



Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Penderyn.
School Prospectus

Approved by Governing Body: Summer 2024

Signed (Chair of Governors): Mrs P Oliver

Signed (Headteacher): Mr A Wood

Review Date: Summer 2025

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Penderyn Prospectus.
(March 2025).

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Penderyn,

Pontprenllwyd,
Penderyn,
Aberdare,
Rhondda Cynon Taf
CF44 9JW
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www.penderynpri.cymru



Be All That You Can!

The School:

Type of School

Welsh Language County Primary School

Age Range

3 – 11

Headteacher
Deputy Headteacher
Chair of Governors
Telephone
E-mail
Website

Mr. A. Wood
Mrs N Thomas
Mrs P Oliver
01685 811259
Admin@Penderynprimary.rctcbc.cymru
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Local Authority

Rhondda Cynon Taff,
Tŷ Trevithick,
Abercynon,
Mountain Ash.
CF45 4UQ.
Tel: 01443 744005



Welcome to the Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Penderyn Prospectus. In January 2007 a brand new building was opened by the authority. The campus includes Multi Use Games Area, woodland area and secure playgrounds. We have enough toilets in school for the number of children which are cleaned daily to a high standard. Our aim is to give children a variety of experiences in a safe environment and to make healthy choices.

If you have any questions regarding the school please contact us.

School Security: Health & Safety Issues.

All parents and visitors are kindly asked to note:

- the parking limitations on the road;
- the need to avoid parking on the “hazard” sections and in the bus lane;
- **Please report to reception when you arrive in school.** At the start of the school day parents will leave the children with a member of staff at the front door.
(Access is gained by ringing the buzzer on the door at reception).

NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL YARD WITHOUT PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH THE HEADTEACHER

Admission Arrangements.

All Admission Arrangements to school are administered by the Local Authority.

Pupils are currently admitted at the beginning of the school year immediately following their third birthday.

- An interest of ‘Pupils’ Admission’ waiting list is held at the school office. Pupils’ names are listed at any time up to the third birthday. Admission arrangements from RCT are sent to parents during the academic year before they wish to start school. These are then completed electronically and returned to RCT.
- Parents are encouraged to bring their young children on visits to the Nursery classes during the term prior to the child officially starting school. This can be arranged by making an appointment with the nursery teachers.

School Organisation.

The school caters for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 years. Where the education through the medium of Welsh. (English taught to older children in Year 3 - 6).

Class Organisation 2024/2025.

Age Range	Teachers
Meithrin (Nursey)	Miss B Benney
Dosbarth Derbyn (Reception)/ Blwyddyn (Year) 1	Mrs N Thomas
Dosbarth Blwyddyn 1 & 2	Mrs M Jones
Dosbarth Blwyddyn 2 & 3	Mrs J Porter
Dosbarth Blwyddyn 4 & 5	Mrs C Davies
Dosbarth Blwyddyn 5 & 6	Miss C Addiscott

There are occasions when we have to ‘split’ year groups to comply with Welsh Government class size regulations. This will be done sensitively by the school taking into account the age, ability, maturity and friendship groups of children. The above classes are supported by a group of hard working and well qualified Learning Support Assistants & Higher Level Teaching Assistants.

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

It is our aim that each child should derive an abundance of satisfaction and pleasure from the early experiences that they encounter. We believe that when this has been achieved, a healthy attitude towards learning in general will have been fostered, in readiness for the child’s more formal learning in later years.

We aim to create a welcoming, caring, happy and exciting environment, filled with lively interest and challenge. When this has been achieved, each child can develop according to their individual needs and ability. This will be the basis for provision to be made for each child to develop socially, emotionally, physically, intellectually, morally and aesthetically, so that they may progress to the next stage of education with confidence and the will to learn.

From September 2022 the Curriculum for Wales was introduced. (See website for more detail).

The new curriculum is built on the **four purposes of the curriculum** for learners to become:

- **Ambitious and Capable Learners.**
- **Enterprising and Creative Contributors.**
- **Ethically informed Citizens of Wales and the World.**
- **Healthy and confident individuals**

The new areas of the curriculum are known as **Areas of Learning and Experiences** which are:

- **Health and Wellbeing.**
- **Science and Technology.**
- **Language, Literacy and Communication.**
- **Maths and Numeracy.**
- **Expressive Arts.**
- **Humanities.**

All of these areas are as important as each other and interlinked. However,

- Language, Literacy and Communication.
- Maths and Numeracy.
- Digital competence,

are to be developed across all areas of the AoLE's.

The progression steps within the curriculum are:

Progression Step 1: Nursery and Reception.

Progression Step 2: Years 1, 2 and 3.

Progression Step 3: Years 4, 5 and 6.

Unfortunately, owing to the size of the school our classes don't fall into neat little compartments. The new curriculum is based on a continuum of learning as pupils progress

Any concerns regarding the curriculum should be directed to the headteacher.

Safeguarding

Schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Parents/carers should know that this is a priority at Ysgol Gynradd Penderyn to protect the well being of all pupils in the school as outlined in the All Wales Child Protection Procedures. It requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

In our school there are 6 Safeguarding Officers who have overall responsibility for child protection matters and act as a source of advice and support to other school staff.

These are:

Mr A Wood:	Headteacher
Mrs N Thomas:	Deputy Headteacher
Miss B Benney:	Teacher
Mrs A May:	School Clerk
Mrs M Amos:	Breakfast Club & Midday Supervisor
Mrs C Davies:	Teacher

Our school also has a nominated Child Protection Governor (**Mrs P Oliver**) who has to ensure that the school has a Safeguarding policy in place, which is consistent with the All Wales Child Protection Procedures and that all staff in the school must follow correct procedures where there are concerns or suspicions of child abuse.

If we receive information about a child which suggests that he/she has been abused or at risk of being abused, we have a duty to refer those concerns to the social services department. The Headteacher has no discretion in this matter whatsoever.

Our first concerns as a school is your child's welfare and where we have general concerns, these will be raised with you and we would want to work with you to remedy the situation. However, there may be concerns, as listed above, where we have to talk to other agencies before we contact you. Should this be necessary, we want to reassure you that any concerns we have about your child will then be fully discussed with you in a way which is consistent with your child's best interests. If concerns are raised regarding the headteacher the Chair of Governors (Mrs P Oliver) must be informed.

Children Looked After

The headteacher (Arwel Wood) has responsibility for the progress and welfare of Looked After Children to give support and equality for all children.

Use of the Welsh Language

Welsh is the official language of the school. All activities are introduced through the medium of Welsh. English is taught formally from Year 3 onwards.

Through the principles of the Welsh Charter emphasis is placed on developing Welsh in the school environment – including a greater awareness of Welsh media, music and Apps.

Nursery Playground



Comprehensive Education

Pupils who have received a Welsh medium education usually transfer to Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun.

The School Day

Parents are reminded not to enter or park in the staff car park.

School starts **promptly** at 9.00 a.m. each day.

Morning break:	10.30 a.m. to 10.50 a.m.	
Mid-day meal:	Nursery and Infant classes	12.00 noon.
	Junior classes	12.15 p.m.
Afternoon session begins at	1.15 p.m.	
Afternoon break	2.45 to 3p.m.	
Dismissal at the end of the day	3.30 p.m.	

No child is permitted to leave the school premises during official opening hours unless the school has been informed.

Example School Activities

We provide a variety of school activities some are listed below:

- Swimming, athletics & games.
- Violin Instruments.
- Harp Lessons
- Football, cricket & netball
- Urdd competitions.
- Various school concerts
- Residential visits to Llain Residential Centre.
- Local Educational visits
- Links with the Community.

General Information

Punctuality and attendance.

Please ensure that your child arrives at school punctually. Persistent lateness means that your child is missing vital learning experiences, coupled with the fact that children who are continually late, arrive in the classroom feeling embarrassed and emotionally upset. Persistent absence from school causes a child to lose continuity, and effects learning. Please note however, that in the interest of child safety, parents are asked not to send their children to school too early in the morning. **No pupil should arrive on the premises before 8.45a.m. If your child is absent for whatever reason, the school must be informed by letter or telephone, failure to do so means that the absence will be treated as unauthorised.**

We would like children to attend school as often as possible. We comply with RCT Guidelines regarding the School Attendance Policy.

Breakfast Club

The school has a breakfast club which is available from 8:15am to 8:30am to provide a healthy choice for the children at the start of the school day.

School Meals

School meals are cooked on the school premises.

If you know that your child will arrive late at school, and you wish to order a school meal, please telephone the school office by 9.30a.m.

Parents' Visits

- Open evenings/days are held on a regular basis, when parents are invited to the school to discuss their child's progress with the teacher concerned.
- Parents are also welcome to visit the school at any time if they need information or guidance in connection with their children's education.
- It would, however, be appreciated if definite appointments were made, by telephone, prior to each visit.

Ysgol Gynradd Penderyn Parent Teacher Friends Association (PTFA).

Parents are invited to join the PTFA, which has given the school invaluable support in raising funds. The Annual General Meeting of the Association is held at the beginning of each school year. All parents are notified of these dates and are welcome to attend. Activities are organised by the parents throughout the year e.g. School Fetes, discos etc. Through these activities, the association has collected thousands of pounds, which has been of great benefit to the school.

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)



School Reports

Parents receive an interim report termly and an end of academic year report.

School Uniform.

We encourage all children to wear the school uniform. (Although it is not statutory for primary school aged children).

Boys: Grey trousers, royal blue sweatshirt, pale blue polo shirt.

Girls: Grey skirt or gymslip, royal blue jumper or cardigan, pale blue polo shirt.

All clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

PE Kits

Your child will need a bag, clearly marked with his or her name, containing a suitable PE kit shirt and trainers.

Tracksuits

It is advisable for Nursery/Infant children to wear tracksuits to school on PE days, to make changing easier.

Jewellery

No jewellery is to be worn at the school. Pupils with pierced ears will be allowed to wear studs only. Do not allow your child to wear bracelets, rings or necklaces, as these get lost from time to time.

Relationships & Sexual Education

Relationships & Sexual Education themes are integrated into a variety of curriculum areas. Relevant information and questions will be sensitively discussed, taking full account of the children's age and maturity. Many themes are introduced by the school nurse – especially at the end of year 6.

Parents who wish to discuss this issue further are invited to contact the headteacher.

CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (A.L.N.)

We monitor every child's progress from the first day in school. If a child experiences difficulties the class teacher will discuss these problems with the parents as soon as possible and a record of concern will be completed. The school operates an ALN Policy which complies with Welsh Government Legislation & Guidance. If necessary, having received the parents' permission, the child will be seen by the relevant experts from the County such as the Learning Support Department, or Child Psychology Department. A further screening and support programme can then be commenced following further discussions with the parents to support the needs of all children in school. Miss C Davies is the school Additional Learning Needs Coordinator.

SCHOOL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY (including provision for disabled pupils)

The school aims not to discriminate against anyone, be they staff, pupil, parent or governor on the grounds of their sex, race, colour, religion, nationality, ability, disability, ethnic or national origins. This policy is in line with the Race Relations Act, covering both direct and indirect discrimination. A copy of the school policy is available from the headteacher.

The school cannot refuse entry to the school to any pupil with a physical disability. We offer a full curriculum for all pupils but modifications may be made as necessary. Our school complies with accessibility for children and adults who have limited mobility.

SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

At Ysgol Gynradd Penderyn all Curriculum for Wales education is free. A small number of additional activities incurring a small charge are offered to complement these studies.

Further activities such as educational visits may request a voluntary contribution. Parents are advised by letter in such circumstances. No child is excluded from such activities where a voluntary payment is not forthcoming. Residential courses are advertised and charged for as necessary. Full details are available in the school's Charging Policy document.

DAILY WORSHIP / RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Assemblies occur daily either in the class or the whole school. The whole school assemblies are sometimes include external speakers.

Parents not wishing their children to attend a Christian assembly should inform the headteacher in writing. The school has a comprehensive scheme of work for religious education. This encourages knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith and other faiths. Parents are encouraged to contact the headteacher if they wish to discuss lesson content further.

PASTORAL CARE

Every teacher is responsible for the children in their class. The headteacher has overall responsibility for the school.

If a child is ill, or has had a minor accident, a member of staff will attend to the child and details of the incident noted in the accident book. A representative from the school will contact the parents if necessary. It is therefore of great importance that the school has the correct address, home or work telephone number, particularly if you have moved house or job. An additional emergency contact number is also required.

HEALTH

In the event of a child being unwell or having an accident in school:-

*Parents will be contacted

*If we are unable to contact parents (or another contact) and the injury/illness causes concern the Health Centre or Hospital will be contacted.

Parents are asked to keep their child at home for 48 hours if he/she has diarrhoea or a stomach upset.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND OTHER CLOSURES

Parents will be issued with a full list of holidays at the beginning of the academic year.

Information regarding other closures such as Teacher Training Days will be released as soon as known.

Every effort is made to keep the school open during inclement weather and during unforeseen events (loss of electricity, water, heating etc.). However, parents are respectfully asked to ensure that the school has an emergency contact name/telephone number at all times

School Behaviour

Whilst at school we expect the children to adhere to a number of rules and regulations. These are necessary to ensure the school runs smoothly, to prevent accidents, foster good behaviour and courtesy and keep the school in good order. Courtesy, respect, consideration and thoughtfulness are qualities which we feel are important and underline the ethos of the school. Our aim is to develop self-discipline and respect within every pupil.

Co-operation between the school and home is essential when dealing with cases of serious misconduct. The school rewards good behaviour to encourage and promote courtesy and good social manners.

Examples of school rules;

1. When the weather is reasonable, all children play on the yard during break times and the dinner time unless they have been instructed otherwise;
2. No climbing of walls or bars;
3. Children should inform the teacher on duty if any problems arise, or the mid-day supervisor during the dinner break;
4. No sweets / gum / energy drinks are to be brought to the school;
5. Children are to walk sensibly in the corridor;
6. Any litter should be placed in the appropriate bin;
7. Staff have to be respected and children should be courteous;
8. Children should not bring valuables to school. (If a phone is brought to school it should be handed in to reception).
12. Jewellery is not allowed.

Respect is the emphasis in our discipline policy - self respect, respect for others and property. It is not acceptable to:

- *use words that hurt
- *steal
- *damage property
- *hit others
- *challenge the authority of a member of staff
- *tell lies
- *swear

Pupils are not allowed to leave the school campus.

We consider bullying - orally, physically or leaving others out of the play circle thus creating unhappiness, as anti-social behaviour. Children are encouraged to tell an adult if they're upset or concerned.

IMPLEMENTING THE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

- *constant reminding of basic rules
- *oral discipline
- *a pupil may lose favours such as playtime - if there is unacceptable behaviour

Parents are invited to school to discuss a problem if a pupil shows constant lack of acceptable behaviour. If a pupil is responsible for damaging school property parents will be asked to pay the cost of repair.

EXCLUSION

As a last resort we implement the process of exclusion. Rhondda Cynon Taf guidelines are followed regarding exclusion of pupils from school (details from school).

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES / SPORTING AIMS AND PROVISION FOR SPORT

The school offers a variety of activities and experiences to the children, both during the day and after school hours. They vary from academic to social events, all of which we feel to be of great importance to the child and school in terms of development, happiness and achievement. These include residential courses to Llain Centre.

The school fosters a mixed gender approach to all physical education activities. Participation is our goal at all times. Numerous opportunities are provided for individual progress to be made regardless of ability including netball, football, rugby, cricket, athletics, hockey etc. We give our children guidance to make healthy choices.

MEDICINE

The school will be responsible for administering **some** medicines to children. This will be the responsibility of the Headteacher at his discretion. It is imperative that the parents send a letter with their child noting the medicine, why it needs to be taken, how much to be taken and the timing. Parents of children with specific medical conditions should contact the headteacher.

FIRE DRILL

There will be a Fire Drill at least once every term.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Rhondda Cynon Taff Education Committee has a fixed procedure to process complaints that are connected with the school curriculum and other relevant matters. The school also operates a Complaints Policy (Available on the school website). This aims to deal with a wide variety of possible complaints. At all times communication between home and school is encouraged. Parents have various options open to them.

The Complaints Procedure is as follows:

In the first instance, the teacher should be contacted in order to try and resolve the problem at school level. If this proves to be unsuccessful, then parents can formally write to / approach -

- a) The Headteacher,
- b) The Chair of Governors, (please send letter to school to be forwarded to the Chair of Governors).

CONCLUSION

We hope that this information has helped to answer your queries with regard to our school. However, no brochure can fully reflect the organisation and atmosphere of the school. You are therefore urged to make an appointment to visit the school and see us at work. You will then be able to experience for yourself the happy, enthusiastic spirit. A warm welcome awaits you.

*The information published in this brochure is accurate at the time of its publication – March 2025.
The school's Governing Body reserves the right to make changes in the arrangements at a later date.*