

LLAWLYFR PROSPECTUS

2014-2015



YSGOL PENNANT

Penybontfawr
Croesoswallt
Powys,
SY10 0PA

Telephone 01691 860 326
office@pennant.powys.sch.uk

Ysgol Pennant is a small village school in the beautiful rural setting of the village of Penybontfawr, and serves the area surrounding Penybontfawr, Hirnant, Llanwddyn and Llangynog.

Our vision is to provide an environment that inspires all to achieve the best for themselves and for others. Our school will pursue high standards in all aspects of school life where children can reach their full potential. We will strive to provide a wide range of opportunities in a caring, secure and culturally enriching environment.

The language of the school is Welsh. All children starting school are treated sensitively. By the time they leave they have gained immensely from a bilingual learning experience.

The school is at the centre of village life and enjoys sharing the excellent facilities of the adjoining Community Centre. It plays a very important role locally, providing strong links between children, their families and the wider community, thus promoting attitudes of mutual respect and responsibility.

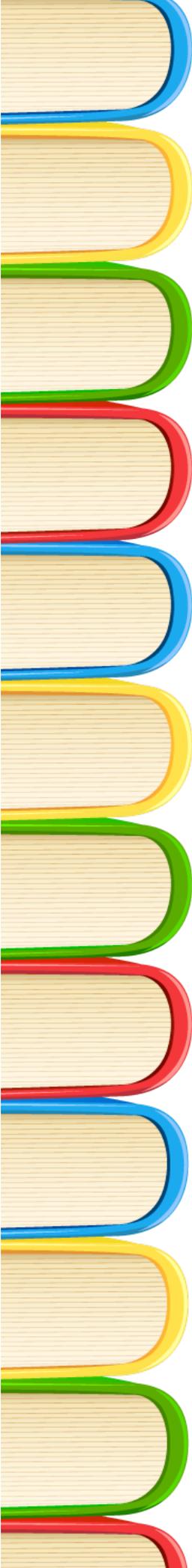


STAFF September 2014

Headteacher:	Mrs Annwen Watkins
Foundation Phase teachers:	Mrs Margaret Davies Mrs Sian Vaughan Jones Miss Lowri Roberts
Yrs 2, 3 & 4 teacher:	Miss Emma Watkins
Yrs 5 & 6 teachers:	Mrs Annwen Watkins Mrs Margaret Davies
Special needs teacher:	Mrs Carys Evans
Music teacher:	Mrs Margaret Davies
Art teacher:	Mrs Hilary Roberts
Teaching assistants:	Mrs Beryl Morris Ms Janet Roberts Mrs Bethan Page Miss Rhian Owen Miss Sara Jones
Music tutors:	Mrs C Ross - violin and recorder Mrs E Bickerton – harp Mr Michael Wilcock – guitar
Cook:	Mrs Eurgain Johnson
Senior Supervisory Assistant:	Mrs Beryl Morris
Assistant Cook:	Mrs Eleri Lewis

We also employ supply teachers from time to time.





GOVERNORS

Chairman, Co-opted	Mr Graham Roberts, Gelli Uchaf, Penybontfawr Tel: 01691 860 404
Headteacher:	Mrs Annwen Watkins
LEA Appointed:	Mrs Ursula Owen
LEA Appointed:	Councillor Darren Mayer
Community Council Rep:	Mr Tommy Harris
Community Council Rep:	Mr Peter Williams
Parents' Representative:	Mr Geraint Jones (Vice Chair)
Parents' Representative:	Mrs Susana Davies
Parents' Representative:	Ms Suzanne Marsden
Teacher Governor:	Mrs Sian Vaughan Jones
Clerk:	Ms Janet Roberts

Powys County Council School Contacts Education Area Offices:

Llandrindod	Y Drenewydd
Powys County Hall Llandrindod Wells Powys LD1 5LG Tel: 01597 826000	Newtown Area Office Old College Off Station Road Newtown Powys SY16 1BE Tel: 01686 626395

Primary & Secondary School Admissions/School Transport:

Anne Wozencraft: Tel. No. 01597 826455
Email: anne.wozencraft@powys.gov.uk

Applying for School Places / Admissions

Applications should be made for a child to start school well in advance. Forms are available on the Authority's website and also on the school website.

LOCAL MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS

Under the Powys Scheme of local management of schools, all matters concerning finance and personnel have been delegated to the Headteacher and the Governing Body.



WELCOME TO YSGOL PENNANT

If your child is to join us for the first time, we welcome you as parents and look forward to a happy and successful association over the coming years.

At Ysgol Pennant, we value each one of our pupils; we also value everyone's right to be different and to excel in different ways. We respect our pupils equally, and we believe that all of them can be helped to develop further and learn more, provided that they too play their part. The close personal interest that we take in each pupil is a wonderful encouragement to young children.

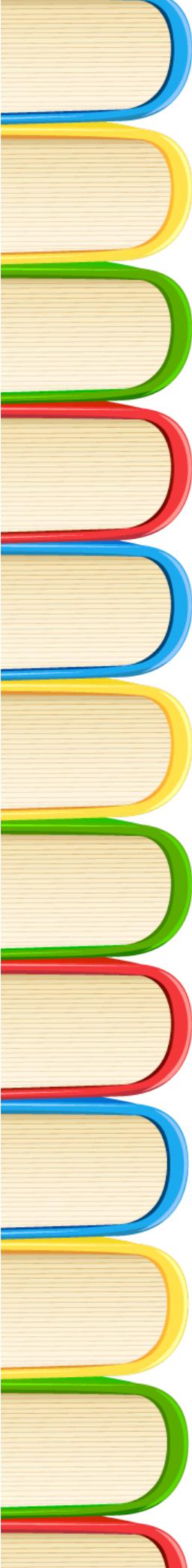
As parents, you are invited to share in working towards the full development of your child through close contact with the school. We aim to build up positive, warm relationships with you because we feel that education is a partnership between home and school.

ADMISSION POLICY

All children are legally required to attend school from the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. However, it is the policy of the Governing Body and the Education Authority that children may be admitted to school in the term of their fourth birthday. We are happy to organise a phased start to school for the new entrants.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

At Ysgol Pennant we aim to regard all people - both staff and pupils - with equal respect, regardless of gender or race and provide an educational and social environment that will support and draw on the contributions of all individuals and groups within the school. Boys and girls are given equal access to all aspects of the curriculum and to the development of reading, writing and numeracy. All children have equal access to ICT. We respect the entitlement of all children, including pupils with disabilities and special educational needs to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum, within the framework of the National Curriculum integrated as fully as possible into all areas of school life.



OUR AIMS

Our aims are:

- to provide each child with a fully bilingual primary education commensurate with his/her aptitude and potential.
- to treat each child as an individual and cater for his/her needs in terms of academic achievement, social development, aesthetic appreciation and spiritual awareness.
- to instil knowledge, skills and practical ability which will be relevant to adult life and employment in a rapidly changing world.
- to encourage self-awareness and respect.
- to develop a responsible and independent attitude to work and learning, thus developing lively, enquiring minds, and the ability to question and argue rationally.
- to foster good manners and respect for the rights, views and property of others thus promoting good relationships and a sense of belonging to the school community.
- to promote an understanding of the contemporary world and the independence of individuals, groups and nations.
- to foster an appreciation of human achievement in every sphere.
- to engender respect for moral and religious values, leading to a tolerance of other peoples and other life styles.
- to foster links between school, home and local community and cultivate the foundations of mutual respect and responsibility.
- to use the financial resources at our disposal to provide good accommodation, surroundings and highest possible levels of staffing and equipment.
- to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school creates an environment which treats all individuals with dignity and respect, to promote good relations between people of different ethnic and national groups, to encourage trust and co-operative working and to ensure that all pupils and staff understand and celebrate diversity.

It is our intention to create a school where children are happy, have a positive attitude to work and, at the end of the day, have the satisfaction of a good job well done. We believe in high standards of behaviour, work and presentation of work and we strive to provide a well-ordered environment in which all are fully aware of behavioural expectations. We hope that your child will enjoy his/her primary school life and that by working together home, school and community we can provide a firm foundation for your child's future.

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

From an academic point of view, it is important that you talk to your children, listen to them and read stories to them. Young children can help with cooking and other domestic tasks. Puzzles, drawing, painting and other creative activities will help to stimulate your child's developing mind. When something has been made, encourage your child to talk about it. Always praise your child, praise works wonders with young children, particularly when it comes from the most important people in their lives. You can boost a child's confidence and help them make a smooth start by letting them do things for themselves, e.g. dressing and putting on shoes, using a toilet and washing hands, using a knife and fork and tidying up toys.



ORGANISATION

Ysgol Pennant is a bilingual primary school with 72 pupils on roll. (July 2014)
The organisation of activities within the school is designed to make the best possible use of resources, building design and teacher expertise.

The children work in three classes.

Classes usually have these year groups:

Foundation Phase Class: Nursery, Reception and Year 1.

Year 2, 3 & 4

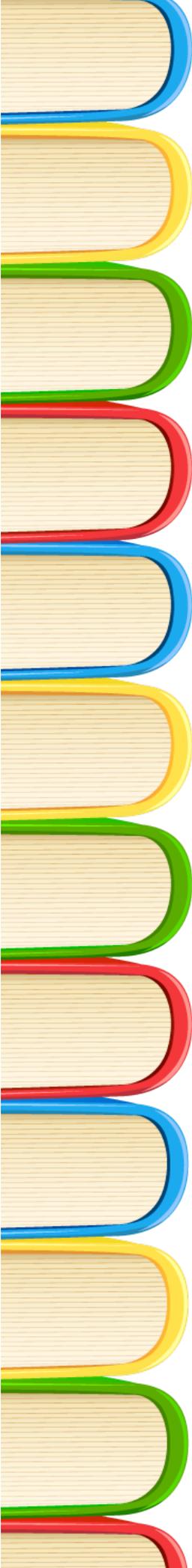
Year 5 and 6

All classes cater for all abilities and work in various ways, occasionally as individuals or in small groups and occasionally in whole class teaching situations. This approach is also maintained by the contribution of our part-time staff.

The school day is arranged as follows:

Breakfast Club	8.00 – 8.45am
School begins:	9:00 am
Collective Worship: Class or Whole School	9:10 - 9:30
Lessons	9:30 – 10:30
Morning Break	10:30 - 10:45
Lessons	10:45 - 12:00
Lunch	12:00 - 1:00
Lessons	1:00 - 2:15
Afternoon Break	2:15 - 2:30
Lessons	2:30 - 3:25
School Day Ends	3:30





Weekly Lesson Time (excluding Collective Worship and breaks) 23 hrs 45 mins

Children are encouraged to arrive and leave school at a sensible time - within ten minutes of the start and close of school. The school will not be held responsible for any child arriving before 8.45am, or remaining later than 3.40pm, unless an arrangement has been made with the Headteacher. We expect children to arrive between 8:00 and 8:20am if they are attending breakfast club.

IF YOU ARE LATE TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD, PLEASE TELEPHONE 01691 860326

We expect all Infant children to be accompanied by a responsible adult. **Please notify us of any changes from your normal arrangement, e.g. a child visiting another's house.**

ROAD SAFETY AND PARKING

Please use the Community Car Park to drop and pick up children or use the unofficial 'one way system' outside the school so that the children leave the car on the school side of the road. Please do not obstruct the road for other users. No vehicles to be parked on school yard during the school day.



PARENTS' EVENINGS

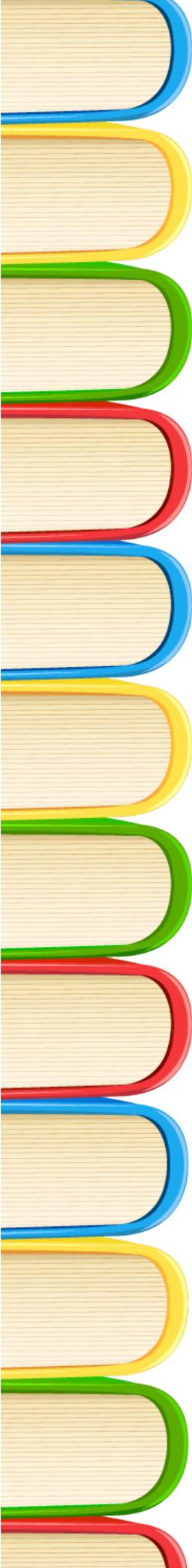
Parent evenings are held each term. Parents are allocated a short time to speak to class teachers about their child's work and to look at the work that has been completed in class. Personal targets are discussed and set at these meetings. The staff value these consultation evenings and the opportunity to meet all parents.



If you have any concern about your child's education at Ysgol Pennant you are welcome to arrange a meeting to see the class teacher or headteacher at any mutually convenient time. We have an open door policy and parents are encouraged to come to discuss any issues with either the class teacher or headteacher. We suggest that you make an appointment before hand please.

PASTORAL CARE

Children are always in the care of a responsible adult during the school day. When children are first enrolled, parents are asked to inform the school of any health problems relevant to their child. It is important that the headteacher and the staff are fully aware of these when a child starts school. Parents will be handed a pack with various forms to be completed. The School Nurse checks children's hearing, sight and speech regularly.



Pupils with specific needs or problems will receive help from the appropriate support service, in consultation with the parents. Teachers treat minor injuries in school. During the lunch hour, the lunchtime supervisor deals with minor injuries and reports these and all accidents to the Headteacher. When a child needs to be sent home or requires hospital treatment, parents are contacted as soon as possible. For this purpose the following contact telephone numbers are necessary.

- a) of parents' homes and places of work
- b) of a relative or close friend to whom a child can be taken if parents are unavailable.
- c) of the child's doctor

MEDICINES AND TABLETS

It should be possible for any prescribed medication to be given at home, before and after school. If it is necessary for a child to have any medication at school, we ask that parents come in to administer it. It is the parents' responsibility to supervise children taking medication during school hours. If a child needs to bring an inhaler to school and suffering from 'asthma' please contact your child's class teacher to complete the paperwork involved with this.

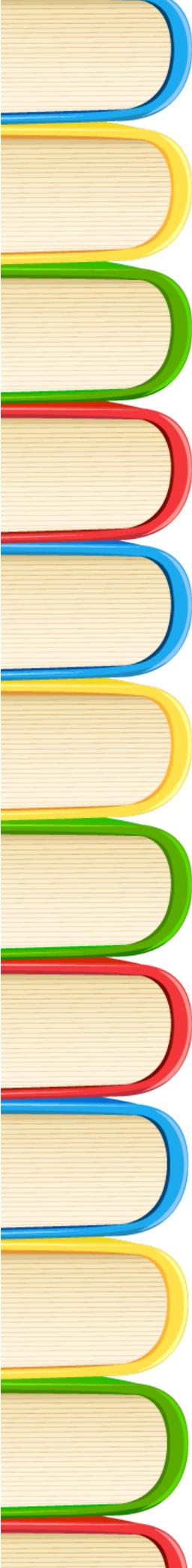
Usually children with symptoms of sickness and diarrhoea recover quickly. However such illness can affect others more seriously therefore children with sickness and diarrhoea should stay home for a minimum of 48 hours after they have recovered. This also helps to stop the spread of such illnesses.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Once children are of statutory school age, it is vitally important that they develop good habits of attending school and punctuality. Children who are constantly late, or absent from school are deprived of the chance to make progress with their schoolwork. Parents are requested not to keep children away from school without good reason and to ensure punctuality.

When children are absent from school for any reason, parents should contact the school to explain the reasons for the absence. If the school does not receive information regarding an absence then the school will then contact parents.

We want all of our pupils to achieve success, so it is important that parents do their best to support pupils in attending school for the full 190 days in an academic year, as stated in the Education (School Day and School Year) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006. Under the Education Act (1996), it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that their son/daughter attend school.



Regular school attendance is vital and missing school can have a significant impact on achievement over a one year period as illustrated below:

95-100% attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90-95% attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85-90% attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work.
80-85% attendance	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning.
Below 80% attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education.

We hope that you can arrange your holidays around the existing 175 days the schools are closed through weekends and school holidays and help us support your child in achieving success in school.

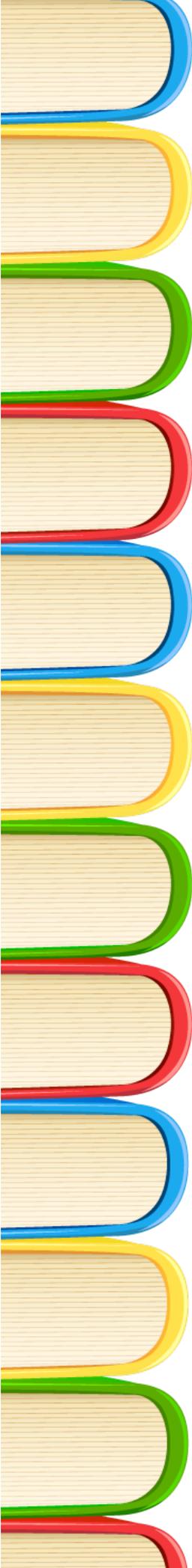
If it is necessary for a child to leave school before the end of the school day, prior notice is required, and the child concerned must be collected – no child will be allowed to leave the school alone.

DISCIPLINE

We expect home and school to work together to help a child acquire self-discipline and become capable of undertaking tasks willingly, without the need of constant supervision.

Our aim in school is to create conditions in which teaching and learning can proceed satisfactorily and efficiently. All children are encouraged to act responsibly and to respect fellow members of the school community and also their property. Discipline is administered in a firm and positive manner and is seen to exist for the general good of everyone in a friendly, happy environment.

Good behaviour is a necessary prerequisite for effective learning to take place. Should a child's behaviour give serious cause for concern the child's parents will be asked to attend a meeting at the school to discuss the matter. If there are serious behavioural difficulties help is sought from the Educational Psychologist and / or other agencies. Parents are required to complete and return the Home School agreement drawn up in consultation between Governors and parents. Children in Key Stage 2 are also requested to sign this.



FORMAL COMPLAINTS

If you have a concern about any aspect of the school, please make an appointment to discuss your concern with the Headteacher in order to try to resolve the matter. In addition all the members of the Governing Body, listed at the front of this prospectus, are prepared to listen and to help you if it is possible. If you are still not satisfied, details of the School's Complaints Procedure are in Attachment 1.

HOMEWORK

During the first years of school, children are encouraged to develop their own links between home and school. This is done through taking home reading and library books and bringing to school 'treasures' to stimulate discussion and the gathering of materials required for class projects etc. Parents are actively encouraged to support the development of reading skills and share comments in the child's Reading Record/Cofnod Darllen.

In Key Stage 2 the children receive regular homework, such as spelling and multiplication tasks. In addition specific items of work will be designated for homework. These are usually related to work being undertaken in class, but some pieces of work will be set to develop specific skills.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The School Council has decided that pupils should wear the school uniform at all times. The Governing Body has drawn up a policy on school uniform in support of the council's decisions. An order form is sent home regularly.

Can you please make sure your child's name is on EVERY garment.

- Polo shirt with embroidered school logo available from the office.
- Maroon sweatshirt with embroidered school logo available from the office.
- White shirt or blouse
- Trousers and skirts of own choice but must be clean and smart.
- Sensible shoes or trainers.
- School coats are available from the office but are not compulsory although children should bring a coat to school each day, apart from during the hotter weather.
- Scarves, hats and gloves of any colour are allowed to be worn to school.
- Hairstyles must be sensible and pupils with shoulder length hair must fasten it back.
- Sensible footwear

Summer Options

- Shorts, trousers or skirts
- Gingham dresses – any colour
- A cap/hat to protect from the sun

P.E./Swimming:

Swimming kit and towel should be carried in a separate bag, as should appropriate clothes for PE and Games lessons.

Jewellery other than watches **MUST NOT** be worn in school. Chains, rings, bracelets and earrings can easily be lost or cause serious injury. Children with pierced ears should wear studs only.

INSURANCE

The school cannot accept responsibility for any property which is stolen, lost or damaged whilst on school premises. Insurance should cover such items

CATERING

POWYS CATERING SERVICE provide lunch for children. Vegetarians are catered for. The Service aims to encourage healthy eating. Menus are carefully planned and are published (Attachment 3). Children can choose what they would like to eat from the set main menu. Preferences should be brought to school and given to the cook on Mondays. Eating lunch is viewed as an important social activity. The children sit on mixed age tables. Older pupils are encouraged to help younger children and share in their conversation. Good table manners learned at home are reinforced amongst peers.

Lunches are provided at a cost of £2.10 per day. Any cheques for school meals should be made out to '**POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**'. Correct payment should be brought to school in a sealed envelope or named purse. If a child is absent later in the week, the requisite amount will be credited and carried forward to the following week. Application forms for free school meals are available at school.

More information is available on the Powys Catering Powys website:

<http://schoolmeals.powys.gov.uk/index.php?id=1&L=1>

Alternatively, your child may bring a prepared lunch. We ask parents of children who bring a packed lunch to not give hot foods, glass bottles or cans in packed lunches. We ask that you also support our Healthy Schools programme by providing a healthy packed lunch for your child.

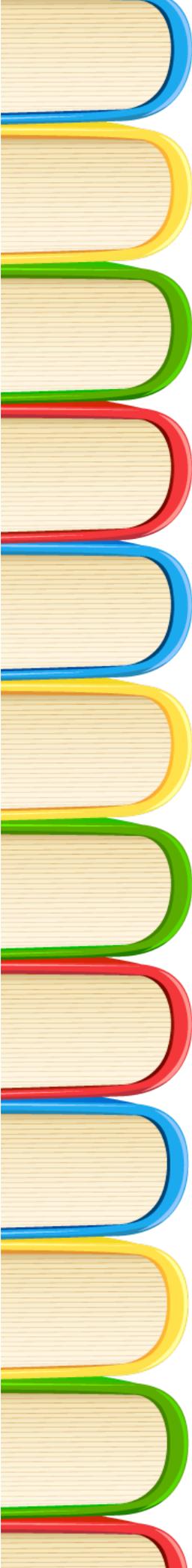
MID-MORNING SNACK

Ysgol Pennant is a 'Healthy School' and therefore only healthy snacks are allowed at break times. Foundation Phase pupils are eligible for free milk. Sweets and chocolates, crisps and chewing gum are not allowed. Pupils are encouraged to drink water regularly.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The school provides a free 'Breakfast Club' each morning for the children. Breakfast is served between 8am and 8.20am. A healthy breakfast is offered consisting of cereal, toast, fruit and fruit juice.





THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum followed by children of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is called the **Foundation Phase**. In the Foundation Phase, the focus is on providing opportunities for pupils to develop their skills by encouraging structured play activities that are woven into the learning experiences.

The curriculum for the older children includes Mathematics, Welsh, English, Science, ITC, History, Geography, Art, Music, Design and Technology and Physical Education.

Children also develop the skills highlighted within the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) The LNF has been developed to help children of Wales develop excellent literacy and numeracy skills during their time at school.

Parents are welcome to see documentation relating to the Curriculum at the school having made arrangements with the headteacher to do so.

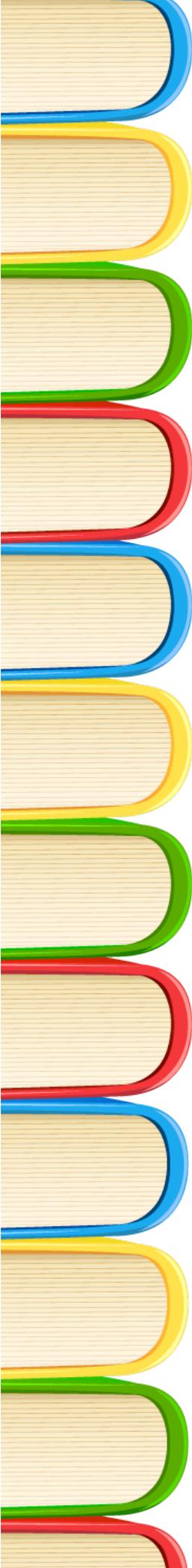
THE FOUNDATION PHASE

The Foundation Phase places great emphasis on developing children's skills and understanding, personal, social, emotional, physical and intellectual well being so as to develop the whole child. Positive attitudes to learning are nurtured so that the children enjoy learning and will want to continue with their education for longer. Self-esteem and self-confidence are nurtured to experiment, investigate, learn new things and form new relationships with others, and creative and expressive skills and observations to encourage their development as individuals.

The statutory Areas of Learning in the Foundation Phase are:

- Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity
- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills
- Mathematical Development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is a statutory requirement, but does not feature in the National Curriculum. The LA Agreed syllabus is taught and all teaching is non-denominational. An Act of Worship is held daily. Religious Education and Personal and Social Education are such an integral part of school life that cannot be isolated into lesson periods only. These permeate and colour everything and are the basis of the tolerant and friendly atmosphere in our school. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship. Such a move would remove pupils from within the community ethos of our school, and serious consideration should be given before embarking on such a course.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

All children are regularly monitored. Particular difficulties will initially be met by our teaching staff with the support of Teaching Assistants. If difficulties persist we will ask the Local Education Authority to supply specialist advice and support. Serious continual learning difficulties are supported and catered for within our school. Children with any identified learning problems, and also very bright children, are supported in with planned tasks to meet their requirements. This takes the form of individual or group support as is seen most effective, but support also given in the classroom. Parents will, of course, be kept fully informed regarding any problems and the measures being taken to solve them.

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

We believe that this is all-important, because this is the medium that we adopt to convey all ideas and thoughts. Welsh is the language of the school and the curriculum is presented through the medium of Welsh. Children start to read English regularly in Year 2 before they enter KS2 where English is a timetabled subject. Pupils from Welsh and non-Welsh speaking homes progress to use the Welsh language as a natural and effective means of expression. It is our policy to offer a strategy that has been planned to develop skills of speaking and listening, reading and writing, by encouraging children to use a wide range of equipment to facilitate the use of both languages.

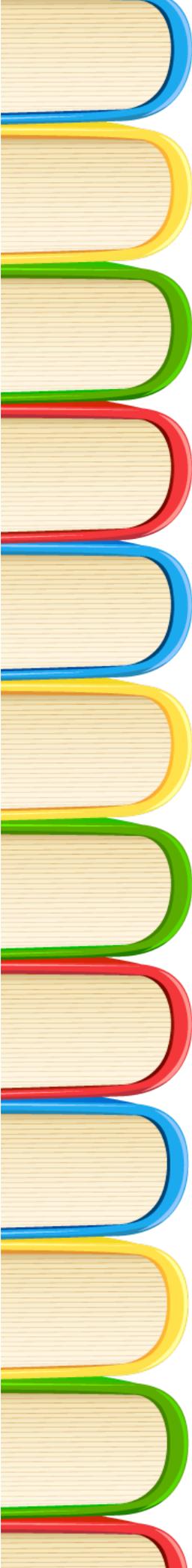
WELSH

We believe that a high standard of Welsh should be taught which gives the pupils the correct tone and mode of speaking and writing that will be easily understood by literate Welsh people throughout Wales and will be a key to a vast store of creative literature. It is important that use is made of local dialect as part of the local culture.

ENGLISH

Pupils in the Foundation phase will have the opportunity to choose English books to read and share at home. During Key Stage 2 they will develop their language skills in both English and Welsh. By the end of Key Stage 2 the aim is to have bilingual children who can speak English well, have an apprecia-





tion of good English literature and an ability to write well for different purposes and different audiences.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is an exciting subject full of challenges. We hope to convey this to the pupils and encourage them to respond with enthusiasm and interest. They will be taught to understand and use mathematical ideas in various situations and to use numerical skills with speed and correctness.

SCIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Through science, pupils are taught to understand the world about them by searching and experimenting. They are encouraged to investigate, pose questions and devise fair tests in experimental work.

SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

Children must develop an understanding of time, past and present and a feeling of their roots. They must also be conscious of society by realising their individuality and their place in society. We offer opportunity, where possible to develop and foster understanding and knowledge of the cultural, economic, environmental and historical aspects in the area. Daily news is discussed and as children awaken to other needs, they are encouraged to seek opportunity to satisfy these needs in practical ways. We encourage skill development, whether in the cultural mould or visual crafts, in music, drama and creative writing and performance. The majority of pupils enjoy taking part in these activities. Through their presentation they have the opportunity to discuss and convey emotional experiences. We believe these activities help develop self-confidence in a child.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

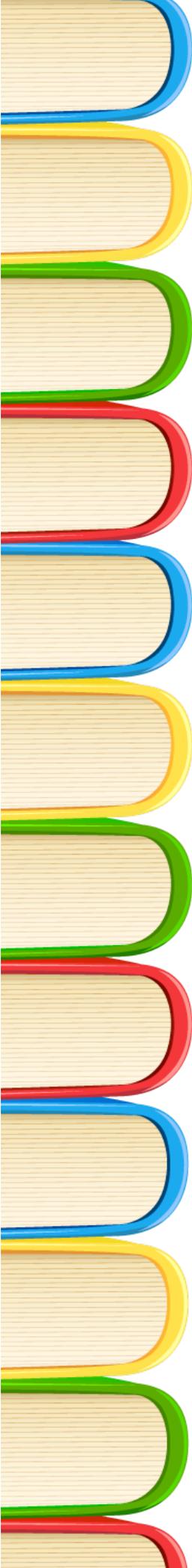
The emphasis is placed on developing I.T. across the spectrum of National Curriculum subjects. Computers are considered as trans-curricular pieces of equipment. The school continually improved I.T. resources. Our pupils use a number of laptops and iPads and these can be used in any of the classes through a wireless connection

SEX EDUCATION

Sex education is not taught as a subject at the school. It is covered as part of a broader personal, social and health education studies. The school nurse will visit pupils in Year 6 during the summer term in order to deliver an agreed programme. Before these take place parents are contacted and given the chance to withdraw their child, to look at the materials which will be used and discuss any concerns with the teacher.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND SPORT

It is our policy to develop physical education and movement by a programme of working which includes; gymnastics, dance, games, athletics, swimming and other activities as recommended in the National Curriculum. Team sports and ball games are played during the lunchtime break - outdoors or in the



community centre on wet days. Good use is made of the school field. A very successful Football Fun Day is held annually. This attracts many teams from other schools. Gymnastics, which takes place in the Community Centre with the use of the large apparatus and smaller equipment, enables the children to become familiar from an early age with the equipment and exercises of gymnastics. Dance is taught in the hall with some pupils taking part in both local and Urdd Eisteddfodau. Games such as football, netball, rounders and rugby are played and the pupils regularly compete in various competitions arranged by the Urdd and WASPs. Athletics form part of the Annual School Sports Day, where all pupils takes part. Also the school takes part in the Area Schools Sports, which is held annually and arranged by WASPS. Pupils participate in swimming lessons at Llanfyllin Leisure Centre on Tuesday afternoons. In order to accommodate everyone, children in Year 1-6 attend a lesson every fortnight. A bus is provided to carry the children. Two swimming competitions are also entered into annually. Pupils of year 5 and 6 have the opportunity to attend the Urdd's Llangrannog Residential Hostel.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Many of our outdoor trips support the School Curriculum to widen the children's horizons and practical experiences. The Junior Class has set up an arrangement with Llwyn Y Brain farm, which they visit regularly as part of their industrial awareness programme.

CHARGING POLICY - EDUCATIONAL VISITS

When educational visits are organised for pupils, if there is a cost to be met then parents will be asked to make a voluntary contribution which covers the cost of the educational visit. If a parent is unable to make a voluntary contribution, this will not disqualify his/her child from benefiting from the planned educational visit, but clearly if we do not receive enough contributions to cover the cost of the educational visit, then the visit will cease.

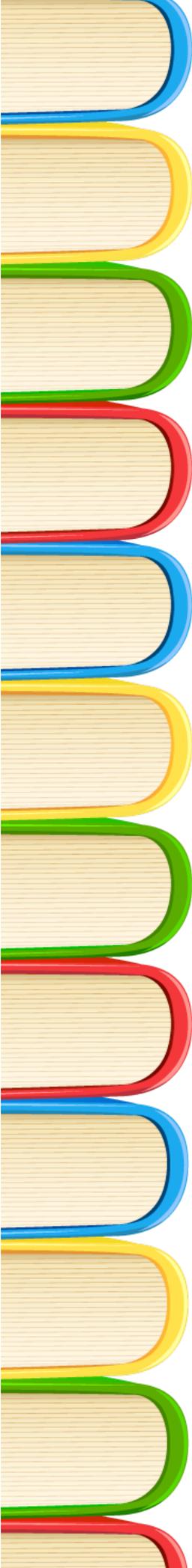
SECONDARY EDUCATION

Ysgol Pennant has excellent relations with the High School at Llanfyllin. On occasions teachers from the high school co-operate with us at the school, and pupils from our Year 6 spend some time at the high school before starting their secondary education. Headteachers of the area's primary schools and the headteacher and departmental heads of the high school meet on a regular basis.

FFRINDIAU YSGOL PENNANT

Ffrindiau Ysgol Pennant plays an important part by co-ordinating between parents and school and is successful in raising funds for the benefit of the pupils. Every parent is welcome to be a member of Ffrindiau Ysgol Pennant. Money raised is used in various ways, including transport costs for trips, purchases of books and equipment. We are pleased to maintain a happy relationship with all parents and welcome any assistance that we are offered. If parents have any interesting or special skills and have an opportunity to offer these skills to the school for the benefit of the pupils, please contact the Headteacher. Parents helping at school





will be subject to a CRB check.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

The children have an opportunity to receive instrument lessons. There is a fee for these lessons but please contact the school for further information.

THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Pupils in Year 3-6 elect representatives to the School Council annually and elected officials are in post for one year. The aim of the School Council is to give children a voice on how the school can improve. The Council meets at least twice a term. Minutes and decisions are posted on the Council notice board. One school governor sits on the School Council. The Eco School / Healthy School Council has helped the school win the Healthy School's flag and prestigious 'Green Flag' by organising activities such as recycling, reusing and reducing.

SCHOOL SECURITY

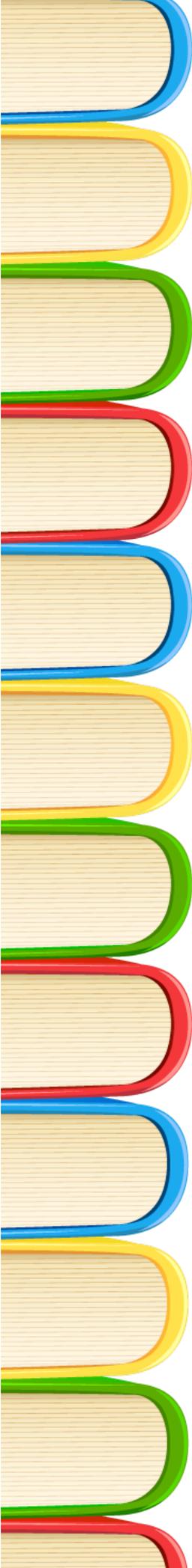
The school's aim is to provide safe and healthy conditions for all who work in the school and to give information, training and supervision to ensure this. The Governing Body is given information on a regular basis on the condition of school buildings and the school site and of defects that occur and repairs carried out. A member of the teaching staff is on yard duty every morning between 8.45 - 9.00am. Two members of staff are on yard duty during break time. External doors to school are locked during the day. All visitors should enter through the main entrance and sign the visitors' book. It is not necessary for parents/carers to enter the school if their child is happy to enter alone or with our staff. If your child is new to the school or unhappy on arriving then we understand the need to accompany your child into the school.

Fire drills are held on a regular basis and a member of staff holds a certificate in Emergency First Aid. Risk assessments are completed regularly to ensure that the building, site, educational visits and school trips are safe for the pupils, staff and visitors.

SAFEGUARDING

Ysgol Pennant is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We have a Child Protection Policy and procedures in place. Parents and carers are welcome to read the policy by requesting a copy from the office.



The school has trained members of staff who are responsible for the implementation of our safeguarding policies and procedures. In extreme circumstances, if we deem a child to be at risk, we are duty bound to contact the local Children's Services to raise our concern without seeking consultation or permission from the child's parent. All staff in the school are aware of their duties regarding child protection matters and have regular training in our safeguarding policies and procedures.

To ensure our own staff are suitable to care for children they undergo an enhanced Disclosure and Barring check prior to being given unsupervised access to children.

Our Child Protection Officer is Mrs Annwen Watkins - Headteacher. The Deputy Child Protection Officer is Miss Emma Watkins. Ms Suzanna Marsden is the Governor responsible for Child Protection.

TAKING PHOTOS

Ysgol Pennant welcomes positive publicity, as this can increase pupil motivation and staff morale. However, the school wants to safeguard the identity of children and uses photographs in a responsible way.

Risks occur when individual children can be identified in photographs. Wherever the school finds images being used inappropriately, the matter will be reported to the LA in the same way as any other child protection issue. Photographs and video images of pupils and staff are classed as personal data under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998. Therefore, using such images requires the consent of either the individual concerned, or in the case of children, their parent or guardian. The school will not display images of pupils or staff on websites, in publications or in a public place, without consent.



Consent form is part of the information pack for new pupils and also included on the school home agreement. Please refer to our Photo Policy for more information. A copy is available from the office.



ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

During the whole of the child's stay at the school evidence of progress and achievement levels are kept along with a detailed memorandum that gives the teachers an insight into the pupils' strengths and weaknesses. An annual report is given to parents and an opportunity is given to discuss the child's work at a Parents Evening.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION?

There are many advantages:

Research shows that children who are able to speak more than one language are able to think more flexibly and creatively. Bilingual

children have a good foundation for learning other languages. Being bilingual gives your child the opportunity to experience two cultures. Research shows that being able to speak and use two languages improves a child's ability to use and learn language in general.



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

The school's layout ensures easy access for all pupils with disabilities. Special arrangements are made between school and home when a pupil with disabilities or Additional Learning Needs starts at the school. Please contact the headteacher for more information.

The school is sensitive towards the needs of pupils with disabilities and makes every effort to ensure that they are included in all aspects of the school's life and work. We have purposeful room at the school to provide for the needs of pupils with disabilities.

The school is a single story building on a level site and is accessible for pupils with a physical disability who may have to use a wheelchair or crutches for support. Suitable ramps and rails are provided for entrance points where steps would otherwise have to be negotiated. The rooming of classes is arranged to include such pupils. The community hall has wheelchair access. Further details are included on the attached Access Appendix 1. We will make our accessibility plan available to anyone on request.

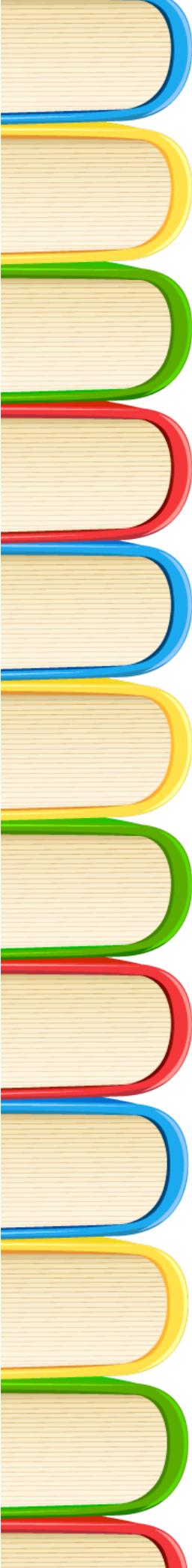
TRANSFERRING INFORMATION TO PARENTS

We send information by letter to inform parents of events at the school. We kindly ask that you read all correspondence carefully. If you would like to receive letters electronically please let us know. This way of communicating saves paper and also if your child is absent you will receive the letter the same day as other parents. At the end of each term a newsletter outlining the term's activities is published.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school believes in nurturing and developing creative talents and this is promoted through concerts and competing at eisteddfodau. The school will also do its best to support local events of this type at all times.

Every child has the opportunity to participate in all extra-curricular activities within the school. These include football, netball, cross-country running, athletics, swimming, music and dancing, choral singing, recorder, violin, harp, and Urdd Activities. Lesson on cycling provision is provided for the older pupils.



STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS AND TESTS

Statutory assessments are carried out at the end of Year 2 and Year 6. Ysgol Pennant's results compare very favourably with National results. National Literacy and Numeracy Tests are held annually for pupils in Years 2-6. The tests are based on the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework requirements relevant to each specific age group.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014 AT FOUNDATION PHASE	SCHOOL	POWYS (2013)	WALES (2013)
WELSH -Language, literacy and communication skills	100%	82.2%	86.7%
Mathematical development	100%	88.7%	88.4%
Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity	100%	93.8%	93%
FP Subject Indicator	100%	84.7%	83%

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014 AT KEY STAGE 2	SCHOOL	POWYS (2013)	WALES (2013)
WELSH	100%	84.3%	86.7%
ENGLISH	100%	88.5%	87.1%
MATHS	100%	89.1	87.5%
SCIENCE	100%	90.8%	89.7%
Core Subject Indicator	100%	86.4%	84.3%



IN CONCLUSION

We hope that by providing this booklet it will enable you to feel more closely involved with your child's education at Ysgol Pennant. We look forward to the partnership we will share in your child's education.

Although we make every attempt to verify the information contained in this declaration the Governors cannot guarantee complete correctness. There is no guarantee that all details of the School Curriculum, or the resources that are offered, will remain unchanged during a child's career at the school.

