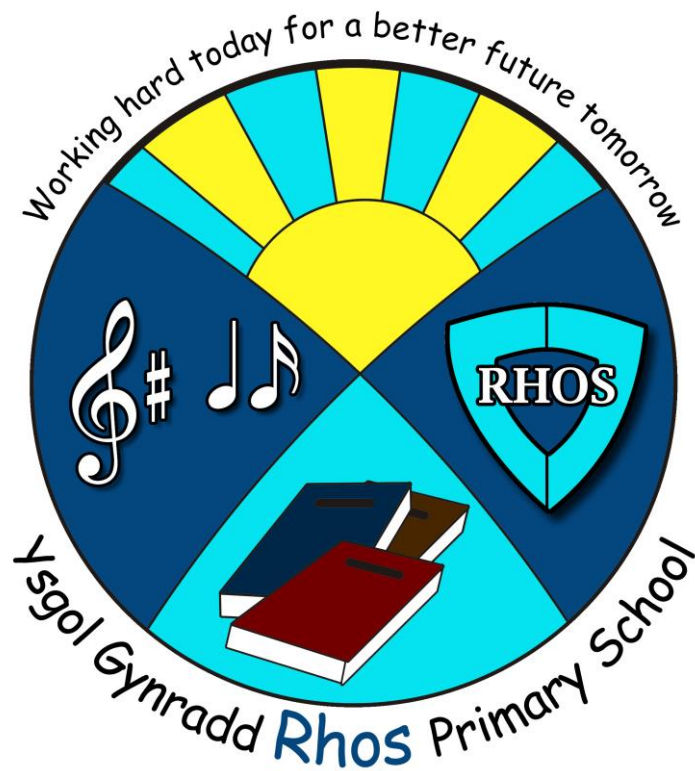


Ysgol Gynradd Rhos



Rhos Primary School

School Vision

In Rhos school community we:

*encourage gRowth,
promote good healtH and wellbeing,
demonstrate respOnsibility
show kindneSs*

Prospectus 2025 - 2026

Croeso I Ysgol Gynradd Rhos.

Welcome to Rhos Primary School.

Address: Neath Road
Rhos
Swansea
SA8 3EB

Telephone: 01792 862177

E-mail: office@rhosprimary.npt.school

School website: <http://www.npted.org/schools.primary/rhos>

Acting Headteacher: Ms C. Jones

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Miss S. Cox

Admin Officer: Ms. B. Bevan

Chair of Governors: Darren Davies

Vice Chair of Governors: To be elected

The information in this prospectus is correct and up to date at the time of printing.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Rhos Primary School—a place where children are truly at the heart of everything we do.

Our school vision guides us in creating a nurturing, inclusive, and inspiring environment where every child can thrive. At Rhos, we strive to:

Encourage gRowth,
Promote good healthH and wellbeing,
Demonstrate respOnsibility, and
Show kindneSs.

These values are woven into the fabric of our school community. We support children in developing kindness and empathy, helping them build positive, healthy relationships that last a lifetime. We celebrate each child's uniqueness, nurturing their talents and individuality so they feel accepted, confident, and ready to find their place in the world.

Our commitment is to provide a safe, happy, and emotionally supportive environment where every child feels listened to and valued. We want our pupils to feel a strong sense of belonging—not just to our school, but to the wider community.

We encourage curiosity, high aspirations, and a love of learning. Our aim is to help children become confident, thoughtful individuals who are ready to question, challenge, and grow throughout their lives.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Rhos Primary School, and to working together to support their journey, development, and success.

Warm regards,

Ms C. Jones
Acting Headteacher

A message from the Vice Chairperson of our Governing Body.

Dear Parents,

It is with great pride and pleasure that I welcome you to Rhos Primary School on behalf of the Governing Body.

At Rhos, we are committed to creating a nurturing, inclusive, and inspiring environment where every child is encouraged to thrive. Our dedicated staff work tirelessly to ensure that each pupil receives a high-quality education, rich in opportunities and tailored to individual needs. We believe that learning should be exciting and meaningful, and we are proud of the broad and balanced curriculum that supports both academic achievement and personal development.

As governors, our role is to support and challenge the school leadership to maintain the highest standards of teaching, learning, and care. We work closely with the Headteacher and staff to ensure that the school continues to grow and evolve, always putting the best interests of the children at the heart of every decision.

We are incredibly proud of the strong sense of community at Rhos Primary. The partnership between school, home, and the wider community is central to our success, and we are grateful for the ongoing support of our families.

Mr. D. Davies

Vice Chair of Rhos Primary Governing Body



A message from one of our pupils....

A Day in the Life of a Rhos Primary School Pupil....

Beep beep beep beep beep, beep beep beep beep beep!

Alarm off, uniform on, breakfast eaten, teeth brushed, time for school!

Bore da Miss Cox, Bore da Mrs Lloyd-West - teachers greeted at the gate and friends caught up with skipping across the yard. Unpack my bag, put things into my locker and sit down at my desk next to my best friend Harriet.

Our first activity is called SODA (Start of the Day Activity). I enjoy this because it is fun, but it also gets your brain working at the start of the school day. It is Tuesday today which is 'Bring a Grown Up to School' day. This is when family members can come into school to help us with our Outdoor Learning. We are building a polygraph tunnel and making flower beds as part of our Outdoor Learning project with help from Roger at Keep Wales Tidy. Projects like this have helped Rhos Primary School achieve the Gold/Silver Award for Outdoor Learning.

Lunchtime comes next! Cinio is sausage on a Tuesday. At Rhos Primary School we always try to eat healthily and have some fruit or vegetables with our lunch.

Recently a salad bar was added so we can pick our favourite vegetables! Playtimes are always such fun at our Primary. We have lots of equipment such as obstacle courses, a train, and a large throne which are great for playing imaginary games and having fun with your friends. We also have a football net and an area for 'Loose Parts Play' where we can make dens and other things out of pieces of wood cut into different sizes.

P.E this afternoon. We enjoy playing games with the parachute or games like Golden River which gets us running around and enjoying exercise. We gather our bags and coats and sing 'Iesu Tirion' (end of day pray), wave goodbye to our friends and our teacher dismisses us.

All our teachers and Ms Jones our headteacher are very friendly, supportive, encouraging and approachable. They arrange fun and informative trips for us such as to Pentre Ifan (residential activity centre) and the Pantomime at Christmas. Pupils take the lead in planning their

class Christmas concert, which is lots of fun and good for our Creative Thinking.

This describes a day in the life of a Rhos Primary School pupil. We are always keen to make new pupils feel welcome at our happy, hardworking school!

By Emily Owen, year 5.

Our School Setting

Rhos Primary is situated in the lovely semi-rural village of Rhos on the edge of the Swansea Valley. The village lies approximately 2 miles above the town of Pontardawe. The village has a local convenience store/Post Office, a pub, small hairdressers and a community centre. The village has 2 parks, one opposite the school and one adjacent to a large playing field which borders the community centre and allotments.

Our catchment area covers the large estate of Delffordd, and other smaller estates of Maes-y-Cornel, Cae Rhedyn, March Hywel, and the areas of Cilybebyll and Gellinudd. The immediate environment is one of farmland, hillsides and valleys. A relatively new housing development, Allt y Celyn, has been built opposite the school site.

The majority of housing based in Rhos is privately owned but there are many private rental properties and some council owned/rented properties.

The school has a large playground, grassy and wooded areas. A secure grass area for younger pupils is situated behind/adjacent to the bottom building. The school is a partner school to Cwmtawe Community School.

Rhos Primary consists of two buildings: -

The Old School (1908) which has 3 classrooms, two small workrooms and a staffroom. There is a large, shared hall area. This building houses pupils between Year 2- Year 6.

The Lower Building (1976) which houses the kitchen, hall, school offices, meeting room, 3 main classroom areas and houses all Nursery, Reception and Year 1 pupils.

An on-site childcare facility "Lullabys" is housed within the grounds of the school. It aims to provide childcare for children aged between 2 -8yr olds. Having this facility so close to the school helps to aid the transition of the children into school. Staff meet regularly to discuss transition and attend joint meetings with parents/external agencies when applicable.

For further details on Lullabys please speak to the school clerk or ring them directly on 07424830160



School Staff

Teaching Staff

Acting Headteacher

Ms. C. Jones

Acting Deputy Headteacher

Miss S. Cox

Year 5/6

Miss S. Cox

Year 3/4

Mrs. C. Lloyd-West

Year 2/3

Mrs. K. Cooper (ALNCO)/ Miss A.Jones

Reception/ Year 1

Mrs. S. Chick

Nursery

Mrs. D. Gammon

Support Staff

Admin Officer

Ms. B. Bevan

Bursar

Mrs. M. Talbot

Teaching Assistants

Mrs. E. Jenkins

Mr. J. Rourke

Mrs. K. Herbert

Ms. C. Stilwell

Mrs L Lord

Miss J Morgans

Mrs N. James

Miss E Lloyd-West

School Cook

Mrs. D. Phillips

Kitchen assistants

Mrs. W. Gondek, Mrs. K. Bowen

Caretaker

Mr. G. Williams

Lunchtime supervisors

Mrs. C. Jones

Mrs. L. Lord

Mrs. E. Palmer

Mrs. N. James

Peripatetic Teachers

Music

Strings

Mrs C. Nicholas

Brass

Mr. S. Howell

The Governors' Role

The Governors have a responsibility for the effective management of the school acting within the framework set by Government legislation and the policies of the Local Education Authority. They determine the aims for the curriculum and have increasing responsibility for the financial management of the school, which is the role of the Head, supported by school staff.

The Governors produce an annual report to parents, which can be found on the school website or a hard copy is available from the school office if required.

Minutes of the Governors' meetings are available to any parent once they have been signed. The agenda of any meeting is also available. The meetings themselves are confidential.

The school Governors do their work voluntarily and put in a great deal of time to ensure the school is managed efficiently and to the benefit of the children. Governors are linked to key stage departments in order for them to have a greater understanding of what and how the children learn. They have many opportunities to meet with members of staff through meetings with sub committees and through various Governor involvement focus sessions, where they come in to school/classes which helps create effective links between staff and Governors.

Each Governor also sits on one or more sub committees:

Finance and Premises

Sets strategic long-term financial plans and monitors budget income and expenditure over the course of the school financial year. Oversees the upkeep and maintenance of school's facilities.

Curriculum

Meets every term. They can meet with subject co-ordinators on the teaching staff to review policies and their implementation, increase Governor knowledge of the curriculum and monitor the school's progress against internal, local and national targets. They have also been involved with work scrutiny which enables them to monitor standards. They review school policies.

Staff and Pupil Welfare

Ensures the health & safety and well being of all children and staff, monitoring liaison with support services. Liaises with ALNCO to ensure children with ALN are catered for appropriately. Oversees all staffing matters, including the school's Pay Policy, Performance Management.

Forward Planning Sets long term strategic plans taking account of local/national initiatives

The School Governors

The Governing Body serve for a period of four years. Parents bring the view of parents to the Governing Body, however, they are not delegates for parents, as they speak and act as individuals.

The Governing Body consists of:

4 parents, 3 LEA (Local Education Authority), 4 Community Governors, a Teacher Governor, a Non-Teaching Staff Governor and the Headteacher.

Governors;

Chair of Governors To be elected
Vice Chair of Governors Mr. D. Davies

Ms C. Jones	Mrs K. Cooper
Mr R. Pearce	Mr C. Carmichael
Ms C. John	Mr G. Williams
Mr I. Humphreys	Mrs J. Stubb
Mrs S. Hart	Mrs K. Rees

Clerk to Governors Mrs J. Skinner

The School Curriculum

What will my child learn at school?



Pupils in all age groups pursue a wide curriculum covering many areas of development. Each child's needs and abilities are considered and care is taken to ensure at all times that the needs of the children are met. Pupils are taught in English with Welsh being taught as a second language. Pupils will learn through six Areas of Learning & Experience (AOLEs), these are;

- Languages, Literacy & Communication (LLC)
- Expressive Arts
- Health & Well-Being
- Humanities
- Mathematics & Numeracy
- Science & Technology

Rationale

At Rhos Primary School the whole staff work together to maintain a common philosophy and approach throughout the school. Our Teaching and Learning Policy reflects our classroom practice, values and the ways in which we have purposefully developed our curriculum for Rhos learners, incorporating Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competency into our unique ethos. We value teamwork, shared ownership and the roles and responsibilities of the individual. The Four Purposes are embedded throughout the curriculum and opportunities that we provide for all learners.

Our Vision for our pupils at Rhos Primary

School Vision

In Rhos school community we:

*encourage gRowth,
promote good healtH and wellbeing,
demonstrate respOnsibility
show kindneSs*

At Rhos Primary, children are at the heart of all decisions that we make.

We will:-

- Support children to understand and develop kindness and empathy so they can form positive, healthy relationships throughout their lives.
 - Value children's uniqueness and nurture their talents, interests and individuality so that they are able to express themselves, feel accepted, know who they are and find their place in the World.
- Provide a safe, happy, nurturing environment both socially and emotionally where every child feels listened to and valued so that they have a sense of belonging to their community.
 - Encourage children to question and challenge themselves, have high expectations, curiosity and a love of learning so that they are aspirational throughout their lives.

Teaching and Learning at Rhos Primary School

We believe children learn best when:

- they feel happy, secure, confident and valued,
- their surroundings are lively and interesting,
- they have access to a range of appropriate resources,
- they have entitlement to the full range of the curriculum irrespective of ability or disability, social background, culture or gender,
- they have time to reflect and talk about their experiences,
- they know they are making progress and are able to celebrate their achievements,
- they have opportunities for practical, relevant exploration of ideas,
- they are able to work collaboratively as well as independently,
- they know what is expected of them,
- work is matched to their individual needs,
- learning is relevant to their lives in the wider community.

School Organisation

Pupils are organised into classes according to their age. Within every class a range of teaching methods are used as appropriate, some whole class teaching, some focussed group work and paired work. All children are encouraged to achieve their own personal best. We truly believe 'praise and encouragement' are key words if learning is to be enjoyable meaningful and successful.

At present class areas are utilized in the following way.

Nursery	Reception/ year 1	Year 2/3
Year 3/4	Year 5/6	

The composition of classes is wholly dependent on size of the cohort and changes every year.

The split of a particular cohort for mixed classes is based on age not ability.

Assessment

At Rhos we recognise that assessment is an extremely important element in the day-to-day cycle of learning and teaching and is an integral part of our process of curriculum planning. Our whole school planning takes account of the needs of our children and of the requirements of the curriculum.

We firmly believe that assessment is to aid a pupils' learning and we aim to

- Discover what pupils know, understand and can do to and evaluate pupils' attributes/skills/attitudes to their work.
- Diagnose strengths, areas of improvement and targets in order that learning experiences can be matched to individual needs.
- Provide children with motivation for further success.
- Encourage children to take part in self and peer assessment.
- To inform parents, school staff and governors about pupils' achievements across the school.

We feel the most effective assessment is a part of the normal daily teaching and learning in our classrooms (Assessment For Learning). Teachers are constantly assessing with their assessments being taken from a evidence such as observations, work and tests.

Visiting the school

Parents/carers are welcome to visit the school, parents' evenings and open days are held throughout the year.

Prospective Parents/Carers

Prospective parents/carers are invited to contact the school to arrange a visit during school hours, not only to see the headteacher and staff, but also to visit the school environment.

Admission of children

Parents/carers of children wishing to enter Nursery and Reception must now apply to Neath Port Talbot County Council direct for either a Nursery or Reception place. Parents/carers of prospective nursery placements can approach the Headteacher of their preferred school for an admission/application form advice.

All school admissions are dealt with centrally by NPT Admissions Officer - Mrs. Helen Lewis 01639 763580

Those wishing to enter Reception will receive application forms from NPT during the Autumn term. These must be returned to the County Borough Council as soon as possible but a placement is not guaranteed at your preferred school even if your child has attended the Nursery of that school. Later in the Spring term parents and schools are to be informed of placements of mainstream pupils. Parents/carers then have 14 days to lodge an appeal of the decisions.

Full Time:

Children enter full time education in the September of the academic year in which they reach their fifth birthday.

Meetings are arranged for parents of prospective reception aged children during the Summer term prior to them starting Reception to discuss their child and how their needs can be best met at Rhos, as well as to inform the parents of the day-to-day routine of the school.

National Tests

Every academic year, all children across Wales from years 2 to 6 in Primary Schools undertake online National Tests in Reading, Numeracy and Reasoning. Parents/carers are given access to their child's results which show strengths and areas for development that are personal to their child. The tests also show how your child is doing in comparison to other children across Wales and how they are progressing year on year. At Rhos, teachers and leaders use these tests to inform planning and school improvement.

Curriculum Arrangements for Additional Learning Needs

The system for supporting children and young people with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and disability in Wales has changed. The Welsh Government has brought in a more flexible and responsive system of meeting the needs of children with ALN or disabilities and are striving to deliver a fully inclusive education system for learners in Wales.

The new system will ensure:

- Needs are identified early, addressed quickly and all learners are supported to reach their potential
- Our professionals are skilled and confident in identifying needs and deploying strategies to help learners overcome their barriers to learning
- That the learner is at the centre of everything we do and that their parents/carers are equal partners in their learning (Person Centred Practice)

Our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) is Mrs. Cooper, and in conjunction with the other staff, she will oversee ALN within our school. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the school office if you wish to speak to her.

Inspection of Documents

Documents required to be made available by regulations, may be inspected and where appropriate, copied at the school during school hours, by arrangement with the Headteacher. Copies of certain policies are available to view on the school's website.

Relationship & Sexuality Education

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales and is mandatory for all learners.

Relationship and sexuality education is integrated into a programme of cross curricular activities cumulating with older primary aged children receiving information regarding the implications of changes at puberty and information about reproduction. The aims of the policy are:-

- a) To provide children with information in a balanced, sympathetic and sensitive manner.
 - b) To help children develop and improve their self-esteem.
 - c) To encourage children to form their own opinions and to make informed, reasoned and responsible choices, both whilst at school and in adulthood.
- All issues are taught in the context of the caring family.

The school Relationship & Sexuality Education Policy, approved by the Governing Body, is available on request from the Headteacher.

Parents/carers no longer allowed to withdraw their child/young person from RSE.

Collective Worship & Religion Values and Ethics (RVE)

As a school we take guidance for RVE from the Welsh Government and the NPT Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics.

The religious traditions in Wales are in the main Christian while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Wales and the fact that a range of non-religious philosophical convictions are held in Wales We take note that the curriculum time for RVE must not include time given to daily acts of collective worship.

Collective worship sits outside the curriculum and has its own legal standing and requirements. Parents/carers may still request that their children are withdrawn

form collective worship, if they wish. Biblical and moral readings, prayer, poetry, hymns and songs are typical aspects of our school worship.

Healthy Eating

The school adheres to Welsh Government guidance. We ensure the children are taught about healthy diets and lifestyle choices through various subjects/topics within the curriculum. We encourage pupils to bring their own snack to eat at morning break. This can ONLY be fresh fruit or vegetables. We ask that parents/carers provide only plain drinking water in drinks bottle for their children. Younger pupils have daily access to free milk.

Welsh Language Development

We are proud to have achieved the Bronze Siarter Iaith Award for the achievements in teaching Welsh as a second language. It is the school's aim to use Welsh in such a way as to ensure that children see, hear and use it as part of everyday school life.

It is given a prominent role in many school activities and daily routines as well as having visual impact around the school. Children also have the opportunity to learn about the culture, history and heritage as well as the language of Wales. The school hosts a Welsh culture week around the time of Saint David's Day, which celebrates Cwricwlwm Cymraeg Welsh literature, music and the arts. 'Helpwr Heddiws' are a prominent feature of every class.

We were delighted to be winner in the 2023 Welsh Heritage Award competition for the work we completed on Cynefin.

Our teaching of Welsh is supported by a peripatetic Welsh teacher, 'Athrawes Fro', Ms. Foster, who works alongside teachers and pupils in promoting the Welsh language and culture.

Sporting Aims

All children have the opportunity to develop agility, coordination and the ability to express movement through dance, gymnastics, athletics, games and movement during their years in school. The school recognises the importance of fresh air and exercise for healthy children and when weather permits, advantage is taken of the facilities available at lunchtime as well as during timetabled physical education and games lessons. Playground equipment also encourages the children to be active during the school day.

Ethos and Values

Rhos Primary is a caring community in which all individuals matter. Each pupil is equally important and equally valued. The school's ethos looks to help create children who develop fully as well-adjusted, responsible, respectful and confident members of their community.

Every attempt is made to equalise opportunities for all pupils. Individuality is recognised and accepted and discrimination on grounds of race, religion or gender is simply not tolerated. The school has a Strategic Equality Plan and an Equal Opportunities policy that have been agreed by the Governing Body.

Our Home/School Agreement is intended to help the child, family and school support each other in achieving the school aims. Home/School Agreement is included in our Welcome pack and we respectfully request parents/carers to discuss the agreement with the child where appropriate. A copy can be acquired from the school office.

School Discipline

We firmly believe that any rules of discipline should be for the general well-being, happiness and safety of the children. The Headteacher, assisted by all the staff is responsible for the discipline of the school as a whole, while the teachers accept particular responsibility for the discipline within their own classroom. This is maintained by staff and pupils entering into a co-operative, responsible relationship with each other. Here at Rhos, we believe strongly in Restorative Practice. Positive behaviour is celebrated along with other qualities and skills pupil have demonstrated and each week specific pupils are rewarded with certificates. Golden Rules, created by the children, are a focus around the school and help to remind the children of desired behaviour.

The children and staff use a restorative practice approach alongside a rewards/consequences system which clearly sets out expectations.

However, when rules are broken through misbehaviour, the staff attempt to listen to both sides carefully with a clear view to restoring relationships. Children may have to face consequences where necessary; privileges can be and are withheld. Serious or persistent misbehaviour is always brought to the attention of parents who will be involved in the establishment of achievable targets in order to improve specific areas of misbehaviour. Seriously unacceptable behaviour e.g. where a child is a danger to others may result in exclusion, but this is the very last resort.

Pastoral Arrangements

The school strives to create an atmosphere that will allow pupils a feeling of care, friendship, warmth and security. Every member of staff accepts this aim, with the over-riding responsibility being that of the Headteacher. Records of the children's medical history are kept comprehensively in the School Office. Whenever necessary, the school liaises with other caring agencies, e.g. School Health Visitor, Education Welfare Service, School Psychological Service, Social Services, Dentist, Nurse, and Speech Therapist. The school also liaises with Cwmtawe Community School throughout the year.

Minor accidents are dealt with in the school by qualified First Aiders. Parents/carers are notified of any incidents/treatments via an accident sheet. Accidents of a more serious nature and needing more serious medical attention are recorded on the LEAs incident and accident website. Occasionally an accident occurs when it becomes necessary to take a child to hospital. If parents/carers cannot be contacted, a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital.

Please make sure the school is kept informed of any changes to emergency contacts especially changes of telephone numbers.

Illness & Medication

When a pupil is taken ill during the day, every effort is made to contact the parent. Where this fails, the responsible adult whose name is recorded at school on the contact information sheet is contacted.

If a child has to take prescribed medicines, we require you to complete a Request for Administration of medicines form. These forms can be obtained from the school office. No medicine will be administered to a child in this school without a completed form. If medicines need to be sent to school and returned home at the end of the day, then it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure it is collected. Medicines will be kept in the School clerk's office unless it needs to be refrigerated. Please ensure all medication is clearly marked with your child's name.

If your child has a more serious medical condition, we ask that a Health Care Plan be completed and the school kept informed of any developments so your child's needs can be catered for appropriately. If appropriate a risk assessment related to the health condition will be devised and shared with all staff.

Health and Safety

Premises & Security

Health and safety is everyone's responsibility. Any hazards reported to a member of staff and are dealt with as soon as possible. Any changes that need to be made to the school as a result of any investigation done through local education authority procedures, advice and guidance.

During the main part of the school day (9am-3pm) access to the school is restricted. For safeguarding reasons, gates to the school are locked, with the exception of one pedestrian gate which is used for shared access to the school and the childcare centre. However, inner gates restrict access to the school. To gain access to the school visitors must ring the office and the school clerk will come and open the gates. The school has a security pad at the entrance to each of the school buildings for staff to gain entry. All visitors to the school must report to the main entrance. There are security locks on all the main entrance doors and pupils are told not to open any doors to adults. Entry for visitors is via the main entrance and they report to the school office to sign the visitor's book and wear an identity badge whilst on the school grounds. A copy of 'Visitors on the school premises' risk assessment is on view in the main reception area for their perusal.

Playground Safety

The playground gates have signs reminding visitors that our gates are locked for the safety of the children. Parents/carers wanting to collect their children from the school/playground must ring the office for access. Risk assessments for playground supervision and use of playground equipment are in place.

End of day handing over safety

At the end of each day, all children from Nursery to Year 6 are handed over to their families/responsible person. Parents/carers of Year 6 children who wish their child to leave the school premises on their own at the end of the school day must provide the school with written consent. Only Year 6 pupils are allowed to leave the school premises without an adult.

Parents/carers for all other year groups must inform the class teacher of who will be collecting their children from school, if there is a change to the normal routine. Children will be kept in school until a member of their family, or an authorised adult comes to take them home.

Dogs are not allowed onto school premises, except for guide dogs.
No smoking or vaping is permitted on any part of the school premises.

Health

Mrs. Chick & Mrs. Herbert hold full First Aid at Work Certificates.

Mrs. Chick is fully trained in Paediatric First Aid. First Aid kits are situated in all school buildings. A defibrillator is available for school and community use and is stored centrally in the school office.

The Health Authority makes annual dental inspections, hearing checks and eye tests for Reception pupils every year or when necessary. The Education Welfare Service, the School Psychological Service and Social Services are consulted as and when required. The school is also committed to the Healthy School initiative. Children with serious health issues are in receipt of a Healthcare plan.

Fire/Lockdown procedures

Fire drills are generally held once every term. Fire alarm systems, equipment and exits are checked regularly. A fire evacuation plan is reviewed annually and copies of the plan are displayed around the school. The school has a Lockdown procedure which is practised and reviewed annually.

Resources

PE Equipment is checked by outside agencies on a regular basis. All portable electrical appliances are tested annually.

Safeguarding & Child protection

The Headteacher is the designated teacher for Child Protection and also has the responsibility for children who are looked after by the local authority. The Interim Deputy Headteacher and ALNCo are the deputy Child Protection officers, who deal with such issues if the headteacher is off site. If any person has a concern for any child within the school, their concerns are reported to the Headteacher, the Interim Deputy Headteacher or ALNCo. All Safeguarding/Child protection records are recorded and stored electronically on My Concern.

All persons that work with the children in our school can only do so with an enhanced criminal records bureau check. The school follows the local authority safer recruitment checks when appointing staff for the school. All staff receive appropriate training on an annual basis.

In order to safeguard pupils effectively there may be occasions when it is necessary to share information about pupils with other appropriate agencies in order to fully support the child.

General and pupil specific risk assessments are reviewed annually.

Pupils with disabilities

As part of our inclusion policy children with disabilities are given opportunities and included into school life as fully as possible. As part of the curriculum all children are made fully aware of what disability means. Pupils with disabilities apply to the school via the local authority admission arrangements. If necessary to improve our provision, reasonable adjustments will be made to the school buildings and facilities, classroom organisation, the deployment of support staff, timetabling and staff training with regard to disability.

Support is given when necessary to enable all children to access all parts of the curriculum. Parents/carers of pupils with a disability are encouraged to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher and the additional learning needs co-ordinator to ensure their child's needs are catered for appropriately.

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 defines a disabled person as one who has 'a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities'. This would include, for example sensory impairments affecting sight and hearing, learning disabilities, severe disfigurements and progressive conditions where impairments are likely to become substantial.

Lunchtime Arrangements

School lunches are cooked on the premises and the variety of meals provided tries to reflect a balanced, healthy diet. Water or milk is provided as a drink with the school lunch. If you wish for your child to bring their own packed lunch we ask that you don't include a glass bottle or a can in their packed lunch for safety reasons. **We ask that no sweets/chocolate are included within a packed lunch in line with our Healthy School practice.**

Lunchtime Supervisors supervise the children during the lunch hour.

All pupils within the primary sector within NPT are eligible for free school meals so there is no charge for school meals.

The dinner menu can be viewed via NPT website. Your child can select which days they wish to have meals and do not need to have dinners for a whole week.

Times of the School Day

	Full time Pupils	Part Time Pupils (Nursery)
Morning		
Start	8.50 a.m.	
Morning Break	10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m.	
End	11.55 a.m.	
Afternoon		
Start	12.55 p.m.	8.50 am.
End	3.20 p.m.	10.50 am.

*am Nursery only at present.

Teaching time

Teaching time during a normal school week meets the recommended hours stated in Welsh Office guidance.

Age	Hours per week
5-7	21
8-11	23.5

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff Preparation for 6 days per year and parents are informed at least 4 weeks in advance when possible.

Attendance

Good attendance is a high priority at Rhos Primary. All schools are required to distinguish in their attendance registers between authorised and unauthorised absences of pupils of compulsory school age. If your child is unable to come to school, then we ask you to contact the school on the first day of their absence to explain why. Their absence will be recorded on the school register.

We operate a 'First day response' system at Rhos which means if your child is absent and we have not heard from you we will contact you to enquire about your child's whereabouts. This is done for safeguarding reasons, so we know where our children are if they have not turned up at school.

Pupil's attendance is monitored daily by the school and home visits are made by our Education Welfare Officer (EWO), Mrs K Gibbson, in the event of long-term unexplained absences.

Children whose attendance falls below 90% causes us great concern and parents are notified. In the event of persistent unacceptable absences (below 80%) the local authority are able to fine parents/carers who do not comply with the local authority attendance policy. More information is available from the local authority and the school office.

In line with LEA guidance absences due to family holidays will not be authorised. If your child is absent from school due to a holiday then they will receive an unauthorised mark for the duration of their absence.

Good attendance celebrated and praised as a weekly focus in assembly and children who achieve 100% per term receive a prize. The Governing Body reward children whose annual attendance is 100%.

All pupils are expected to arrive punctually at school and leave promptly at the end of the school day. A 'Late Book' is kept in the main office to record poor punctuality. If pupils are collected early before the end of the school day, parents/carers are required to sign them out in at the school office.

Attendance information for the recent academic year is commented upon in the Annual Governors Report to Parents/Carers.

100% Attendance	0 days of learning missed	Best chance of success
95% Attendance	2 weeks of learning missed	Good attendance but may impact on learning
90% Attendance	4 weeks of learning missed	
85% Attendance	5 ½ weeks learning missed	Poor attendance will impact on learning.
80% Attendance	At least 7 ½ weeks of learning missed	
75% Attendance	Nearly 10 weeks missed	Very poor attendance You are at risk of prosecution!

Percentage Attendance for 2024 - 2025:

The following information covers pupils from September 2023 until July 2024.

Nursery 1	Nursery 2	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
88.9	85.9	89.5	90.6	92.7	92.5	93.8	93.7	95

Extra-Curricular activities

As an integral part of the school curriculum, we endeavour to enrich the pupils' education with a range of extra-curricular experiences. Wherever possible we include a strong sense of cynefin within our work and purposefully utilise the community and locality to support pupils' learning. In addition to the Curriculum for Wales, the school offers a range of after school clubs. These are mostly carried out during the Spring/Summer term. External providers can also provide extra-curricular activities, if there is a cost for these clubs the monies collected go directly to the providers and has nothing to do with the school.

Extra-curricular clubs vary according to the time of year and pupil interest. Previous clubs that have been available include; Eco/Gardening, IT/Coding, Choir, Multi-sports, Forest School, Art and Craft, French, Drama and Embroidery. We aim to offer experiences that our pupils may not be able to access outside of school.

We also host a Breakfast Club which runs from 8.10 a.m. each morning where the pupils can have breakfast before school starts and this is served until 8.30 a.m. (last entry 8.25am). The club is optional, free and all full-time pupils can attend. The pupils have a choice of cereals, toast and a drink. Pupils are supervised by Breakfast Club staff in the hall during this time.

Parents/carers will need to complete a consent form for their child to attend Breakfast Club and an adult **must** accompany their child to the Breakfast Club door daily. Parents/carers must ensure that their contact details are up to date for Breakfast Club staff in case of emergencies.

School Uniform

We believe that the wearing of school uniform contributes to a sense of belonging to the school community and helps to develop a sense of pride in the school. We do not stipulate that the school logo has to be on any item of uniform. The agreed uniform is any combination of the following:

Blue/White polo shirt

Grey pinafore dresses/skirts/trousers or joggers

Blue sweatshirt or cardigan

Sensible shoes (if laced, please teach your child to tie their own laces)

No jewellery except small stud earrings to be worn

Children can wear a wristwatch that is not electronic

We do expect children to bring a coat to school even if it is not raining when they leave the house as you can never predict the weather in Wales!

In summer children can wear formal shorts (at appropriate length - no denim). Blue and white gingham dresses can be worn.

We ask that each piece of clothing be clearly marked with your child's name.

Also available are PE kit bags and Book bags. Some uniform items are available online with Tesco. All the above can be supplied by:

Sportec
Unit 5 Abbey Road Industrial Estate
Neath
SA10 7DN
Tel - 01639 632250 Sportec.co.uk

Clothes for Physical Education

All children are encouraged to come to school in suitable clothing for PE/Games lessons. Their clothing should be loose and comfortable and appropriate for the weather. We do not accept 'crop-tops' as acceptable clothing. For any outdoor games sessions trainers are required, with a sweatshirt or joggers during the winter months. We ask that each piece of clothing be clearly marked with your child/children's name.

No jewellery is permitted. Otherwise, earrings need to be covered with a plaster before coming to school. You will be informed of your child's PE/Games Day.

PE/Games uniform - plain blue T-shirt/shorts/joggers

Liaison with other schools

The school has effective links with the various schools in the locality. Joint ventures have been undertaken on agreed projects and staff from partner primaries within the cluster meet to discuss progress and pedagogy.

We have very good links with our local comprehensive school. Transition projects provide an excellent opportunity for pupils to build successful relationships with staff and pupils of Cwmtawe Community School. Past pupils have the opportunity to come to Rhos to support specific projects, and we have been able to offer work experience to those who are interested in following a career in education/catering.

Staff attend transition meetings and we are working together with Cwmtawe and all feeder primaries to develop a shared understanding of progression. The Headteachers from the partner primary schools with the Cwmtawe Cluster meet with Mr. Lee Hitchings (HT of Cwmtawe Community School) on a termly basis to ensure effective communication.

Charging and Remissions

Wherever possible, we try to arrange visits for our pupils, relevant to the learning taking place in school. In principle, all educational visits should be freely available to all children. Parents/carers are asked to make voluntary contributions to cover the cost of transport and/or entrance fee for educational visits. However, if there is not a significant contribution then trips will be cancelled, the school cannot afford to subsidise all trips. Many curricular experiences are subsidised by the school. Goodwill is necessary if activities are to continue. The school will at all times try to keep financial requests to a minimum, without restricting the range of educational experiences offered. For more details, please ask to see a copy of our charging and remissions policy. If you have any concerns/worries regarding payment, please come and see us.

Home Learning

We believe that the work of the school is greatly enhanced when parents share their children's learning. We send home reading books to encourage pupils to practise their skills (schematic & library). As the children progress with their reading skills they are encouraged to take home tricky words and possibly some written homework can be sent home to reinforce what has been taught in class.

Again, parents are asked to become involved in their child's learning by supervising and supporting any work done at home. A partnership between teaching staff and parents is invaluable in promoting literacy and numeracy - essential skills for later learning.

If you have any queries regarding supporting your child at home, please do not hesitate to speak to their class teacher.

Parental/Carer Liaison/Reporting to Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are encouraged to take an active part in the life of the school in addition to offering assistance on a voluntary basis. We encourage parents/carers to contact the school to offer any expertise they may have to offer e.g. sewing or knitting, listening to children read, craft work, modelling, cookery etc. we do ask that if a parent/carers/volunteer is a regular visitor to the school they must have a DBS.

Equally the same welcome is extended to parents/carers to discuss their children's progress or any other concerns.

We hold an initial 'Meet & Greet' the class teacher which is held at the end of the school year so parents can meet their child's new teacher and receive information regarding any new procedures or routines.

During the school year we hold both formal and informal parental open evenings which allows parents to come in and see/discuss their child's progress with the class teacher. During the Autumn Term 1-1 parent's evening's are held along with a stay and learn with me session. In the Spring term annual reports are sent out to parents including targets to work on for the rest of the year as well as a stay and learn with me session. In the Summer Term we hold another stay and learn with me session and an end of year learning look for parent's to see their child's work.

The development of a close relationship between school and home demands commitment and time. It also needs the right balance of space and trust. An appreciation of, and confidence in each other's role, makes a purposeful and happy place where children feel at ease, can work to reach their full potential and can gain maximum benefit from their schooling.

We also have Friends of Rhos Primary, a group of parents/carers, staff, Governors and members of the community who support us through organising events such as Christmas Fetes, Easter Fayres etc. Parents/carers are also represented on the Governing Body.

We also run a Toddler playgroup called Rhos Wrigglers. They meet in school every Friday afternoon 2.25- 3.15. We hope by running this playgroup families will not only benefit socially from meeting others but also gain valuable learning experiences through play. We aim for the good practice that exists within playgroup be further developed at home and give perspective new pupils an extra boost. The playgroup is run by a qualified member of staff.

Complaints

We aim to keep you as fully informed as possible regarding your child/children and school. In the first instance you can speak to your child's teacher. You are invited to get in touch with the Headteacher at any time should you require further information or have any further concerns or worries.

We all share ambitions for your child. In the unlikely event that your worries are not resolved by the school, you may write to the Chairperson of the Governing Body. A copy of the Complaints Policy can be obtained from the school office.

Routine Procedures

Labelling

We would appreciate it if every article of outer clothing is clearly labelled. Mislaid articles of clothing present a real problem if unnamed.

Snacks

We encourage the children to bring fresh vegetables or a piece of fruit to eat at break time if they wish. Sweets, chocolate or crisps **are not** permitted in school as a snack. Access to drinking water is available during the school day. Pupils in Nursery - Year 2 are entitled to free milk.

Jewellery

Wearing jewellery is not appropriate to the activities the children take part in during the school day. If earrings are to be worn, only the stud or small sleeper types are acceptable. A non-electronic watch may be worn.

Headlice

Another potential difficulty. Please make every possible effort to check your child's hair frequently, as classrooms appear to provide ideal breeding grounds. Please inform us as to whether your child has caught them. Literature on the treatment of headlice is available from the School Health Nurse who will also pay a home visit to offer further advice.

And to conclude.....

Please remember -

Every child is different, they develop at different times and at their own rate, they are individuals and so we ask for their sake, please try not to compare them with other children, they are - who they are, and will strive to be - whatever they will be.

Please speak highly to others about the good things that happen at Rhos Primary School where we hope your child enjoys many happy years of schooling. We look forward to your child joining our Rhos Primary Family.

All information correct at time of publishing.

