

Ysgol Derwen / Derwen Foundation School

Curriculum Policy



Happy Together, Learning Forever, Succeeding
Wherever we may be.

Ysgol Derwen / Derwen Foundation School

Our
School

Our Values

Our
Community

Ysgol Derwen is a friendly and welcoming medium sized school located in the village of Higher Kinnerton in Flintshire. Higher Kinnerton is classed as an urban/rural area located between the City of Wrexham and the City of Chester on the Flintshire/Cheshire border. Land surrounding the village is predominately used for farming however, major industries and employers are also on our doorstep.

Ysgol Derwen is set in spacious grounds with ample opportunities for outdoor learning and is at the heart of a vibrant and growing community.

Ysgol Derwen is a caring village school with a dedicated, professional staff offering a broad and balanced curriculum. In all aspects of school life, we aim to express the traditional values of respect and care for others whilst providing the opportunities for learners to develop as individuals and prepare them for a successful future.

Happy together, learning forever, succeeding wherever we may be.

What is curriculum in Ysgol Derwen?

A school curriculum is everything a learner experiences in school. When designing Ysgol Derwen's curriculum we put the needs of our learners first. The curriculum has been developed holistically involving learners, staff, parents, governors and the local community. As a team we carefully think about what we teach, how we teach it and also why we teach it.

Through this consultation process the following values and skills were seen as the most important aspects to underpin our curriculum at Ysgol Derwen.

Our Values	Our Behaviour
Happy and Friendly	We ensure that the ethos of each class and learning experiences offered inspire and engage our learners. We ensure that learners enjoy, experience pleasure and develop motivation while learning. We support each other in all aspect of our lives. Friendship is at the heart of our school and something that is encouraged, nurtured and celebrated across the school.
Kind and Caring	We show care and concern for the welfare of all involved in the life of the school. We listen and take action to ensure that everyone in the school feels safe, valued and has a voice that is heard and acted upon.
Respectful and Empathetic	We are honest and open in our work and respect the views and feelings of everyone. We encourage empathy and respect of our natural world and strive to encourage learners to carefully consider how to look after our world.
Resilient and Determined	We support each other as learners and staff to have self belief, to be confident and proud of ourselves and our achievements. We embrace challenge and we persevere to achieve our goals.
Inclusive and Unique	We are an inclusive school where individuality is celebrated. There is an appreciation and understanding that we are all unique with our own strengths, abilities and talents.
Positive Mindset	We encourage learners to have a growth mindset across all aspect of their school life. Growth mindset strategies are embedded in each classroom giving the pupils the tools they need to be remain positive and flourish
Community Focused	We play a full and active part in the life of our community and the community is encouraged to play an active part in the life of the school.

Ysgol Derwen - Our Priorities

Health and Wellbeing

The emotional health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff at Ysgol Derwen take a high priority when designing our curriculum, policies, planning and teaching.

Our aim is to have happy learners who want to learn and succeed to the best of their abilities.

The school places much emphasis on the physical wellbeing of all pupils. All classes have weekly PE sessions and Health, Fitness and Wellbeing are linked to many other Areas Of Learning throughout our curriculum.

Children are encouraged to participate in a number of sports both competitive and non-competitive with the emphasis always being on enjoyment and always doing your best.

What We Must Teach

- Language
- Numeracy
- Religious Education
- Personal and Social Education
- Sex and Relationship Education



Cluster Working

Staff at Ysgol Derwen have developed excellent working relationships with **Castell Alun High School** and the **Cluster Primary** schools which have been embedded over a number of years. These links are very important to Ysgol Derwen in helping the school and cluster to drive common goals for both standards and health and wellbeing forward along with preparing our pupils fully for their transition to high school. We also have many friendly contacts with other schools in the locality.

Pupil Voice

What Values Are Most Important To Our Learners

- Kindness
- Happiness
- Feeling Safe
- Being My Best
- A place For Learning
- A place that gets me ready to the next stage in life
- A place where everyone is respected

Pupil Leadership Team

Ysgol Derwen encourages the pupils to have a say in school matters and has a very active **School Council**. The children also have a major input into the wellbeing of the pupils by participating in **Healthy Schools** and **Eco School** Initiatives (our **Planet Protectors**) in addition to having a very active **Digital Learners Team** focussed on keeping children safe and up to date when working with IT, and our **Criw Cymraeg** who promote the use of Welsh within the school and at home.

Helping Others

Pupils at Ysgol Derwen help raise much needed funds or items for a number of charities each year helping promote global citizenship and an empathy and understanding of local and global issues.





WALES, THE WELSH LANGUAGE AN BILINGUALISM

Welsh is taught as a second language to all pupils in the School. The main emphasis is on oral language although as children move through the school, reading and writing of Welsh assume greater prominence.

Children are encouraged to develop an awareness that their school is in Wales. Use is made of the Welsh language in an incidental way whenever the opportunity arises in order that pupils hear the language as a natural part of school life. They are also involved in a range of activities which raise their awareness of the cultural aspects of Welsh life.

Modern Foreign Languages

In line with the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales, modern foreign languages have been added to the curriculum offered by Ysgol Derwen.

Initially French and British Sign language will be taught to pupils at the school with the emphasis in French being on oral work as children and staff develop their skills in this area.

LINKS WITH Families and THE COMMUNITY

Having positive links and communication with parents, families and the local community are very important to Ysgol Derwen.

The local community is an integral part of Ysgol Derwen. The school has links with many organizations within the village and further afield:

- Kinnerton Oaks Football Club
- Village Hall
- Monthly senior citizens lunch club
- Kinnerton Church
- Wrexham Football Club
- Little Acorns

We aim to further develop community and local business links in the coming years



THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

We aim to provide a holistic curriculum which is:-

- **Coherent** - concerned with the education of the **WHOLE** child
- **Broad** - to bring pupils into contact with a wide range of learning experiences
- **Balanced** - so that each learning experience is given appropriate attention in relation to the others and to the curriculum as a whole
- **Relevant** - to ensure that what is taught is worth learning and is seen by pupils, parents and teachers to meet present and future needs
- **Differentiated** - to allow for differences in the abilities and aptitudes of children.

The Curriculum for Wales Four Purposes are at the core of Ysgol Derwen's curriculum. The Four Purposes underpin all aspects of our curriculum design, planning and teaching. Our vision and values as a school support the four purposes.

The Four Core Purposes



Ambitious, capable learners who:

- Set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge
 - Are building up a body of knowledge and have the skills to connect and apply that knowledge in different contexts
 - Are questioning and enjoying solving problems
 - Can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English
 - Can explain the ideas and concepts they are learning about
 - Can use number effectively in different contexts
 - Understand how to interpret data and apply mathematical concepts
 - Use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information
 - Undertake research and evaluate critically what they find
 -
- And are ready to learn throughout their lives.**



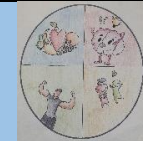
Enterprising, creative contributors who:

- Connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products
 - Think creatively to reframe and solve problems
 - Identify and grasp opportunities
 - Take measured risks
 - Lead and play different roles in teams effectively and responsibly
 - Express ideas and emotions through different media
 - Give of their energy and skills so that other people will benefit
 -
- And are ready to play a full part in life and work.**



Ethical, informed citizens who:

- Find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views
 - Engage with contemporary issues based upon their knowledge and values
 - Understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights
 - Understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices and acting
 - Are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past
 - Respect the needs and rights of others, as a member of a diverse society
 - Show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet
 -
- And are ready to be citizens of the world.**



Healthy, confident individuals who:

- Have secure values and are establishing their spiritual and ethical beliefs
 - Are building their mental and emotional well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy
 - Apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives
 - Know how to find the information and support to keep safe and well
 - Take part in physical activity
 - Take measured decisions about lifestyle and manage risk
 - Have the confidence to participate in performance
 - Form positive relationships based upon trust and mutual respect
 - Face and overcome challenge
 - Have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can
- And are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.**

Teaching

Ysgol Derwen - Our Aims

- To enable each child to develop as a happy, cheerful and well-balanced individual, and to enjoy all aspects of school life;
- To develop moral and spiritual awareness;
- To encourage each child to be co-operative and tolerant, respecting and appreciating the feelings, the views and the property of others;
- To promote high standards of behaviour;
- To develop in children positive attitudes towards work;
- To equip each child with the necessary skills of literacy and numeracy;
- To develop self-expression and creative abilities;
- To develop physical awareness and skills;
- To ensure that all children work to their full potential;
- To prepare children for life and work in the secondary school, and in later adult life.



Excellent planning, delivery and teaching is what underpins our curriculum at Ysgol Derwen, enabling the school to realise the Four Core Purposes, our vision as a school and the requirements of the Curriculum Framework. We have developed a stimulating and high-quality learning environment conducive to effective learning both indoors and outdoors which learners, staff and parents are very proud of. We constantly reflect upon, share and develop our teaching practices, based on our understanding of the **12 pedagogical principles** set out in the Curriculum Framework and the practices we find to be successful in our school.

The 12 Pedagogical Principles			
1. Focus on achieving the 4 purposes	2. Challenge learners and emphasise the importance of continuous effort. Convey high, achievable expectations	3. Use a range of teaching methods	4. Develop problem solving skills, creative skills and the ability to think creatively.
5. Building on prior knowledge and experience. Engage interest.	6. Creating authentic contexts	7. Implementing formative assessment principles	8. Extend within and across the Areas of Learning
9. Reinforcing and practicing cross-curricular skills - literacy, numeracy and digital competence	10. Develop learners to take increased responsibility for their own learning and to develop as independent learners.	11. Promote social and emotional development and positive relationships	12. Promote collaboration

A New And Exciting Approach To Learning

The Curriculum for Wales enables teachers, school staff and pupils to collaboratively design a learning experience which will be exciting, creative and flexible based on the **6 Areas of Learning, What Matters Statements** and a **Cross Curricular** approach to **Skills development**.

The what matters statements for each Area will be the basis of our planning for progression, depth of skills and a knowledge, and for learner progress.

What Matters Statements for the 6 Areas of Learning and Experience

Expressive Arts	Health and Wellbeing	Humanities	Mathematics and Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Science and Technology
Exploring the expressive arts is essential to developing artistic skills and knowledge and it enables learners to become curious and creative individuals	Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits	Enquiry, exploration and investigation inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future	The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities	Languages connect us	Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena
Responding and reflecting, both as artist and audience, is a fundamental part of learning in the expressive arts	How we process and respond to our experiences affects our mental health and emotional well-being	Events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways	Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships	Understanding languages is key to understanding the world around us	Design thinking and engineering offer technical and creative ways to meet society's needs and wants
Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination	Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our own lives and the lives of others	Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions	Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world	Expressing ourselves through languages is key to communication	The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival
	How we engage with social influences shapes who we are, and affects our health and well-being	Human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs	Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed inferences and decisions	Literature fires imagination and inspires creativity	Matter and the way it behaves defines our universe and shapes our lives
	Healthy relationships are fundamental to our well-being	Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action			Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe
					Computation is the foundation for our digital world

Assessment and Progression

Assessment and Progression in learning is the process of developing and improving pupil's skills, knowledge and understanding over a period of time. The new curriculum is built on learner progression with there being a change from the current phases and key stages to a continuum of learning from 3 - 16 years old.

The new continuum has progression steps, reference points that relate broadly to expectations at 5, 8, 11, 14 and 16 years of age. These progression steps are set out as a series of achievement outcomes, which are broad expectations of learning over two to three-year periods. The Curriculum for Wales enables the monitoring of pupils progress to be the main purpose of assessment rather than an accountability exercise.

Assessment is considered to be an integral part of teaching and learning in each area of learning. It measures what a pupil actually knows and understands, and this informs future teaching.

Formal/summative assessment is carried out at specific times during the school year.

Continuous and formative assessment takes place on a daily basis and includes:

- Baseline Data
- Involvement of learners in the planning
- Prior / current knowledge questioning
- Observing and questioning pupils
- Teacher assessment
- Differentiated challenges /eliminating ability grouping
- Taith 360
- Progress in Maths tests
- National Welsh Government tests
- Target Setting
- CATS
- Progression steps
- PASS

Inclusion

All children are provided with equal access to the full curriculum. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of disability, gender, race, ethnic origin, culture, language or religion. The school will endeavour to ensure that access to materials, equipment and furniture are adapted to meet any particular needs so that the pupil can work alongside their peers. Individual pupil provision, including universal and enhanced provision, is detailed on class provision maps.



Planning


When considering planning at Ysgol Derwen, the main focus is placed on offering our learners quality **exciting, engaging, broad and balanced learning experiences**. This is achieved by allowing learners the time to acquire, practice and apply knowledge and skills to embed their learning and not to rush through work to 'achieve content'. This lays a solid foundation for the next stages of their learning and allows our pupils to build on their knowledge and learning and achieve their full potential.

Year 1						
Term	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Topic	This is me	The World's a Stage (Linked to Christmas concert)	Come fly with me	Social Media Me	Blitzed	Money Matters
Educational Visits	Nant BH	/	/	/	Stockport Air raid shelters	/
English	Book: Wonder written by RJ Palacio Persuasion Contemporary story	Playscripts Classic poetry	Formal letters Narrative poetry	Instructions	Book: Goodnight Mr Tom Fiction accompanied by it's adaptation for film or TV	Advertising - moving and still image
Pupils will have the opportunity to participate in oracy activities in each term. Pupils will write an extended story each term. Pupils will read and use information books in each topic.						

**Planning
Linked To The
Four Core
Puposes**

Year Group: Blyddyn 5 a 6		Topic: This is me (Autumn Term - 1)	
All our children and young people will be supported to develop as:			
ambitious, capable learners who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge are building up a body of knowledge and have the skills to connect and apply that knowledge in different contexts are questioning and enjoy solving problems can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English can explain the ideas and concepts they are learning about can use number effectively in different contexts understand how to interpret data and apply mathematical concepts use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information undertake research and evaluate critically what they find and are ready to learn throughout their lives 		ethical, informed citizens who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views engage with contemporary issues based upon their knowledge and values understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices and acting are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past respect the needs and rights of others as a member of a diverse society show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet and are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world 	
enterprising, creative contributors who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products think creatively to reform and solve problems identify and grasp opportunities take measured risks lead and play different roles in teams effectively and responsibly express ideas and emotions through different media give of their energy and skills so that other people will benefit and are ready to play a full part in life and work 		healthy, confident individuals who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have secure values and are establishing their spiritual and ethical beliefs are building their mental and emotional well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives know how to find the information and support to keep safe and well take part in physical activity take measured decisions about lifestyle and manage risk have the confidence to participate in performance form positive relationships based upon trust and mutual respect face and overcome challenge have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can and are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society. 	

**Planning Linked
To Home
Learning**

Homework (Year 5 and 6)		
Autumn Term - 1		
This is me!		
Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A perfect weekend - Think of all of the activities that would make your weekend perfect. Write a timetable to show what you would do on your perfect weekend. Include start time, finish times and duration of each activity you would do. How old are you? Calculate your age in years, months, hours, minutes and even seconds. Could you do the same for a family member or friend? Think carefully about how to present your answers. Sleep diary - how much sleep is recommended for your age? Keep a diary over 7 days to show how many hours sleep you get in a week. Are you getting enough sleep? Try out a new recipe - check with an adult first! Weigh and measure any ingredients, find out how much it costs to make. Create 10 maths problems about yourself, for example, my height is 3 x 42cm, my age is 100 - 91. Remember to include the answers and check your calculations. 	English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and write a story where you are the main character. Create a word art about you. Choose at least 20 words that best describe yourself, remember to spell them correctly. https://wordart.com/ Make an acrostic poem using the letters from your first name and surname. Me, Movie! Plan and record a short video clip all about yourself, include information about your hobbies and interests and what you enjoy doing outside of school. Remember to speak clearly and use expression. Reading - choose a new book to read and write a review to tell me what you have read about. The websites below have 90 recommended books for year 5 and 6. https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-5 https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-6 	Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class we started our topic by listening to the song from the film The Greatest Showman - This is me. Change the lyrics to the song and try performing it. Have you ever played the game guess who? Try making your own guess who game, you could make cards of your family and friends. Play the game to check it works, write out the rules for how to play. Personality swirls  Search online to look at more examples of personality swirls. Create one for yourself. Design 10 quiz questions about you, we can test the class to see how well they really know you. Take time out to do the things that you enjoy. Try some mindfulness or maybe a new sport or activity. Send me a picture or a message to let me know what you chose to do.

Expressive Arts
Take part in dramas/role play about bullying.

Literacy and Communication
Write a biography on the person who invented coding.
Make safety posters.
Write a set of instructions for children to stay safe on the internet.
Write a cautionary tale about internet safety.
Debate - Should children be allowed on Facebook and Snapchat?

Mathematics and Numeracy
How much technology do you use compared to the average year old?
Use more maths apps and games.
Make graphs of our favourite computer games.

**Planning
Linked To The
Six Areas of
Learning**

Social Media Me
Pupil Learning Ideas
Year 6 - Ysgol Derwen

Humanities
Coding - What is the history of coding?

Health and Wellbeing
Learn how to stay safe online and to prevent information being hacked. Learn internet safety rules.
What can we do if we are getting bullied online? Who do we report it to?
Invite PC Stu in to talk about online safety.
Which apps are safe and which are not.
Make a pledge to stay off technology for longer periods of time.

Science and Technology
Coding - How is it used?
Make a game/program using Scratch.
Make a website and publish it.
Trip to Xplore! To complete the Lego coding challenge

**Pupil Led
Planning and
Activities**

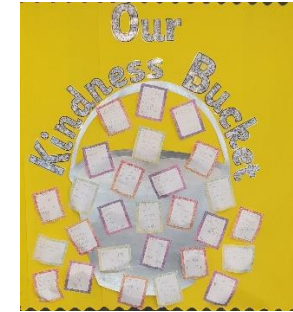
THE SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT IS TO:

- Welcome parents to the school as partners in their child's education
- Provide a safe and secure environment for pupils
- Provide equal access to all pupils to a broad and balanced National Curriculum
- Encourage pupils to do their best at all times
- Encourage pupils to have care and respect for other children and adults who work and help in the school
- Encourage pupils to have care and respect for their surroundings and the property of others
- Keep parents informed of their child's progress at school
- Inform parents of matters for praise or concern affecting their child's work or behaviour
- Advise parents of the topics for teaching at the beginning of each term
- Keep parents informed about school life and events through regular communications.



YSGOL DERWEN/DERWEN FOUNDATION SCHOOL

What we aim to offer and what we expect from our pupils and parents.



THE PARENTS' COMMITMENT IS TO :

- Promote the importance of arriving at school on time
- Ensure that their child attends regularly and provides a note or message of explanation in the event of absence
- Support the school's expectations of care and consideration for others, their property, and their school environment
- Let the school know about any concerns or problems that might affect their child's work or behaviour
- Support the school's policy on dress code for daily wear and for PE and Games
- Endeavour to attend parents' evenings to discuss progress
- Support their child when engaged in home learning.
- In all communications, whether oral, written or by electronic means, be mindful of and show respect for the confidentiality of any aspect of the School, including its pupils, its staff, the Parents and the Governors.

THE PUPIL IS EXPECTED TO :

Abide by the school's code of conduct as exemplified by:

- Always being polite, courteous and considerate to other pupils and adults
- Maintaining the good name of the school and the family by his/her actions and behaviour
- Being on time and attending every day
- Wearing the correct school uniform
- Ensuring that home learning activities are completed on time and returned to school
- Be safe and responsible whilst using technology at school
- Always trying their best.