the development of children's religious literacy and spirituality. We achieve high standards in the teaching of Religious Education and help children to understand of how the Gospels relate to our lives today.

St Therese's is an inclusive Catholic community and we welcome children from families who support our aims and seek a place at the school. Currently, about half of pupils are baptised Catholics and we also serve children of other Christian denominations and those of other faiths and no faith. We ensure that all pupils and their families are fully part of the school community and are greatly treasured.

The school's curriculum is intended to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, academic, emotional and physical development of the children at the school. We endeavour to prepare your child for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life in the twenty-first century.





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Y Cwricwlwm | The Curriculum

At St Therese's Catholic Primary we believe that the curriculum is at the heart of pupils' learning experiences, it encompasses all of the learning planned by the school to promote learning, personal growth and development. At St Therese's Catholic Primary School we aim to develop the whole child by implementing a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, designed to meet the needs, interests and aspirations of all our pupils. We aim to make learning purposeful, authentic, and enjoyable. We want to nurture positive attitudes leading to life-long learning where pupils are engaged in and excited by the world around them. At St Therese's Catholic Primary we aim to deliver our curriculum within an environment where pupils feel confident, valued, and motivated.

From September 2022 a new curriculum for Wales is statutory in primary schools.

Since 2019, St Therese's Catholic Primary School started to introduce the Curriculum for Wales into the school to ensure a smooth transition from the old Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 curriculums.

The curriculum for Wales is based on '4 Purposes', all children will be supported to develop as:

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

The traditional subjects have been regrouped into 6 'Areas of Learning and Experience' (AoLE):

- Expressive arts (which includes art, music and drama)
- Health and well-being
- Humanities (which includes Religious Education)
- Languages (English, Welsh, and an international language), literacy and communication
- Mathematics and numeracy
- Science and technology

'Progression Steps' have replaced Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2.

Progression Steps are at ages 5, 8, 11, 14 and 16 years old and take the form





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of 'Achievement Outcomes' relating to broad expectations at those ages. Children can be anywhere on the progression line; each child may progress at a different rate or take a different path to get to the next stage in their learning journey.

Curriculum Statement

At St Therese's RC Primary School, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum which builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all pupils as they progress through our school. Our approach to learning is rooted in Christ, and our aim is to provide a curriculum that allows our pupils to develop and flourish as lifelong learners who are ready for the next stage of their education. We want our pupils to be ambitious capable learners, ethically informed citizens, healthy and confident individuals and enterprising creative contributors with a clear moral purpose.

Senior leaders, staff, pupils, parents and governors have worked collaboratively to develop a shared vision for the curriculum that we have developed at St Therese's RC Primary School. Across our school we adopt a concept and inquiry-based approach to our curriculum - one that encourages children to explore, ask questions, solve problems, share ideas and discover meaning. Our curriculum is progressive and develops independence, creativity and critical thinking. We provide experiential opportunities to help broaden the children's integral skills, knowledge, experience and understanding in all areas of learning experiences (AoLE's).

The inquiry model uses concepts as the link between discrete pockets of knowledge and authentic development of the Four Purposes. As concepts are universal, timeless and abstract they connect us to one another. They drive an inquiry and help to broaden and deepen our pupil's learning enabling them to make connections. Our curriculum is designed to develop for our pupils a sense of belonging, not just in a physical or geographical sense but also the historic, cultural and social place which has shaped and continues to shape the community which our school inhabits. We aim to help our pupils make sense of their own identities and those of others, in our community, Wales and the across the world.

As a school, we promote high levels of wellbeing, both physical and emotional. We use our school app called 'Moodly' to track pupils' well-being. We then use this tool to further support our learners on their well-being journey. We





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encourage children to have confidence, embrace new challenges and feel secure enough to take risks.

As well as pupils being actively involved in shaping the curriculum, the school routinely surveys Governors as well as stakeholders in the wider community. The school maintains excellent links with the parish community, staff and schools from across the cluster; and other interested parties. Stakeholder voices are heard, they matter and they make a difference.

We use a wide range of assessment methods throughout the year, and tracking of learner information, to develop an interconnected picture of the learner – their strengths, areas of development and what is needed to support/challenge their future learning. This not only applies to academic progress but also wellbeing, attitudes and behaviours.

Progression in Curriculum for Wales is articulated in the Descriptions of Learning. These are used by teachers for the purposes of planning a curriculum that meets the needs of all learners. We measure the progress of each learner in numeracy, literacy and digital competence concentrating on the individual pupil, rather than comparatively.

The school will monitor the impact of its curriculum on pupils' progression and their development of the four purposes on a continuous basis throughout the academic year and complete a formal review on an annual basis.



Camau Cynnydd | Progression Steps

The new Curriculum for Wales and its assessment arrangements are built on Progression, so each Area of Learning will include progression steps. Learning should be an expedition, not a straight line. Progression is a 'road map' for each individual, and each may progress at a different rate or take a different path to get to the next stage in their learning journey. In this way learning and Progression go hand in hand, bringing a purposeful approach to sequencing learning:

Progression Step 1 (EFYS, Reception)

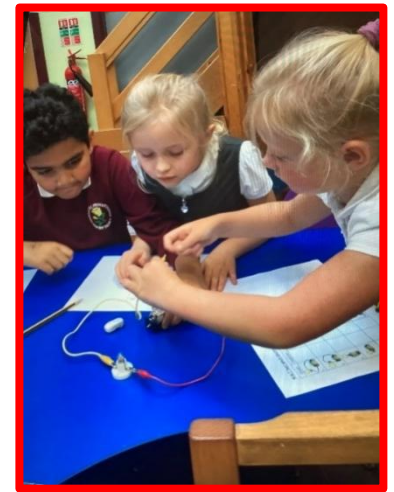




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Progression Step 2 (Years 1, 2 and 3)



Progression Step 3 (Year 4, 5 and 6)





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Progression Steps will be at 5, 8, 11 and take the form of Achievement Outcomes relating broadly to expectations at those ages. These will help learners, teachers, parents and carers to understand if appropriate progress is being made.

Achievement outcomes will be in the form of 'I can' and 'I have' statements. Literacy, numeracy, digital competence, wider skills and elements of the Dimensiwm Cymreig will be included.

Principles of progression

Five principles of progression underpin progression across all Areas. The principles are as follows.

Increasing breadth and depth of knowledge - As learner's progress, they develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of concepts that underpin different statements of what matters.

Deepening understanding of the ideas and disciplines within the Areas - Learners become increasingly aware of ways in which ideas and approaches can be coherently grouped and organised.

Refinement and growing sophistication in the use and application of skills - Learners develop a range of skills and become able to apply understanding in various contexts and to communicate their thoughts effectively.

Making connections and transferring learning into new contexts - Learners should make connections with increasing independence. They should be able to apply their learning in more unfamiliar and challenging contexts.

Increasing effectiveness - As learner's progress, they should become increasingly effective. This includes increasingly successful approaches to self-evaluation, identification of their next steps in learning and more effective means of self-regulation.





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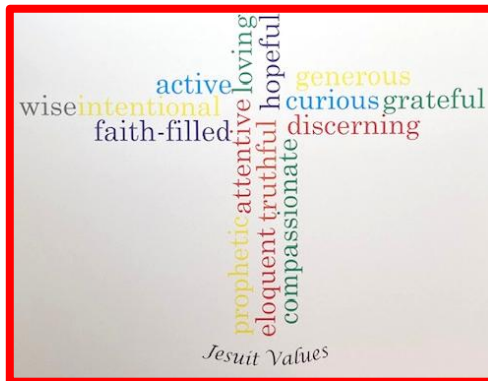


Addysg Grefyddol | Religious Education



Religious Education and collective worship are at the heart of St Therese's Catholic Primary School. Jesuit values underpin the ethos of the school, and we aim to reflect the Christian Gospel in all we do. We aim to ensure that our pupils learn about a living faith which emphasises the need to care and share.

With the support of the Governing Body of the for Religious Education accordance with the practice of the Catholic the Diocesan indorsed 'Life to the Full' and



parents, the school has agreed to be taught in principles and Church. We follow schemes of work 'Come and See'.

We endeavour to help our pupils to develop a sense of self-worth and personal responsibility which will enable them to take an active and responsible part in society. Children are introduced to other faiths.

"Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other the same as God forgave you." Ephesians 4, v 32





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Addoli ar y Cyd | Collective Worship

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic School is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into a relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily Act of Worship for all pupils. This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single Act of Worship for all pupils, or separate Acts in school groups. Worship at St Therese's is more than just a legal requirement; it is an integral part of school life and is central to the Catholic tradition and ethos of our school. Collective Worship may include assemblies, services, liturgies, Masses and reflection opportunities. The act of worship may be organised in a variety of groupings, including gatherings of the whole school, the phase/stage, the class and other liturgy groups.

All Acts of Collective Worship in St Therese's Catholic Primary School will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.
- Include a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and settings.

The format for Collective Worship in our school

Gather – how we come together.

Listen – to scripture from the Old or New Testaments.

Response – response to the Word may lead into a time of ritual action or prayer.

Going Forth – a mission or message for the pupils to take beyond the act of worship.





Ci Cymorth Emosiynol | Emotional Support Dog

Hello. My name is Rae. I am a fox red Cockapoo and I am two years old. I am a girl. I support children through companionship and can help ease anxiety, depression and certain phobias. I enjoy listening to the children read in class and playing fetch outside. I know all the children in school and can spot new visitors very quickly. This makes me a very good guard dog.



Mr Rees is my Human and I can often be found having a snooze underneath his desk. He has trained me very well and I respond to commands such as 'sit' and 'paw'. I am very gentle and enjoy being petted and having my belly tickled.

I understand that not all people like dogs and can sense if they would rather I not come too close.





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‘Dydd Gwener Hwyllog’| ‘Feel Good Fridays’



Health and Well-being is at the heart of everything we do at St Therese's Catholic Primary School. Healthy Harri, one of our 4 purposes, encourages us to make healthy and active choices.

Every Friday we encourage pupils to take their learning outdoors. Here are some examples of how and why we do it.





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Yr Iaith Gymraeg | The Welsh Language

Welsh is taught to all pupils. The language is taught in a variety of ways including focused lessons, incidental and regular use of the language during the school day as well as songs, stories, and rhymes.

We actively encourage children, staff, and visitors to use the Welsh language in all aspects of school life, including break times. We aim to develop an enjoyment of learning our national language and to value its importance in terms of our cultural identity.

Cynefin is integral to the curriculum in Wales, defined as: "The place where we feel we belong, where the people and landscape around us are familiar, and the sights and sounds are reassuringly recognisable... It is the historic, cultural and social place which has shaped and continues to shape the community which inhabits it."





Dimensiwn Cymreig



The Dimensiwn Cymreig is a part of the curriculum that is special to Wales. It is designed to reflect the History, Geography and culture of Wales and our local community.

Dimensiwn Cymreig helps develop:

- A sense of belonging
- A sense of place and heritage
- An awareness of the importance of language and literature in the history and life of Wales
- An understanding of the creative and expressive arts in Wales

The



Cymraeg Campus

The Cymraeg Campus (Welsh Language Charter), is a project to encourage the use of Welsh socially in primary schools in Wales.

As part of the Charter, we are developing our daily use of Welsh Language as we work towards achieving a bronze, silver or gold award. The Charter encourages participation from every member of the school community – pupils, parents, school governors and the wider community.

Communication is at the heart of modern life – growing up bilingual means that children will be developing skills for life.





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Llais Y Disgybl | Pupil Action Groups (PAG)

Pupil voice at St Therese's Primary means that we have a whole school commitment to listening to the views, wishes and experiences of all our pupils. It means we place a value on what our pupils tell school staff about their experiences. Every pupil from Reception to Year 6 is allocated a 'Pupil Action Group'. These include:-

- Team Community
- Team Right Respecting
- Team Criw Cymraeg
- Team Mini Vinnies
- Team Eco
- Team Enterprise
- Team Wellbeing



Pupil Action Groups meet every two weeks on Tuesday afternoons. Each group has an elected Chair and Vice Chair who discuss and lead the meetings. Each group decides upon a focus for the term and will work on these as a group. The Chair and Vice Chair will feed back to the head teacher and the rest of the school during assembly time, explaining actions/ progress taken. For example, Team Wellbeing agreed that it was important for all pupils to have a 'wellbeing afternoon', where all pupils participated in a carousel of activities. Team Community designed Christmas cards for the local care home and sang a range of Christmas carols.





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Chwaraeon | Sport

The school's curriculum for Health and Wellbeing, aims to teach children about the health benefits of exercise whilst encouraging them to be physically active.

Children acquire relevant skills as they progress through the school and are given opportunities to participate in a wide variety of activities. Sports Day is held in the Summer Term.

Extra-curricular activities also encourage children to enjoy exercise. Clubs offered may vary over the course of the year. We typically provide football, netball, rugby, baseball, dance, and gymnastics.

Pupils from St Therese's Catholic Primary School regularly take part in county competitions and compete enthusiastically and successfully against other schools.





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Perthnasoedd ac Addysg Rhyw | Relationships & Sex Education

The school's policy has been prepared in accordance with the Welsh Assembly Government Circular 019/2010. It is mainly delivered in the context of Personal and Social Education.

The aims of Sex and Relationships Education at St Therese's are:

- To help children understand their own growth and development.
- To raise awareness about oneself and the needs and feelings of others and develop respect for oneself and others.
- To equip children to take responsibility for their behaviour in their personal relationships.
- To build up children's self-esteem and give them confidence to talk about their feelings.
- To develop in children the skills to help them manage their relationships in a morally responsible and healthy manner.
- To enable pupils to consider the attitudes, values and skills which influence the way they behave.

"The Governors feel that this policy, particularly, must be set firmly within the context of the school's Christian foundation. God is creative, loving and relates to people. Human beings reflect his image and in our children we wish to nurture the attitude of mind that looks for 'all that is noble' (Philippians 4:8)

Here at St Therese's Catholic School, we follow the Ten:Ten scheme of work for all of our RSE lessons. This is endorsed by the Diocese of Menevia. It teaches pupils about personal health, physical & emotional wellbeing, personal relationships and family structures, the dangers of social media, puberty, life cycles, an understanding of the Common Good and living in the wider world.

The entire teaching is underpinned with a Christian faith understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God- created, chosen and loved by God. The programme is fully inclusive of all pupils and their families.

Teaching materials used are appropriate to the needs and ages of pupils and on occasion, may be bespoke to the learner.





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Gweithgareddau Allgyrsiol | Extra-Curricular Activities

A wide variety of extra-curricular activities are offered to pupils at St Therese's Catholic Primary School, including:

- Athletics
- Board Games
- Cricket
- Dance
- Football
- Gardening
- Multi skills
- Netball
- Rugby
- School Council
- Wellbeing
- Welsh





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Cyfleoedd Cyfartal | Equal Opportunities

St Therese's Catholic Primary School is committed to working towards equality regardless of disability, race, gender, age, faith, sexual orientation and language, and to the creation of an inclusive culture in which every individual, regardless of ability and background is enabled to participate and is valued as a member of the school community.

We therefore promote positive approaches to difference and foster respect for people of all cultural backgrounds.

We ask that all visitors to our school respect our commitment.

Our school complies with all aspects of discrimination law by ensuring that principles of fairness and equality are applied in everything the school does.

Disability Equality

We seek to remove barriers to learning and participation. We aim to provide every pupil with the opportunity to reach their full potential. We welcome, encourage and support disabled pupils by:

- Promoting equality of opportunity
- Eliminating discrimination
- Promoting positive attitudes
- Encouraging participation
- Taking steps to meet individual needs in accordance with the procedures outlined in the ALN act (2021)



Parents and carers may declare a disability at any time if they require particular reasonable adjustments to be made for them.





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Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol (ADY) | Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

- The school is fully compliant with the regulations and advice outlined in the ALN Act (2021), including the appointment of an Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) who oversees our ALN provision.
- The school is totally committed to the inclusion of children with additional learning needs.
- The staff at the school recognise that additional learning needs (ALN) is a whole school issue and that all teachers are teachers of children with additional learning needs.
- We recognise that early identification and appropriate intervention are paramount.
- All pupils, including pupils with ALN, will have access to a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum, including the Curriculum for Wales.
- Pupils' views on their learning are relevant and will be considered in an age appropriate way, particularly when an Individual Development Plan (IDP) is being created for them.
- Parents have a vital role in supporting their child's education and therefore partnership with school is promoted especially during the IDP process.





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Ymgysylltiad Teulu | Family Engagement

At St Therese's Catholic Primary we understand that in order to attain successful outcomes for our pupils, we need to forge a strong rapport and positive relationships with our parents and carers. We feel this approach is the most productive in children achieving their full potential. We aim to do this with a focus on mutual respect and understanding from all stakeholders and with our Christian values at the heart of our interactions.

Our Family Engagement worker is Teresa and she meets with new parents to ensure that they are aware of the role within our school and how she can support them and their family whilst they share their educational journey with us.

Teresa will advocate on behalf of families, represent and support them at various Professional's meetings and liaise closely with the schools ALNCo in order to provide a holistic support model.

Teresa also plays an active role in the wellbeing team, taking on a pastoral support role for pupils and aiming to support staff with their own wellbeing needs.

We aim to ensure that whilst attending our school all pupils access their learning in a safe and secure environment. This is reiterated regularly to pupils so they are familiar with whom they can approach if they feel they need to disclose sensitive information which will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

If you are concerned about your child, you are encouraged to approach a member of the team to discuss any worries so that support can be offered, or we can signpost you to another agency.

We promote multi-agency collaboration through linking with services throughout the Local Authority of with National Charities. At St Therese's RC Primary School, we have a number of initiatives to support families with the cost-of-living crisis. We are beginning a non-means tested food bank on site for families to access as and when they need to. We also upcycle items of clothing and toys to further support families. We hold regular breakfast clubs for parents/carers to attend where they can access a hot drink and a meal whilst having the opportunity to socialise with other parents and staff.





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The Family Engagement Worker supports parents/ carers, school staff, and other agencies on various issues that may affect a child's learning and wellbeing.

These can include:

- Punctuality and attendance
- Changes in behaviour
- Low self-esteem and confidence
- Settling in new children, including making home visits to aid transition
- Transition to a new class, key stage, or another designated school
- A point of contact for parents and carers on a daily basis
- Supporting parents or carers with routines, managing behaviour at home etc.
- Providing information and signposting to other services in the local area.
- Liaising with a range of external services, agencies and schools.



We believe that a positive partnership between home and school is fundamental to the success of children's learning. We are keen to ensure that as many parents as possible engage with the school.

We arrange a wide range of activities and courses for parents and also encourage parents to come to termly meetings where we share information about the curriculum or other areas of interest.

We look forward to welcoming you to the St Therese's family.



Blodau Bach Parent & Toddler Group

Our 'Blodau Bach' Parent and toddler group provides an opportunity for parents/carers and their young children to spend time together in the company of others. Children are offered activities that help them to socialise with others. It is also a great opportunity for Parents and carers to meet other people in their local area.



Parents, carers and the toddlers who participate in the group benefit hugely from it. We offer helpful support by:-

- Providing a safe and happy environment for children to play, learn and interact
- Being a welcoming place for all parents and carers to make friends and feel supported
- Being the basis for developing long-lasting relationships for young families looking for friendship and support
- Offering a lifeline to families in crisis support for parents having a tough time or just dealing with the ongoing demands of children
- Being an extended family to those that attend
- Providing a starting point to go forward, maybe branching out into parents groups and other support
- Making a valuable contribution to community life.





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Bwyd a Hwyl | Food and Fun

What is Food and Fun?

Food and fun is a fully funded Welsh Government programme, based in schools for 12 days over the summer holidays and quality assured by Public Health Dietitians. It is available to schools with over 16% Free School Meal provision and supported by a range of local and national partners.





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Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon (CRA) | Friends of St Therese's (PTA)

Calling all Parents!

Hello,
We are the parent association committee.

We meet up a couple of times each term to discuss and plan events. During these meetings parents will discuss any improvement and educational needs. All ideas from pupils and parents/guardians are valued.

Our aim is to find different ways to raise funds that will enhance our children's learning development and strengthen the school community. All funds raised can make a huge difference to the school's environment and provide pupils with extra resources.

We have already discussed plans for September 2022 through to July 2023. We will keep you posted on the latest news of the times and dates of each event.

We always need support at events and fayres with stalls and we would appreciate any support from parents/grandparents/Guardians.

If you would like to join the PTA. Please let us know. The more the merrier.

Thanks,

The Parents Association Committee.





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Cyswllt Cartref/ Ysgol | Home/School Links

At St Therese's Catholic Primary School, we believe that education should be a partnership between home and school. Close links, based on mutual respect, will undoubtedly benefit your child.

Every child in the school will be provided with tasks to be carried out at home. These tasks are age appropriate and are designed to support the learning that takes place in school. Your child is likely to make the best possible progress if they are given the opportunity to practise and reinforce skills regularly, this includes engaging in work provided online. It is particularly important to make time for reading (both listening to your child read and reading aloud to them) and chatting about what they have read.

Home/School Contact

It is important that parents and carers are able to contact the school promptly if they have any queries, concerns or feedback. This can be done by visiting the school office in person, telephoning the school, using the class dojo app or via email.

Parents/Carers are invited into school on many occasions throughout the year and we greatly appreciate this support.

Parent consultation appointments are offered three times a year along with written mid-term reports and an end of year report detailing pupil progress via the class teacher.





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Cytundeb Ysgol/Cartref | Home-School Agreement

Everybody at St Therese's Catholic Primary School benefits greatly from the help and support offered by parents and carers.

Sections 110 and 111 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 require the governing body of every maintained school to adopt a home-school agreement with an associated parental declaration.

The Act says that: "A home-school agreement is a statement explaining: the school's aims and values; the school's responsibilities towards its pupils who are of compulsory school age; the responsibilities of the pupil's parents; and what the school expects of its pupils."

Parents are a child's first and enduring teachers. They play a crucial role in helping their children learn. Children achieve more when schools and parents work together. Parents can help more effectively if they know what the school is trying to achieve and how they can help. Home-school agreements provide a framework for the development of such a partnership. The home-school agreement is reviewed regularly and may be viewed on our school website.

Every parent/carer will be asked to sign an agreement when their child starts school.





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Gwisg Ysgol | School Uniform

The wearing of uniform is extremely important as it not only ensures that the children look smart coming into and going out of school, but it creates a sense of identity and sets the tone of the school to the wider public.

Please note below what the children are expected to wear:-

- Burgundy school sweatshirt/hoodie/ cardigan
- White school polo shirt/ shirt
- Grey/Burgundy Tie (optional)
- Burgundy or grey tracksuit bottoms
- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts
- Summer dress in red/white or burgundy/white
- Trainers

Footwear

Children are allowed to wear trainers as this enables different activities.

Our school uniform is sold at:

Image Shops (Aberafan Shopping Centre)

Macron (Neath)





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Prydlondeb a Phresenoldeb | Punctuality and Attendance

Parents are responsible in law for ensuring that children of compulsory school age receive suitable full-time education.

If a child is registered at our school, the law requires regular attendance. This means that the child must attend school punctually every day and for the whole day during term time, unless there is a good reason (such as illness) for absence.

Parents are responsible for notifying the school if their child cannot attend. This should be done by telephone or a personal visit on the first morning of the child's absence. Regular updates would also be appreciated if the child is absent for a prolonged period (more than 3 days).

If attendance or punctuality problems do arise, the school is obliged to refer these to the Education Welfare Officer, who will investigate the matter further and can offer advice and support.





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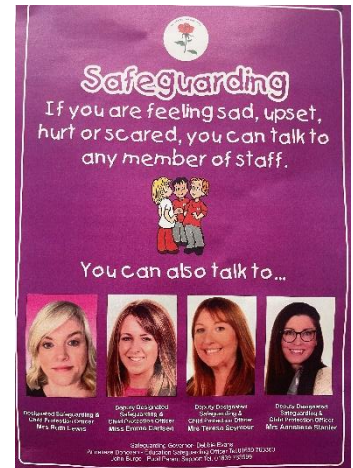
Diogelu/Amddiffyn Plant | Safeguarding/Child Protection

- The school day begins at 8.50am. Children should be brought to school by a responsible adult, who **must** stay with them until the pupils are brought into the building/entrance.

For the safety of the pupils, the pupil entrances are closed at 9:00. If your child arrives after this, you **MUST** bring them to the main entrance of the school where they will be signed in by office staff. This ensures that children are registered as present and that nobody is unsupervised.

- Please do not drive through the school gates. These are closed between 8:40- 9:10 and 2:50- 3:10

- Adults should always enter and leave the school via the main entrance. The school day finishes at 3.00pm. If you wish for your child to be collected from school by somebody other than yourselves as parents/ carers, please inform school office or class teacher via Class Dojo beforehand.



Child Protection

Staff and governors undertake regular training in safeguarding issues, including child protection. St Therese's recognises the value of early intervention and prevention services and are committed to working collaboratively with families and these services.

Safeguarding at St Therese's is the responsibility of all members of staff. We have the responsibility to ensure that we protect each pupil from harm.





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Clwb Brecwast | Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club begins every day at 8.10am and concludes at 8.30am. Pupils are supervised by school staff. A healthy breakfast is provided free of charge to any child whose parents or carers wish them to attend. This club is available to pupils from AM Nursery to Year 6.

Darpariaeth Amser Cinio | Lunchtime Provision

Parents may choose to purchase a school dinner for their child. The kitchen has recently been awarded Food Hygiene Rating of 5 (the highest possible) by the Food Standards Agency and the main courses and desserts are always appetising.

School lunches are carefully planned to meet the Welsh Nutritional Guidelines for school lunches by our catering managers, food advisors and saffron nutritional analysis system. Our catering Staff have undertaken nutrition training so pupils will be encouraged to eat nourishing vegetables or fruit daily and to make healthy choices.

It is our aim to ensure that all pupils can be provided with a healthy, nutritious meal and vegetarians and any special diet requests are catered for.

There is a hot main meal choice including a vegetarian option available daily plus a selection of vegetables, seasonal salads, a pasta option and wholemeal bread. There is also a daily main pudding with an additional option of fruit bowl choice. A daily selection of chilled milk or water are available.

The menu goes on a three week cycle and is set by Neath Port Talbot Council and can be accessed via the Broccoli Bob Website :-

<https://www.brocolibob.co.uk/parents/schoolmeals.asp>

Prydau Ysgol Am Ddim | Free School Meals

Free School Meals Families in receipt of Income Support, Income Related Employment Allowance, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit or Child Tax Credit with an income less than £16190 are entitled to free school meals. If you think that you might qualify, you should contact Neath Port Talbot Council for an application form.





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Pecynnau Bwyd a Snacs | Packed Lunches and Snacks

Children may bring a packed lunch to school.

St Therese's Catholic Primary School is a healthy school and the governors, staff and pupils are keen to ensure that healthy eating is a whole-school priority. We were awarded the highest Food Hygiene Rating of 5.

Please support us in the following ways:

- Only fruit as a break time snack (NOT fruit bars, as these are usually very high in sugar).
- No fizzy drinks or flavoured milk shakes. The acid in fizzy drinks is very bad for children's teeth, not to mention the sugar. The children are provided with a drink of water as required. Milk is given to children in the Nursery classes.
- Keep sugary treats to a minimum. Instead try to include fruit or small yoghurt.
- Please ensure that lunchboxes are adequately chilled in the warmer weather.

'It's important to make sure the lunchboxes that children take to school provide a healthy, balanced lunch. This means plenty of foods that contain the nutrients that children need, and fewer foods that are high in sugar and saturated fat.' - National Health Service





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Materion Meddygol | Medical Issues

Parents/Carers are responsible for providing the school with emergency contact details and up-to-date medical information relating to their child.

Administering Medication

Learners may require medication at St Therese's Catholic Primary School for many reasons and this should only be administered with prior agreement and consent given by the parent/carer. Medicines should only be given if prescribed by the GP. No child under 16 should be given medicines containing Aspirin. A learner requiring medication will require an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP).

A parental request form (available in school office) should be completed each time there is a request for medication to be administered by setting staff, or for a learner to self-administer their own medication. This arrangement must be agreed, documented, and dated by the Head teacher. A copy must be kept on file.

Asthma Inhalers

Please ensure that the school is aware of a child's need to carry an inhaler and complete the individual healthcare plan with the school. Your child may choose to keep an inhaler in his/her bag, but a spare must be clearly labelled and given to the class teacher to be kept in the classroom. It is the parent/carer's responsibility to ensure that this is within expiry date.

Allergies

The school must be informed of the need for emergency and/or preventative treatments and an individual healthcare plan will be completed with the school. The school nurse will provide appropriate training for staff.

You will be contacted if your child becomes unwell. It is very important that your contact details are kept up to date. If your child has an accident at school, they will be assessed by a qualified first aider. If further treatment is necessary, or if your child needs to go home, you will be contacted. If the accident or injury involves a bump to the head, you will always be informed.





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Dyddiadau Ysgol | School Term Dates

Academic Year 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025

Autumn Term 1	Monday, 1 September to Friday, 24 October
Autumn Half Term	Monday, 27 October to Friday, 31 October
Autumn Term 2	Monday, 3 November to Friday, 19 December
Christmas Holiday	Monday, 22 December to Friday, 2 January

Spring Term 2026

Spring Term 1	Monday, 5 January to Friday, 13 February
Spring Half Term	Monday, 16 February to Friday, 20 February
Spring Term 2	Monday, 23 February to Friday, 27 March
Easter Holiday	Monday, 30 March to Friday, 10 April

Summer Term 2026

Summer Term 1	Monday, 13 April to Friday, 22 May
Summer Half Term	Monday, 25 May to Friday, 29 May
Summer Term 2	Monday, 1 June to Monday, 20 July
Summer Holiday	Tuesday, 21 July to Monday, 31 August

Inset Days

Monday, 1 September 2025

Monday, 3 November 2025

Monday, 5 January 2026

Spring 2026 - TBC

Monday, 13 April 2026

Monday, 20 July 2026





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Gwybodaeth Cyswllt | Contact Information

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