



Parent's Handbook



2025-26



Welcome to Ysgol Edern

Dear Parents/Carers,

We welcome you and your child to Ysgol Edern. While your child is in our care, we will do our utmost to ensure that he/she is happy and safe and receives an education of the highest quality.

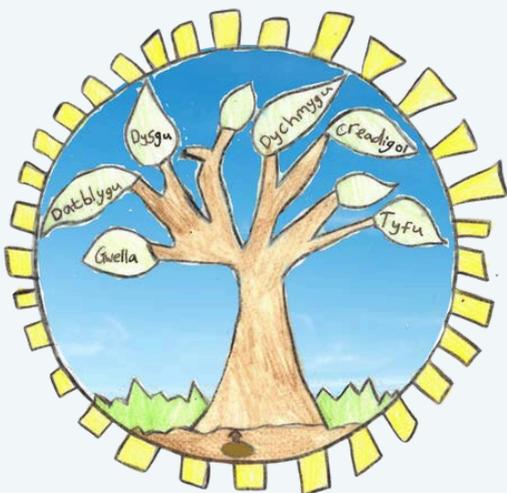
This school is a happy and homely community where we endeavour to promote the children's spiritual and moral development. A close relationship exists with every family and a policy is implemented of responding to problems or difficulties by discussing them with parents.

I would like to see every child looking back at his/her childhood as a happy time that provided a firm foundation for their lives as they developed into citizens of the future.

Education is a partnership between the school and parents for the benefit of our children. Our influence and support are invaluable to your child's social and educational development. I would like to see this partnership working well, with the pupils' needs as a priority and rising above everything else.

Ilan Williams

HEADTEACHER



“

*'Dysgwn fel teulu
Yn yr ysgol hon.
Tyfwn fel cymuned
Yn Hapus a Llon.'*

”

School Details

Contact:

Ysgol Edern,
Lôn Rhos,
Edern,
Pwllheli.
Gwynedd. LL53 8YW

Phone: 01758 720272

E-mail: ilan.williams@edern.ysgoliongwynedd.cymru

Status

This is a County Primary School (Infants/Juniors).

It is a day, bilingual, co-educational school.

Staff:



Ilan Williams
Headteacher
KS2 Teacher



Sian Teleri Hughes
Foundation Stage
Teacher



Sioned Tudor
KS2 Teacher
CADY



Glesni Owen
Teaching Assistant



Mary Hughes
Teaching Assistant



Amanda Lloyd
Senior Teaching
Assistant



Eira Williams
Teaching Assistant



Carol Williams
Caretaker



Astrid Williams
Cook



Governing Body

Chair of Governors:

Mrs Kaylee Scott

Community:

Ms Anna Hughes
Mr Gareth Wright

Parents:

Mrs Kaylee Scott
Mrs Sioned Pearson
Mrs Luned Williams

Town Council:

Ms Caren Jones

Local Education Authority:

Cyng. Gareth Jones
Mr Iorwerth Llywelyn

Teachers:

Mrs Sian Teleri Hughes

Headteacher:

Mr Ilan Williams

Clerk:

Mrs Elen Jones

Description of the School

This is a County Primary School (Infants/Juniors). It is a day, bilingual, co-educational school. There are three classes at the school, taught as follows:

Foundation Phase (Porthdinllaen): Mrs Sian Teleri Hughes

Years 3 and 4 (Rhosgor): Mrs Sioned Tudor

Years 5 and 6 (Porth Ysgaden): Mr Ilan Williams

Class Organisation September 2023

	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
Foundation Phase Mrs Sian Teleri Hughes								
Year 3 & 4 Mrs Sioned Tudor								
Year 5 & 6 Mr Ilan Williams								

Reception Policy

Children are admitted in September following their fourth birthday on a full-time basis and for two hours a morning at three years of age, in accordance with the Education Authority's policy. Any parent wishing to register their child at the school should contact the relevant officer at the Education Department in Caernarfon, i.e. Owain Dewi Hughes, Information Officer, Education, Gwynedd Council, Caernarfon, Gwynedd. Telephone 01286 679904. At the end of the sixth year, your child will transfer, if that is your preference, to Ysgol Botwnnog. You will receive information in good time about this school and the children will have an opportunity to spend two days there in their final year at Ysgol Edern. You as parents will be invited to visit the school and meet its Headteacher, Mr Dylan Minnice.

Term

Autum 2025 1 September 2025 – 19 December 2025

Spring 2026 5 January 2026 – 27 March 2026

Summer 2026 13 April 2026 – 20 July 2026

Holidays

27 October 2025 - 31 October 2025 (Half Term)
22 December 2025 - 2 January 2026 (Christmas Holidays)
16 February 2026 - 20 February 2026 (Half Term)
30 March 2026 - 10 April 2026 (Easter Holidays)
4 May 2026 (Calan Mai)
25 May 2026 - 29 May 2026 (Half Term)
21 July 2026 - 31 August 2026 (Summer Holidays)

Attendance and Absence

The school has a duty to ensure that pupils attend regularly. In accordance with Assembly regulations, every school must differentiate between authorised absence (illness, doctor's appointments, etc.) and unauthorised absence. We ask you to let the school know about every absence by providing a note or through a phone call or e-mail. For reasons of safety, the school will phone the home on the first day of the absence if no message is received.

Authorised Absences

These include illness or medical appointments. It is also possible to request up to ten days' holiday in one school year. The Headteacher considers these requests individually. We strongly encourage parents not to take their children out of school during the school year as continuity is essential to ensure effective learning.

Unauthorised Absences

Any unexplained absences will be recorded as being unauthorised. Information on attendance is recorded and monitored by the Local Education Authority.

The Education Welfare Officer has the authority to visit the homes of any parents whose child's attendance figures are of concern to the school and LEA.

Attendance at Ysgol Edern 2024-25

Attendance= 94.17%

Target= 95%

Teaching Hours

(not including registration, assembly and break-time)

Teaching hours are 23.5 hours per week for KS2 children, 21.5 hours per week for FP children, and 10 hours for the Nursery children.

Morning sessions are between 9 a.m. and 12.15 p.m.

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. for the Nursery children

Afternoon sessions are between 1.15 p.m. and 3.15 p.m.

May we remind you that children should not arrive at school before 8.15 a.m. for the Breakfast Club and 8.50 a.m. otherwise.

Children should arrive punctually at school at 8.50 a.m. They will be registered as 'late' if they arrive after 9 a.m.

A child is prohibited from leaving school premises without permission and unless accompanied by an adult. The school will remain responsible for every child until 3.25 p.m., i.e. 10 minutes after the school closes.

Closing in an Emergency

In an emergency (e.g. no heating or severe weather), we will have to close the school at short notice if we feel that children's safety would be jeopardised should they remain at the school until the end of the afternoon. We will take the following action:

Children who travel on the bus - We will request that the bus comes earlier and will contact parents. If there is nobody at home, we will keep the child at school for you to make arrangements to collect him/her.

Everyone else - We will send a message to every parent to collect their children.

Playtime

Children play on the playground or playing field, depending on the weather. During wet playtimes, pupils remain in their classrooms, where they are given a variety of activities. Morning playtime takes place between 10.30-10.45 a.m. Before morning playtimes, the children may have milk or water and fruit as a snack and KS2 children may have fruit and water. We ask that no grapes are brought in to be eaten please. Every child is given a water bottle which they are allowed to take home and wash and fill up. We expect to see only water in the bottles.

School Dinners

The school provides a healthy and nutritious dinner on a daily basis. From September 2023 onwards school dinners will be free for all pupils, as part of the Welsh Government's plans. Free school meals are available to families who receive Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance. Some children bring their own lunch to school. Being part of the Gwynedd Healthy Schools Scheme, Ysgol Edern wishes to promote a healthy packed lunch for the child, with no sweets or fizzy or flavoured drinks.

Arrangements for arriving and leaving school

In the morning

The bus arrives with the children and goes onto the yard in the morning. No-one is allowed onto the yard until the bus has left. The school's doors open at 8.50 a.m. We encourage children to be independent from a young age, therefore the parents leave their children at the school gate, the children come in and place their coats and bags on the peg and go out onto the yard or enter their classrooms to wait for the bell to ring at 9 a.m. Some children are uncertain during their first year at school, therefore parents are welcome to escort their children to the door. By the time they attend school full time, they are usually sufficiently confident to come in by themselves.

At the end of the day

At the end of the day, children who travel by bus go onto the bus first of all, led by an adult. When the bus departs, parents/carers are asked to pick up their children from the classroom doors. The Foundation Phase children will depart from the Foundation Phase door and KS2 children from the main entrance.

School's parents / Friends Association

An extremely hardworking Parents' Association has been established at Ysgol Edern and all parents are welcome to collaborate on achieving the same aim, i.e. to raise funds for resources and their children's education, and to get to know other parents and discuss educational topics. The officers will contact you by letter to inform you of these meetings. As a school, we would hope that all parents will attend these meetings.

School Rules

- School starts punctually at 9 a.m. The school is not responsible for any child arriving at school before 8.50 a.m.
- We would like parents to contact us before 9 a.m. if their child is absent. This means that we ensure that all children have arrived safely at school.
- School finishes at 3.15 p.m.
- Because we are part of the Gwynedd Healthy Schools Scheme, sweets, crisps or drinks other than water are not allowed at the school.
- The school works conscientiously to safeguard the children while on school premises or in the care of a teacher outside school.
- In cases of accidents or illness during school hours, every effort is made to contact the parents or guardians if necessary. In emergencies, where contact cannot be made, the Headteacher will take appropriate action.
- The school is not responsible for any loss or damage to pupils' personal belongings. Toys are not allowed in school.
- We expect every child to behave politely and considerately towards individuals in school. We want to maintain the school's reputation so that members of the public and those establishments that we visit continue to be grateful and to appreciate the children's behaviour.
- We expect every child to respect the school's property and that of other children.
- If a child requires any medication during school hours, the parent will need to sign a consent form. The form is available from the Headteacher.
- If your contact details change, we kindly ask you to inform the school immediately.
- The school must be informed if arrangements to collect children from school change in any way.

Health and Safety

The safety of pupils, staff and visitors is a priority for us at Ysgol Edern. The Governors ensure the safety of the school building and property. Risk assessments have been prepared to ensure that the school's activities are as safe and secure as possible. A risk assessment is prepared prior to commencing any trip outside school premises.

Accidents and Medication

Any child who is taken ill or who suffers an accident at school will be taken care of and comforted by school staff. Three members of school staff are qualified first aiders so that we ensure that qualified staff are present on school premises at all times. All members of staff have received basic first aid instruction. Any accident will be considered and assessed by the first aider and if it is deemed necessary, the school will then contact the parent to collect their child. It is imperative that the school is immediately informed of any changes to your contact details. Records of all accidents are kept on file, and the school staff will phone the home to explain what has happened. In emergencies, where parents cannot be contacted, the first aider and Headteacher will respond and take appropriate action.

Ethos and Behaviour

The school insists on positive and constructive behaviour from all the school's children and implements Webster-Stratton principles across the school. We believe this to be essential in order to provide the children with the best education and with positive life skills. If a child does not comply with the school's rules and expectations, we would follow the guidance contained in the Behaviour Policy. We receive very positive feedback from establishments that the children visit regularly as they behave courteously and politely towards each other and towards adults at all times.

Complaints Procedure

The Local Education Authority, in accordance with the requirements of Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988, has established a procedure to consider complaints as to how school governing bodies and the Education Authority operate in relation to the school curriculum and other related matters. Most complaints arise from a misunderstanding or poor communication. If we are intent on finding a resolution to a conflict which will satisfy both parties, we believe that there is a need for a full understanding of the procedures for bringing a complaint as well as a positive attitude towards remedying the situation. A parent wishing to lodge a complaint about organisation or curriculum content should follow this procedure:

(a) Contact the Headteacher. The Headteacher (or member of staff nominated by the Headteacher) will conduct an investigation into the case and will respond directly to the parent. (Minor complaints should be discussed with the individual teacher. If the parent is not satisfied with the response, the Headteacher should be contacted.)

(b) If the parent is not satisfied with the response, a letter should be sent to the Chair of the Governing Body. An investigation will be carried out by members of the Governing Body's Complaints Committee and they will provide a response.

Child Protection

This school is required to adhere to the clearly-defined and explicit guidance contained in Child Protection legislation. Teachers and ancillary staff members have a duty to identify any signs of abuse or neglect and express those concerns immediately.

How does the school safeguard children?

Every member of staff, governors and regular visitors to the school, e.g. music teacher, has an up-to-date DBS check.

Every other visitor is supervised 100%.

There is one main entrance, other doors are locked to outside entry.

Every visitor, other than parents, signs in and wears a prominent badge.

A suitable ratio exists for playtime and lunch-time supervision.

A record is kept of concern about children.

Children are referred to Social Services in the event of any suspicions.

All staff are aware of the policy and have succeeded in Child Protection training.

Teaching staff have received training and there is a policy on the Use of Reasonable Force.

Persons Responsible for Child Protection

Co-ordinator:

- Mr Ilan Williams phone:- 01758 720272

Member of the Governing Body:

- Mrs Kaylee Scott - 07890611202

Authority Personnel:

- Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education - 01758 407044
- Tîm Cyfeiriadau Plant, Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Rhif ffôn cyswllt- 01758 704 455

Local Authority Senior Designated Officer:

- Bethan Helen Jones - 07977504344

If there are child protection allegations involving the Headteacher, you should contact the named person in the Authority or on the Governing Body.

More information, including a copy of the Child Protection Policy and information for children on staying safe, can be obtained from the Headteacher at the school.

School Uniform

The school is proud of its official uniform.

We encourage all parents to label every item of clothing and personal belongings with their child's name. An order for the school uniform can be placed with Brodwaith, Pwyth Pistyll or Lake Digital

We kindly ask pupils to wear trousers, shorts or a skirt in navy blue to go with the other items of clothing above.

The uniform can also be purchased through Cymru Embroidery.

Item of Clothing	Order
Sweatshirt (with school logo)	Brodwaith / Pwyth Pistyll / Lake Digital
Physical Education Hoodies (with school logo)	Brodwaith / Lake Digital
Jersey (with school logo)	Brodwaith / Pwyth Pistyll / Lake Digital
Cardigan (with school logo)	Brodwaith / Pwyth Pistyll / Lake Digital

Physical Education Clothing

The children are allowed to wear their hoodies in physical exercise periods when they have Physical Education lessons. We would rather that the children did not wear their hoodies in place of their school jerseys which form part of their official uniform. For Physical Education, pupils are allowed to wear a T-shirt and shorts of their own choosing.

School Council

The pupils elect members of the School Council every year. Their role is to ensure that the child's voice is heard and acted upon.

At Ysgol Edern, pupils have the opportunity to:

- propose ideas on how to improve their learning environment;
- provide an opinion and observations on school life;
- contribute to making the school a happier place;
- ensure that the school is a child-centred establishment.



Home/School Relationship

At Ysgol Edern, we strongly believe in a happy and healthy relationship between the school and home. We would like to think that any parent feels able to approach the school to express any concern about their children's education or happiness. Because the Headteacher also teaches, you are asked to phone the school to make an appointment and we will welcome you for a chat when practicable. Your child's educational development depends on the effectiveness of the co-operation between the school and home. This is a two-way process. We expect parents to spend time reading and helping their children with any homework or additional work organised by the school in order to further develop the child for the benefit of the individual.

Homework

Weekly homework is set for children in Years 3 to 6 at the school and for Foundation Phase children on occasion. We will attempt to set homework which reinforces class work or which involves the class theme. It is means of ensuring that children foster the confidence to work independently outside the class/school situation and is an opportunity for parents to play an active role in their children's education. All homework should reflect each child's best effort. The teachers are not prepared to accept untidy work which is below the child's ability, and the child would be expected to re-do the work.

The 'Read with Me!' Scheme

The school endeavours to encourage parents to read with their children from the Nursery section to Year 6. The school provides a school bag for the children to carry their books tidily and the children are expected to return their books on a daily basis. We encourage parents to record in their record books.

Transferring Information to Parents

Circulating Messages

We circulate messages to parents letters electronically, by e-mail. If your contact details change please let the school now as soon as possible. The school has a mobile phone which enables us to send messages to parents on a regular basis to remind them of specific arrangements.

Reporting on your Child's Development

A parents' meeting is held at the school early in the autumn term and during the spring term. An extra evening will be held for Years 2 and 6 at the end of the summer term. Here you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and take a look at work books. During the summer term, a written report will be provided on your child's development and progress during the year.

Language Policy

Gwynedd Education Authority operates a policy of bilingualism throughout all Gwynedd schools and is also developing a policy of bilingualism for further education establishments. The objective is to develop the ability of pupils and students to be confidently bilingual, in order that they can be full members of the bilingual society of which are a part. All educational establishments within the County should reflect and reinforce the language policy in their administration, their social life and their pastoral arrangements, as well as in their academic provision. Ysgol Edern is a naturally Welsh-language school and the staff and pupils strive to retain the school's Welsh ethos and atmosphere. Those of you whose children are encountering a bilingual situation for the first time should not feel under threat nor should you feel that you don't belong. Perhaps you do not speak Welsh (although a number of parents do decide to learn the language), but we hope that you will respect the linguistic environment that exists here, an environment that enriches many aspects of the children's learning experiences. We respect your right to use the language of your choice, and to this purpose, correspondence from the school will be bilingual.

Nursery Education

Ensure, through a purposeful and sensitive nursery provision and organisation that all children are given a firm grounding in Welsh so that they reach the goal of full bilingualism in due course.

Infants

Build on the foundations laid in Welsh by nursery education, consolidating and developing the mother tongue of Welsh learners, and extending the competence of children from a Welsh home in English.

Junior

Consolidate and develop each child's Welsh and English capabilities in all their active and receptive aspects, in order to ensure that the child is able to speak, read and write fluently and confidently in both languages when transferring to Ysgol Botwnnog. When latecomers come to the school in Year 3, i.e. children who do not speak Welsh at all, they are offered an intensive one-term course at the 'Latecomers Centre' in Llanyybi. There the children will form part of a small learning group and will be taught by specialists in teaching Welsh as a second language. During their term at the centre, they will follow the usual school curriculum as well as learning Welsh. The children are conveyed to the centre free of charge.

Gwynedd Language Charter

Since the launch of the Gwynedd Primary Schools Welsh Language Charter, a considerable amount of work has been done at our school to influence the use of Welsh by children in a social context. The simple objective of the Language Charter is to increase the use of Welsh by children in a social context. The Language Charter exhorts participation from every member of the school community - the school council, pupils, workforce, parents, governors and the wider community - to take full ownership of it. An implementation programme has been drawn up which every school has to successfully achieve. We have achieved the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award here at Ysgol Edern.

Charging Payment Policy

As a rule, there is no charge for educational activities but the school's policy is to charge for activities held outside school hours or which do not form part of the curriculum, such as instrumental lessons. Voluntary contributions are sought towards other costs, such as educational trips, buses to swimming lessons and local excursions. Parents are asked to pay for residential visits. No child will be excluded from activities held during school hours based on a reluctance or inability to make voluntary contributions.

Sex Education Policy

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Act 1986, schools' governing bodies are required to consider whether sex education should form part of the secular curriculum. If they are of the opinion that sex education should form part of the curriculum, they are required to draw up and review a written statement of their policy in terms of content and organisation. The Governing Body of this school decided that sex education should be taught as part of the curriculum. This is done as part of Personal and Social Education lessons, and involves many issues that cover the development of the individual.

Religion/Collective Worship

This school is not directly or formally affiliated to any religious denomination. The religious education provided is based on the Authority's recognised syllabus. A copy of this syllabus is available for inspection at the school. Arrangements can be made for children whose parents do not wish them to attend religious services or similar studies. Collective worship takes place daily at the school. These services are mainly Christian, but other faiths are addressed on occasion. Collective worship usually takes place at the school, but on special occasions some services are held in a chapel or church. Parents are entitled to withdraw their children from collective worship.

Equal Opportunity Policy

The aim of the school policy is to provide equal opportunities for all pupils during their school careers, irrespective of their gender, age, language, racial background or ability. The policy confirms that the school nurtures positive social attitudes, ensures wide-ranging experiences and promotes happy and constructive collaboration.

Accessibility Policy

The aim of the school policy is to provide equal opportunities for all pupils, and although the school is not a designated school for disabled pupils, we would take every opportunity to adapt it as needed to facilitate access for every pupil according to his/her individual needs.

Race Equality

The school plays its part in eliminating racism and attaches value and prestige to diversity.

Curriculum for Wales



The Four Purpose

Four Purpose of the Welsh Curriculum is the focus of the school's curriculum. We use the purposes as the base for our planning work. Our learning experiences and learning methods aim towards these four purposes every time to make our learners : ambitious and capable, enterprising and creative, morally and informed and healthy and confident.

See the curriculum designing document for the school's characters of the Four Purpose and explanation of the Four Purpose.

Designing the curriculum

A combination of methods is used to plan the curriculum in this School in accordance with the requirements according to the age of the learners and the context of the learning.

Elements of planning for direct teaching (Mathematics and literacy), disciplinary, multidisciplinary will take place in order to learn and practice specific skills e.g maths, phonics, writing skills.

Interdisciplinary and integrated elements are used in order to further practice skills and apply them in different cross-curricular contexts. E.g pull together elements of Mathematics, Language, Digital Competence and Humanities when researching and writing a report about the village of Edern.

Most of the learning experiences at this School are planned on the basis of a Big Question (e.e what was it like to be a child in Edern a hundred years ago?) or a specific Theme (e.g The Farm). The voice of the child, their families and the community is important to us and there is flexibility in our planning to follow a different/local/global path so that an opportunity arises in order to make our learning experiences relevant, interesting and timely. We also put a big focus on learning about the local area and Wales. Learning about our history, culture and customs in the local area and nationally.

At this school we give learners enough time to cultivate, practice and apply knowledge and skills in order to embed the learning. We do not believe in rushing through work in order to have enough content and bulk.

In the curriculum each school has the freedom to plan the content themselves, and that based on:

The 6 learning area and experience (Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing, Humanities, Maths and Numeracy, Languages, literacy and communication, Science and Technology)

Statement of what is important (27 of these)

Cross curriculum skills (literacy, numeracy and technology)

Curriculum Responsibilities

Our curriculum here at Ysgol Edern embeds the mandated cross-curricular skills and integral skills that underpin the four purposes of the curriculum.

Literacy, numeracy and digital competence are essential to enable the learners to maintain the four purposes. These cross-curricular skills have been developed across all learning fields and experiences, to enable learners to gain access to the curriculum as a whole and used in the future.

Cross-curricular skills

Here at Ysgol Edern we carefully consider mandatory elements (the compulsory elements) of the Curriculum when planning. These elements are:

- Religion, values and ethics
- Mutual relation and sexuality education
- Welsh
- English (from 7 years old upwards)

Cross-curricular skills

Our pupils are given opportunities across the curriculum to:

- Develop learning, reading, oral and writing skills (literacy)
- Use numeracy and problem solving skills in real situations (numeracy)
- Be a confident technology user (digital competence)

Holistic skills

Whilst planning our provision we make sure that the pupils are given the highest standard of educational, enriched, wide and balanced experiences. We also ensure that our provision and our education concentrate on developing key skills, which are essential to complete the four purpose.

5 cross curricular themes

When designing our curriculum we have enclosed the five cross curricular themes

In the curriculum each school has the freedom to plan the content themselves, and that based on:

6 learning area and experience

Statement of what is important

Cross curriculum skills (literacy, numeracy and technology)

5 cross subject themes

National Literacy and Numeracy Framework

The main purpose of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) is to ensure that numeracy and literacy work suited to the child's age and ability is woven into every subject/area taught at the school. At Ysgol Ederm we plan to ensure that children are given opportunities to practise and develop these skills throughout the entire curriculum and school. We teach the essential skills in language and maths lessons, and then the children apply these skills to other subjects.

The Digital Competence Framework

The aim of the Digital Competence Framework is to develop those skills that pupils need to succeed in an increasingly digital world. At Ysgol Ederm, we plan so as to ensure that pupils receive numerous opportunities to develop their ICT skills cross-curricularly throughout the school.

There are four strands to the Digital Competence Framework:

Citizenship: Identity, image and reputation, Health and well-being, Digital rights, licensing and ownership, Online behaviour and cyber-bullying.

Interacting and collaborating: Communication, Collaboration, Storing and sharing.

Producing: Planning, sourcing and searching, Creating, Evaluating and improving.

Data and computational thinking: Problem solving and modelling, Data and information literacy.

The Hidden Curriculum

Apart from the individual specialisation of teaching staff, this is what is primarily responsible for giving every school its individual and unique character. This is the part of the curriculum that cannot be placed under headings - the philosophy behind the learning and the staff's motivation, together with the way in which the school's policies take into account the nature of the society it serves - this is what gives the school its own character.

At Ysgol Ederm, we endeavour to provide a wide range of experiences so as to meet the diverse needs of each child. We realise that all children are different and that they are entitled to succeed in different ways. Not everyone succeeds academically and therefore we realise the importance of providing a variety of experiences in order to display and develop their talents outside the classroom. We guide the children to be able to solve problems creatively and apply their skills as they become citizens of the future.

Assessment

We use the Learning Descriptions for each Statement of What Matters for assessment and planning for learner progress. These roughly correspond to expectations for ages 5, 8, 11, 14 and 16 and offer guidance on how learners should demonstrate progress within each Statement.

These are not used as a list of boxes to be ticked, but rather as tools to be considered when planning for the progress of our learners.

In addition to this, there are principles of progress which underpin our planning for learners' progress across the fields over time.

A Curriculum for Wales gives us the opportunity to ensure that learners' progress is the main purpose of Assessment and not an accountability exercise. To this end, we at Edern School pride ourselves on developing a complete picture of the development of each learner, including their well-being, their willingness and desire to learn as well as the development of their skills, knowledge and understanding. We emphasize the importance of ensuring a mutual understanding of progress across the practitioners of the school and the cluster and on regular discussions with parents and carers to discuss their children's progress.

Healthy School

Ysgol Edern is part of the Gwynedd Healthy Schools scheme and has succeeded in Phase 5 of the scheme. This means that we are working on the Quality Mark now at Ysgol Edern. The scheme enables the school to make a positive contribution to the health and well-being of pupils, teachers and the wider community by developing a health-promoting environment.

Green School

The school has won the silver award. We recycle paper, cardboard, plastic and clothing at the school and use the garden to plant various fruits and vegetables.

Urdd

There is a branch of the Urdd at the school and we compete annually at the Eisteddfod with singing, reciting, performing dialogue, writing, and in the art section. We also compete in sports competitions.

Residential Visits

The school will be annually organises residential trips for the children.

A fee will be collected for these trips.

During the last academic year, Year 5 and 6 visited Plas Menai overnight / two days where they had a variety of experiences of outdoor activities and opportunity to work together.

Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

Children develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values to participate in decision-making, individually and collectively, both locally and globally, that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future.

Physical Education

The school provides a stimulating and secure environment for pupils where they can aim to achieve general maturity and develop physical skills. Activities offered provide pleasure as well as fulfilling creative needs. The school will approve of and promote the children's interest in sports of all kinds as part of their social and physical development. Schemes include elements of invasion games - team games, gymnastics, dance and swimming.

A course of swimming lessons is organised at the leisure centre in Pwllheli for the whole school during the year. It is felt that organising such periods is a more successful way of getting the children to swim. We also have an extensive yard and playing field for some playtime activities.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD'S EDUCATION?

Here are some guidelines as to the kind of things that parents can teach children, enabling them to provide additional support for their children at school.

Nursery		
*Learn colours	*Hold a pencil correctly	*Count to 10
*Draw pictures	*Colour-in neatly events	*Talk about the day's
*Recognise particular letters and numbers	regularly	*Read to them
Reception Class		
*Recognise letters and numbers	*Write letters and numbers	
	*Count to 20	
*Read simple words and books	*Write simple words and sentences	
	*Count in 10s	
Years 1 and 2		
*Know 2, 5 and 10 x tables		*Chat in Welsh and in English
*Mentally add and subtract up to 20		*Write sentences
*Tell the time (at least on the hour, half past and quarter past)		
	*Count up to 100 and more	
Years 3 and 4		
	*Know at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10 x tables	
	*Tell the time on an analogue clock, use money	
	*Write in Welsh and in English - letters, stories	
	*Discuss and chat, expressing a rational view in both languages	
Years 5 and 6		
	*Know all tables up to 10 by Christmas in Year 5	
	*Write in Welsh and in English - stories, letters, etc. without many spelling errors - stories - approximately one A4 side in 45 minutes to one hour	
	*Confidently discuss and chat in both languages, using correct language and a good vocabulary, and express a view and opinion clearly	

Provision for Children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

This policy is based on the following legislation and documents:

- Education Act 1993
- Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs
- Education Act 1993 Special Educational Needs File
- Education Authority's Language Policy
- The Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1994
- Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales
- Assessment and Provision for Additional Learning Needs (CRISP 'Asesu Da', Good Assessment Scheme)

Principles

Our aim as a school is to act in compliance with the principles below that have been adopted by Gwynedd Education Committee.

- Secure an equal opportunity both curricularly and socially for pupils who have additional learning needs.
- Co-operate effectively with other statutory agencies involved in the field, such as the Health Authority and Social Services.
- Establish a partnership with parents and the voluntary bodies who represent them.
- Ensure a response from the entire Education Authority and school to Special Educational Needs and do not confine responsibility to particular members of staff.

Objectives

Our aim at Ysgol Eder is to do our utmost to provide an equal opportunity both socially and educationally for each child across the ability range. We also hope to ensure that each individual receives the best possible opportunity to work to the utmost of his/her ability through written or practical work done bilingually. Hopefully, we will be able to ensure that each child fully realises his/her potential and unique talent.

The aim is to:

- ensure that there is a system in place at the school to identify at an early stage the child who is experiencing difficulties that could be hindering his/her education;
- gather information from teachers and others so as to ensure the best possible understanding as to the nature of the child's difficulties;
- ensure that the necessary provision is made for a pupil who has special educational needs;
- secure the co-operation and support of parents and others as regards identifying and providing a service.

Ysgol Eder's Policy of Additional Learning Needs

A copy of the policy can be obtained at the school.

The school's ALN co-ordinator is Mrs Sioned Tudor

Supporting and Promoting the Achievement of Looked-after Children

Every looked-after child is entitled to an education and to receive every opportunity and assistance to develop educationally and socially. To support and promote the achievement of these pupils, the school will:

- ensure that a member of staff has been appointed to take on specific responsibility for pupils in the care of the Local Authority (the Headteacher);
- ensure that we monitor the absence of pupils who are in the care of the Local Authority, and submit a report to the Education Authority;
- secure a positive environment and ethos;
- be aware of the sensitivity surrounding excluding a pupil who is looked after by the Local Authority, acknowledging the need for those children to receive a continuous education;
- ensure that every pupil has a Personal Education Plan (PEP). It is the responsibility of the school, after consulting parents, guardians and appropriate agencies, to prepare a PEP. The PEP should be agreed as soon as possible, and within 20 days at the most of the children going into care or to a new school;
- ensure that any special educational needs that a looked-after child has are provided for.

What can you as parents and carers do to help your child as he/she starts in the Nursery Class?

Try to make the most of every opportunity to support your child in order to enrich his/her experiences:

- It is vital for you to talk to your child, not just about the school day, but about other important events too.
- The need for you to read and play all types of language games with your child cannot be overemphasised, e.g. 'I spy with my little eye ...'.
- There is no need to do any formal work as such but instead to encourage a child's awareness of numbers by teaching him/her simple rhymes and referring to number in the environment.
- Help your child with tasks such as dressing, tying shoelaces, going to the toilet (the child must be out of nappies before starting school), using a knife and fork and tidying up.
- Develop activities that encourage conversation and self-confidence.
- Help your child to become familiar with the shape of his/her name.
- Do not use capital letters, e.g. help not HELP.

We look forward at Ysgol Edern to working with you and aim to provide your child with the best standard of education.

Diolch yn fawr,

Mr Ilan Williams
(Pennaeth)



Yma'n Ysgol Edern Ysgogwr Iad