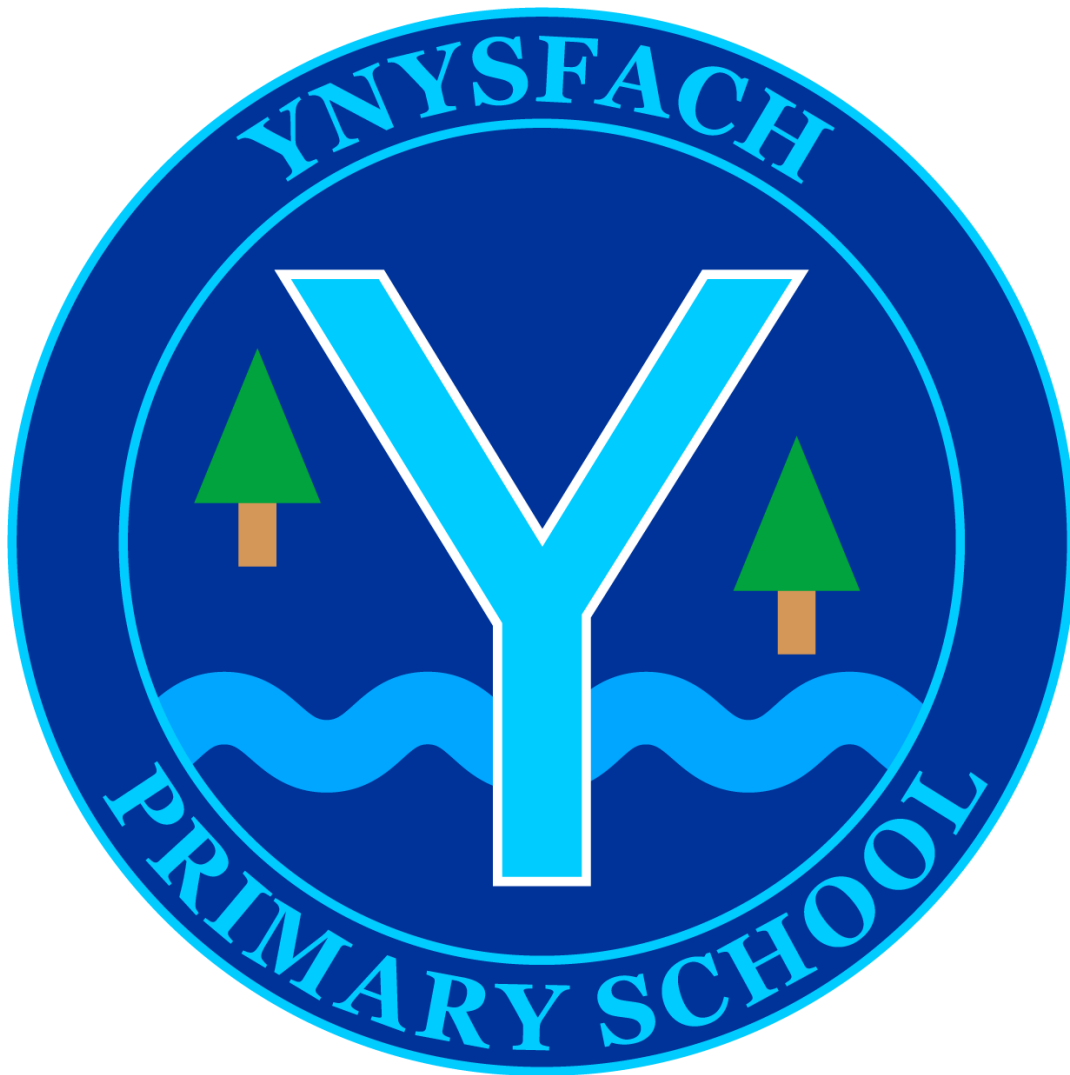


School Prospectus



Prospectus yr Ysgol

2025 - 2026

Acting Headteacher/ Prifathro:

Mrs. Karen Thomas

Acting Deputy Headteacher/

Mrs. Elise Groth



Dear Parents/ carers

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to new pupils and their families to Ynysfach Primary School. We look forward to getting to know you better over the coming years and making your time here a happy and successful one. This booklet will provide you with information on the school, our staff, our aims and curriculum. We pride our self in being a whole school community, so we look forward to meeting you in our many school activities, parenting groups and consultation evenings. However, if we can help or support you further, please do not hesitate in contacting the school.

Kind regards

Mrs K Thomas

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INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Name of School*Enw'r Ysgol*

Ynysfach Primary School

*Ysgol Gynradd Ynysfach***Address***Cyfeiriad*

Resolven

Neath

SA11 4AB

Telephone*Ffon*

01639 710238

Classification of School*Yr Ysgol*

County Primary, Day School

(English medium)

Age Range of Pupils*Oed y plant*

3-11 years

Number of Pupils*Niferoedd*

135

Acting Headteacher*Prifathro*

Mrs. K Thomas

Chair of Governors*Cadeirydd y Llwyodraethwyr*

Mr P Doyle

School Hours/Oriau Ysgol**Full Time/Llawn Amser**

9:05am – 12:05 noon

12:50pm – 3:20 pm

Nursery/Meithrin**Morning Session/Sesiwn y Bore**

9:05am – 11:05 am

Afternoon Session/Sesiwn y Prynhawn

1:05pm – 3:05p.m. (When appropriate)

Breakfast Club

Entry 8:25a.m. – 8:40a.m.

Teaching Staff/Yr Athrawon

Mrs J. Pickering	Nursery/ Rec
Miss E Evans	Year 1/ 2
Mrs L. Thomas	Year 3
Mrs E Groth	Year 4/ 5
Mrs S D'Angeli	Year 6
Mrs L LeMasurier	PPA

A number of specialist and support teachers regularly visit school to help children with speech and language problems, hearing, learning and emotional difficulties. These teachers are part of Neath Port Talbot team of ALN Support Teachers.

Support Staff/Staff Cynnorthwyol

School Clerk	Mrs D. Stroud
Learning Support Assistants	Miss N. Rees Mrs S Thomas Miss J. Keane Mrs G. Thomas Mrs L O'Brien Mrs K Baker Miss E O'Connor
Lunchtime Supervisors	Mrs A.M. Wrona Mrs V Parry Mrs S Stokes Mrs C. Rainbow
Cook	Mrs S.De lloyd
Kitchen Staff	Mrs J. Silva Mrs S Stokes
Caretakers	Mr A Groth
Cleaners	Mrs J. Silva Mrs S Stokes Mrs A.M. Wrona
Safeguarding Officer	Mrs K Thomas
Deputy Safeguarding Officer	Mrs E Groth / Mrs J Pickering
Family Liaison Officer	Mrs K Baker

School Governors/ Y Llywodraethwyr.

The school has a Governing Body appointed by the LEA. The Governing body meets regularly to discuss and plan the work of the school, the maintenance of the buildings and site, the financial management of school and staffing.

Governors

LEA Representatives

Mrs C Chappell
Mr S Barnes

Minor Authority Representative

Mr N Francis

Teacher Representative

Mrs S D'Angeli

Staff Representative

Mrs D Stroud

Parental Representatives

Mrs N Phillips
Mr S Williams
Mrs C Ritchie – VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS
Mrs H McKeon

Community Members

Mrs A Chipps
Mr P Doyle – CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Headteacher Governor

Mrs K Thomas

Clerk to the Governors

Miss K. Sheppard

Safeguarding Governors

Mrs D Stroud
Mrs S D'Angeli

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2025/ 2026

		Mid Term Holiday		Term Ends	Days
Term	Term	Begins	Ends		
Autumn 2025	Monday 1 st September	Monday 27 th October	Friday 31 st October	Friday 19 th December	75
Spring 2026	Monday 5 th January	Monday 16 th February	Friday 20 th February	Friday 27 th March	55
Summer 2026	Monday 13 th April	Monday 25 th May	Friday 29 th May	Monday 20 th July	65
				Total	195

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff Preparation on six days between Monday 1st September 2025 and Monday July 20th 2026

Bank Holidays

- December 25th Christmas Day
- December 26th Boxing Day
- January 1st New Years Day
- April 3rd Good Friday
- April 26th Easter Monday
- May 5th May Day
- May 25th Spring Bank Holiday

School Aims

Our aim is to educate your child to his/her full potential in a happy, safe and caring environment. Children need to be taught and to develop **intellectually, socially, emotionally, physically and morally**.

Achieving Our Best Together!

Our Vision at Ynysfach Primary School

Our vision at Ynysfach Primary School is to provide a safe, welcoming, caring, happy and supportive environment that is inclusive for all children, in which they reach their full potential with a curiosity and a passion for lifelong learning. We strive to ensure our pupils' wellbeing is at the forefront of education, as we believe a happy child is a successful child. We are committed to developing their understanding of how to value religious and cultural differences in school, in the community and the world beyond.

We give pupils the tools, confidence and most importantly the belief in themselves to achieve a bright and happy future in which they will be ambitious, healthy, enterprising and ethical citizens of the world. Our school strives to be at the heart of the local community, which creates a sense of belonging amongst the families, develops pupils' understanding of their country and gives them a sense of pride in where they live, but also ensures they have a sense of positive and effective links to the wider and global communities.

We ensure all children enjoy their learning, feel valued and achieve their full potential. These achievements are celebrated, and pupils are encouraged to grow in independence. As a school, we nurture pupils' desire to enquire, be creative and learn in a school where differing needs are acknowledged, accepted and met.

CHILDREN

Children learn best when they are happy and secure.

The first aim therefore is to create a happy, secure, stable and caring environment in which children can develop to the full.

No two children learn in exactly the same way

We aim to meet the needs of every child.

We aim to provide varied and challenging learning experiences in order to help pupils develop lively inquiring minds, to be creative and to expand their intellectual capacities.

We aim to develop a child's independence and personal responsibility in the learning situation, so that with encouragement they become self-disciplined, well-motivated and best equipped towards fulfilling their individual potential.

Children need skills and knowledge, which are relevant to adult life and which will enable them to cope with our changing world.

We aim to provide a sound foundation in literacy, numeracy and ICT skills and to foster attitudes towards these disciplines so that pupils can use these skills efficiently and effectively. We also aim to foster a love of Wales, the Welsh language and being Welsh across the curriculum.

Children need to understand the world in which they live.

We aim to provide opportunities so that children can gain a wide knowledge, experience and understanding across the curriculum. In doing so they will develop, use and apply language, mathematical and creative skills, which will enable them to gain and understand new information.

Children need to be able to integrate into and contribute to society.

We aim to impart moral values including tolerance of all religions, races and ways of life, as well as fostering international links. We encourage children to relate positively with others and to take responsibility for their own actions.

TEACHING

We aim to provide a highly professional, caring and effective teaching staff who can bring to their teaching, their knowledge and experience of the society in which we all live.

NON-TEACHING STAFF

We aim to provide a support service that will enable all staff to work effectively and to provide a good working environment for the children.

PARENTS

We aim to encourage parents to be supportive of their children and the school and to work in partnership in the educational process.

GOVERNORS

We aim to be well informed, accessible and supportive.

ALL

We aim to promote positive partnership between child, teacher, parent, governor and the community

SCHOOL VALUES

Our School Values are:

- **Respect** – fair play; knowing one's own limits; and taking care of one's health and the environment.
- **Excellence** – how to give the best of oneself, on the field of play or in life; taking part; and progressing according to one's own objectives.
- **Determination** – the drive and motivation to overcome both physical and mental barriers in order to achieve your goals.
- **Courage** – having the self-belief and confidence to overcome adversity and face difficulty.
- **Awareness** – showing respect and humility towards all those around you in the spirit of fair play.
- **Friendship** – how to understand each other despite any differences.

Admission to School

Following arrangements made by the Welsh Assembly Government, children are allowed to enter our Nursery the term after their third birthday. This will be either a morning or afternoon session depending on number of pupils in that cohort. Requests for a place should be made to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. Arrangements will be made with you, as parents to visit school and meet the staff during the term before your child starts Nursery Education. Your child will be invited to visit too. We want your child to be happy and secure with us, and this provides a good opportunity to get to know your child's name, his/her likes and dislikes and his/her family and friends.

Children who will reach the age of four before the following 31st August are admitted into our morning Nursery in the September of each new school year.

Children aged 4+ are admitted into our full time Reception class in the September of each school year. Reception parents are invited to a welcome meeting with the staff and for the first week, the children will be invited to stay for lunch at the end of the summer before they enter into reception and the children's day is shortened as they find the long day too much.

We are pleased to welcome children into the family of the school, if we have places, any time during their Primary School life. Our Equal Opportunities Policy states that we do not discriminate on the grounds of disability, sex, race, colour religion, nationality, ethnic or national origins.

No registered disabled pupils attend our school. However, school will make necessary arrangements for the access of disabled pupils, parents and visitors as need arises. Our action would be to aid access by making any reasonable internal/ building arrangements that would allow as near an identical education to those children without disability as would be reasonably be expected.

The School Building and Site

The school is made up of two traditional Welsh stone buildings. The building to the right houses the Nursery, Reception and Foundation Phase children, sensory rooms, the school kitchen and infant hall, which doubles up as the dinner hall, a library and disabled toilet.

Children from year 3 - 6 are housed in the building at the top of the campus. There is a hall, art room/ ICT room, library, intervention room, sensory room, disabled toilet, school office and Head teacher's Office.

The school field and playgrounds surround the Infant building. Staff and visitor parking is at the front end of the campus. This is shared with the Integrated Children's Centre – Building Blocks.

Arriving at and Leaving School

For the safety of the children and smooth running of the school the following apply:-

- Children should enter and leave the school premises by the single Infant gate.
- Infant aged children must be brought to and collected from school by a responsible adult.
- Parents bringing or collecting children by car should not stop on the zig-zag yellow lines marked in front of the school gates and railings. Community Police officers regularly patrol this area.
- During unsuitable weather the children will be welcomed into the buildings from 8.55am. Staff will be on duty.

Visiting School

We are happy to welcome visitors, friends and/or parents to school. If your visit is not known in advance please report to the school office. To safeguard the children all staff are instructed to stop and question unknown adults on the premises.

School Organisation and Curriculum

The school is organised into 5 full time classes and a part time Nursery. The classes can be mixed age. Foundation learning prepares our younger children for the start of the new skills-based curriculum when they become 7. Our younger children learn through play. They have opportunities to paint, build, dress up, sing, listen to stories, recite rhymes, draw and colour, sort and match, experiment with sand and water, make music and care for pets and plants. In suitable weather there is a session of outdoor play when the children use bikes, balls, hoops etc. There is a daily fruit and milk circle, The children are busy forming ideas, improving their speaking and listening as well as learning to share. Children aged 5-11 are taught the new skills-based curriculum. Each class is divided into groups for teaching purposes. The children study a different concept through 6 areas of learning. We are the staff, pupils, parents and the community for suggested ideas of what the pupils need to learn for each term.

Records

We have an "open records" policy. You may see the records we keep on your child, the only exception to this are such records as may involve other statutory agencies and are excluded under the Data Protection Act. e.g. Social Services. Guidance on the classes of information held and published can be obtained through our Information Retention and Publication scheme covered by the Freedom of Information Act.

Curriculum for Wales

The Curriculum for Wales, is made up of four core purpose. These are what we want our pupils to be. They are Ambitious capable learners, Ethical informed citizens, Enterprising, creative contributors and healthy confident individuals. The pupils cover six Areas of learning, Language, Literacy and communication, maths and numeracy, Health and Wellbeing, Science and Technology, Expressive Arts and Humanities. In each areas the pupils will develop their integral schools and become increasingly independent. Pupils then progress in their learning through the 3 progression steps throughout their time at Ynysfach.

The Areas of learning are important and are used in our school to help us produce literate, numerate, articulate children who have good communication skills and are competent living in a digital world.

Our children are taught to read and then to use their reading as a pathway to greater knowledge and to the joy of reading for pleasure. They are taught how to write, spell, to use correct grammar and sentence structure and to have legible writing.

They are taught to express themselves clearly, articulately, logically and stylishly when speaking in order that they may make themselves known and understood in the world.

They are taught Mathematical skills in number and practical activities which can be used to help them live and work in the everyday world and to find interest in problem solving, pattern and puzzles. These key skills are then used to record other things they learn.

Pupils who have Additional Educational Needs are supported in class by their class teacher through differentiated work. Support may be on a one-to-one basis, or as part of a small group. It may be in class or by withdrawal. The type of support given will depend on the needs of the individual. Teachers from the LEA's Learning Support and Behaviour Support teams are brought in to school to help pupils with specialist work programs and to help teachers develop individual plans for pupils with Special Needs.

Our children are growing up in an ever-increasing scientific and technological world. We ensure that they have access to computer technology and have a broad education that encourages them to become competent in all areas of digital learning. All pupils are assigned HWB passwords and log ins and have access to their online Learning classroom. Here the teacher places activities, games and learning log tasks to support the child's learning at home. Pupils also have challenges on Seesaw and parents can access videos and photos at home of them working.

The child's curiosity about the natural world is awakened and we teach knowledge and skill to satisfy that curiosity. We want our children to have wide horizons, the teaching of humanities help the children realise how varied and interesting the world is. Identifying similarities in the culture and heritage of the people who inhabit it will help the children develop a sense of humility and thoughtfulness.

We also wish the children to understand and be proud of their own culture and heritage. To this end we teach and practice Welsh as a second language, study the local area and keep up Welsh traditions and hobbies by playing rugby, singing in the school choir and talking to neighbours. A specialist Welsh teacher visits the school to help and support both pupils and staff.

Every child is given the opportunity to express themselves creatively by using a variety of media e.g. paint, pastels and collage. The children's artwork is displayed on the walls of corridors and classrooms throughout the school.

The sounds of music making or singing will be heard in both buildings. This way, the children can learn to appreciate the work of the masters and of each other.

P.E. lessons are held indoors or outdoors depending on weather conditions. The children are taught games, gymnastics and dance. Each class has 2 sessions of PE timetabled per week.

Assessment of the children's achievements are carried out regularly through standardised test and teacher assessment. The teaching staff regularly assess the children's work in the other classes and record their progress. Parents are informed of their child's progress through two Parents Evenings and an end of year written report and ad hoc arrangements, where this may be necessary. Parents and pupils are invited at the end of the year to let us know what progress they feel their child has made and if there are any areas that they think they need to work on for the following year. The usual range for pupils within the school is from progression step 1 to progression step 3.

Religious Education

Religious Education is provided for all children. Collective worship/ assembly is held daily and is an important part of the day where we meet as a community. It is a time when we place an emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us. The emphasis is broadly Christian, but due consideration is given to the multicultural society in which we live. The children make visits to places of worship as part of the curriculum and are introduced to the major features of the five world religions e.g. Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam and Judaism during class lessons. Please speak with the Headteacher if you wish to remove your child from R.E. or collective worship.

RSE – Relationship and Sexuality Education

Relationship and sexuality Education is mandatory from 2022 and is considered to be part of the Health and Well-being area of learning. RSE plays a vital role in supporting learners' rights to enjoy fulfilling, healthy and safe relationships throughout their lives. RSE is taught at an appropriate level by class teachers to all children in school. We follow the new curriculum for Wales where children learn about family life, caring for themselves and others, looking after themselves, the differences between males and females and what happens at puberty. There is no right to withdraw your child from RSE.

Educational Visits

An Educational Visit is made by all full-time classes during the year. The visits are linked to the class theme or topic and are necessary to the children's education; they usually take place during the day. The children also visit local sites and places of interest regularly. All pupils will have the opportunity to attend a residential visit whilst they are in Year 6.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The school does run school clubs. These are held after school from 3:20 – 4:00p.m. and during lunchtime. The clubs cover skills such as sport, digital ICT, Welsh and reading. Children in the sports teams will be invited to represent the school at various events in the local community and further afield. Services and productions by the children mark the major events during the school year such as Remembrance, Christmas, St. David's Day and a Leavers service at the end of the Summer Term. Pupils will also invite parents/ careers and the community to join us during the year for coffee mornings, fetes and through the School Liaison officer activities that parents can attend to support their children in basic skills and mindfulness. Individual, group or family photographs are taken annually as are class photographs in the summer term. Purchase is entirely voluntary.

Charging and Remission Policy

Certain materials (e.g. craft and cookery) and activities depend on contributions to the cost from parents. Parental contributions will be requested, no child will be excluded from such activities simply on the basis of non-contribution, but at the same time visits/activities may be cancelled for the entire group/class if sufficient contributions to cover the cost are not received. Please speak to the Headteacher if you have concerns over cost. Your concerns will be treated in confidence.

How can you help at home?

All children are expected to read at home in the evening, we provide books for this purpose. First pupils learn phonics and words leading to children regularly having spellings to be learned.

From time to time there will be other homework which is to be completed in their Learning Logs. It is usually up-to the children on how they present this. The homework we give in the learning logs is therefore individual to your child and the skills they use. It is expected to be completed in a well presented way (please see our presentation policy) and if not, your child will need to do it again.

Please try to make homework a positive experience for your child, encourage and praise success rather than criticise his/her failure. There is a fine line between being firm with a child who would rather play than learn his/her spellings/tables and causing distress to a child who is genuinely having difficulty. The best policy is "little and often"

Behaviour

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and equally. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school Behaviour and Discipline Policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. This policy aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

The primary aim of this Behaviour and Discipline policy is not a system to enforce rules; rather it is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the School Community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.

- The school expects every member of the School Community to behave in a considerate way towards others.
- We treat all children fairly and apply this behaviour policy in a consistent way.

The policy aims to help children to grow in a safe environment, and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school and wider community.

The school rewards good behaviour, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

Movement around School

At playtimes all children are expected to play outside unless instructed otherwise by a member of staff.

Children may not enter the storerooms, staff room, Headteacher's room and school office unless under the direct supervision of a member of staff.

Children are not allowed under any circumstances to enter the boiler rooms, kitchen serving area, cleaners and caretakers store and staff toilets.

Children must not leave the school premises unless under the direct supervision of a member of staff.

Break fast club and Lunches

The Welsh Assembly Government provides funding so that break fast club is free of charge. Pupils may enter breakfast club between 8:25 – 8:40a.m. **(no entry after 8:40a.m.)** Pupils attending breakfast club must:-

- Complete a form prior to attending
- Parents must ensure pupils enter the building before leaving them
- Pupils must enter the building through the bottom blue door in the Foundation Phase building

All pupils are School meals are served in the Infant Hall and are free to all pupils (rec – year 6). All children will need a packed lunch on educational visit days. Children may go home for their midday meal. Pupils can have a healthy packed lunch instead of a school dinner.

Care

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for running the school with your child's care and safety in mind. However, the day-to-day care and safety of your child lies with the class teacher and support staff. At break times, teachers and teaching assistants are on duty. During the lunch break, supervisors are employed to look after the children. If a school activity is arranged outside the school day there will be a teacher in charge. On occasions teachers will have other adult helpers e.g. parents, friends of the school, students. This frequently happens on Educational Visits. There is always a teacher in overall charge on such occasions.

The School's Health and Safety Policy is extensive and covers a wide range of activities relating to school life. The policy is available for you to read. Within the school, there are keypad entry doors where visitors to school have to 'buzz' the school office before access is allowed. Visitors also have to sign the visitor's book.

No access will be allowed to strangers without stating the nature of their business and producing identification, if the visit is not previously arranged.

Accidents and Illness

Minor accidents and illnesses are treated in school. There are trained first-aiders amongst the teaching and support staff. If your child is more seriously hurt or ill, we will contact you to collect him/her from school. We also contact you immediately if your child receives a blow to the head. It is then up to your discretion if your child stays in school or is taken home. Please make sure we have emergency contact number for this reason. In a medical emergency, an ambulance will be called and your child will be taken to hospital accompanied by an adult. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

Medicines

There are two categories of children who may need prescribed medication.

1. Children with long term illnesses e.g. asthma.
Arrangements will be made for their necessary treatment.
2. Children with short term illnesses.

Usually, a child who is ill enough to need medicine prescribed by a doctor should be at home, being cared for by a family member. Occasionally a child will be well enough to return to school before the course of treatment has ended; in these cases, parents will be asked to consider arrangements for the administration of the medicines in school by a family member. Medication prescribed 3 times daily can be taken at home before school, at home upon returning from school and at bedtime. In any other circumstance please speak to the Headteacher. If medicines are required during the school day parents need to complete a "medicine" administration form in the office before any medicines can be administered.

Medical Examinations

Vision, hearing and dental inspections are carried out in school during the year. You will be informed in advance if any apply to your child. The local Health Visitor calls regularly and will advise parents on health matters and hygiene as necessary.

Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory. Parents are asked to notify school of a reason for absence as soon as possible. Please telephone, write a note or tell the class teacher. Absence due to illness, medical appointments or for other unavoidable reasons will be authorised by the Headteacher. An unauthorised absence will be recorded if we are not informed, we have to guard against truancy.

You will be informed regularly of your child's attendance percentage.

Attendance is categorised as follows: -

100% - 98%	Excellent
98% - 95%	Good – Very Good
95% - 90%	Satisfactory – Liaison with parents
90% or below	Education Welfare Officer is informed

Special mentions, attendance trophy and certificates are awarded for regular attendance.

Weekly school and class attendance is reported to parents via the weekly class round up. Pupils have certificates for excellent attendance and most improved. Attendance is also displayed outside the classes and in the entrance to the school. Parents get termly updates of their own attendance.

All holidays are unauthorised difference between authorised and unauthorised absence is explained in a letter sent out to each parent in September of each year. Parents will

Attendance Figures 2024 - 2025

Attendance: 90.7%

Authorised Absence: 6.3%

Unauthorised Absence: 3%

Punctuality

School begins at 9.05 a.m. Being on time is a good habit, however, if the family oversleep please ensure you child comes to school, (better late than never). Likewise, if your child has a medical appointment.

Nursery children line up at the nursery entrance by their parents. All other children line up on the school yard where they will be collected and taken into school by school staff

For security reasons the external doors are locked after the children come in from lines. If you or your child arrive after the doors are locked, please report to the school office.

School Clothing

Uniform is worn by all children and is very simple. It consists of navy blue or black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress with pale blue shirt and navy cardigan or jumper or pale blue polo shirt and school sweatshirt. In hot weather, the summer uniform is pale blue tee shirt or polo shirt and navy or grey shorts or striped/checked pale blue and white dress. Information on where school sweatshirts, P.E. bags and book bags can be found in the school office. Nail varnish and make-up are not appropriate for school. Sports clothes should not be worn during ordinary lessons and no jewellery please. Year 6 pupils have a different colour sweatshirt and varies year to year and the colour is voted by them.

Practical Lessons

P.E. (Health and Wellbeing) is a subject and is **compulsory**, the children should bring a suitable change of clothes, e.g. shorts and tee shirt (house colour – please check with the school) and trainers for outdoor activities. In cold weather a track suit or other warm clothing may be necessary for outdoor games.

Personal Property

We do all we can to safeguard the children's possessions although we cannot take responsibility. Parents are expected to ensure the following arrangements are met:-

Clothing and Equipment

Please mark all items clearly with your child's name. Unclaimed belongings are kept in a 'lost property' collection. Children should not bring valuable personal items to school in case of loss or damage. Year 3 - 6 pupils will be provided with pencil cases and stationary and are not required to bring their own. Felt pens and sharpies are not used in school. The Foundation phase is also equipped with what they need. The latest crazes are also not allowed in school – fidget spinners, trading cards etc and will be kept by the teacher until home time. The school also provides playtime games and equipment, and pupils should not bring in their own from home.

Jewellery

The only jewellery permitted in school are watches and stud/sleeper earrings. However, parents are strongly advised that any jewellery is a potential hazard. **For health and safety reasons, no jewellery, i.e. watches and earrings are to be worn during P.E., dance, and games lessons.** If your child is not capable of removing jewellery without assistance, parents will be welcome to come to school to help their child. Failing this, will parents please ensure their child does not wear jewellery.

Money

The children will occasionally need to bring money in to school. Please ensure it is in an envelope or purse clearly marked with the child's name. Arrangements are made for prompt collection. No other money should be brought to school. Fruit money is paid weekly via the Parent Pay app

Banned Objects and Substances

Sweets and chewing gum, knives and sharp blades of any description. Glass objects. Anything which might harm or cause discomfort to the school or its inhabitants. Such objects will be confiscated and kept safe until collection by a responsible adult. Mobile phones **MUST** be handed in to the office and **NOT** left in a child's possession or bag during the school day.

Communication

We try to keep all families informed about what is happening at school by:-

- Using the SCHOOP app to inform parents
- Letters from the school via the children with information when necessary
- Notices on school entrance notice board.
- Fortnightly news roundup sent on SCHOOP
- Parents Evenings held in the autumn and Spring Terms; individual appointments are made.
- School reports sent home during Summer Term.
- Welcome and information meetings.
- Regular attendance information

Helping In School

There are always ways in which you, as parents can help in school. It is good for your child to feel that we work as a partnership. You are welcome to help with the many activities which take place. The children especially need help with playing number and word games, art, craft, sewing, cookery, science experiments, technology (building, designing and making) and swimming. If you are interested or have any other skills to offer, please let us know. Relevant safeguarding checks will be required.

Expectations

What Should You Expect From School?

- Your child should be safe
- Your child should be educated according to his/her needs and ability.
- We should tell you what we are doing and why.
- We should listen to your concerns and respond constructively.
- We should tell you if we have any concerns.

What Does the School Expect From You?

- Your child should attend school regularly and punctually.
- Your child should be ready for school each day i.e. clean, tidy and well rested.
- You should oversee homework and look after schoolbooks and equipment sent home.
- You should attend Parents Meetings.
- You should make sure we can contact you in case of emergency.
- **You should not use social media to complain about the school. The school does not have a "Facebook" Account, so any information given on the platform has not come from the school**

Concerns

If you have a concern however large or small it may be, please bring it to school. Parents are asked not to approach teaching or support staff about school business off the school premises, out of school hours. The Headteacher will always be happy to see you. They may be teaching but will see you as soon as possible or arrange an appointment. In an emergency, the Headteacher or Deputy Head will be available. We would hope any concerns could be resolved in school. Alternatively, there is a 'Complaints Policy' in school whereby set procedures are followed in cases whereby a problem cannot be resolved. However, if this is not the case, you may wish to contact the Local Education Authority Pupil, Parent and Governor Support Unit on 01639 763333. If we have any concerns, we will contact you and ask you to come to school. Any concerns can be raised with the safeguarding officers.

Working Together

Children, teachers and parents of Ynysfach Primary School must work together to ensure all the children get a good start. Our children learn many lessons by the way in which things are done as much as what is done. We work hard but we can have fun and be happy too. Come and join us. Our school motto is

"ACHIEVING OUR BEST, TOGETHER"

