

Welcome to PENTYRCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pentyrch Primary School

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Croeso i Ysgol Gynradd Pentrych

The staff and governors would like to welcome your child and family to our **Reception class at Pentyrch Primary School.**

We hope you find this booklet a useful guide to your child's first experience of school.

Our Shared Vision

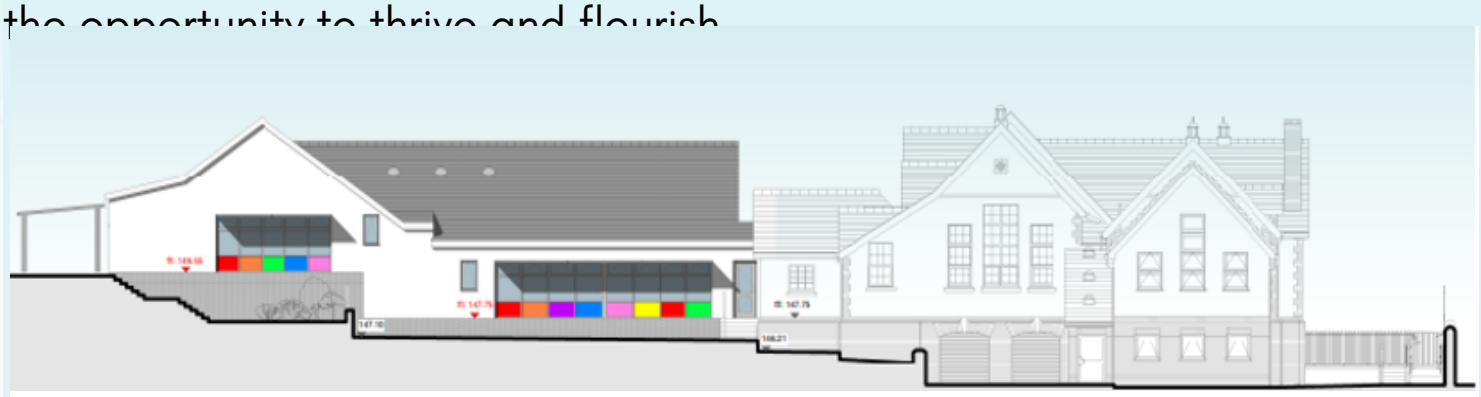
The Head of School and staff hold a shared vision for the children in our school, in which all pupils care for and respect each other equally.

The aim of a school's curriculum is to work together to support the children to become:

- Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives;
- Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work;
- Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world;
- Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Our NEW Build

We currently have a split Nursery / Reception provision at Pentyrch Primary school. The school's first ever Nursery class opened in September 2023 and moved into their new purpose built classroom in the new building in February 2024. Nursery and Reception children work in the same shared provision and break out spaces during the morning and afternoon sessions. The provision is based on a stage not age approach with the curriculum and learning and teaching opportunities meeting the needs of all individuals whatever stage they are at. The Nursery / Reception ethos is one of a calm, welcoming environment with a home-from-home feel. With access to a teaching kitchen, quiet sensory room, and bespoke outdoor learning spaces, this building provides our Nursery / Reception children the opportunity to thrive and flourish.





Welcome



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

MRS COOMBES

We are very excited to be welcoming your child to our Reception class and look forward to getting to know them as they settle into our Pentyrch family.

We pride ourselves in having a happy and inclusive atmosphere, one in which all our pupils thrive and flourish in response to the wide-ranging engaging activities developed and delivered by our highly experienced and nurturing staff.

We have an irresistible curriculum that is underpinned by real - life and authentic experiences. We are responsive to the interests and passions of the pupils when planning learning and teaching opportunities. On any given day children will be encouraged to engage in structured and unstructured play, pre-planned and child centred activities through which they develop and grow while forming meaningful and supportive relationships with those around them.

Pentyrch
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People You Will Meet

TAKE A LOOK AT WHO'S WHO AT PENTYRCH!

Pentyrch Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Coombes

Deputy Executive Headteacher: Mrs James

ALNCO and Senior Leader: Mrs Reynolds

Senior Leader: Mrs Bates

Office Manager: Miss Reed



Our Teaching Team: Mrs Coleman, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Girt, Miss O Leary, Mrs. Wills, Ms A. Coombes, Ms Davies, Miss Rowlands and Mrs Bates

Our Teaching Assistant Team: Mrs Ahmed, Mr Brennan, Miss Quilter, Mrs Chandrinos, Miss Williams and Miss Cooke.

Breakfast Club/Midday Supervisors: Mrs Probert, Ms Farnham, Ms Ali and Mrs Price

Estates Team : Mr Murphy and Mr Newton

School Cooks: Mrs. Cope and Mrs Foster



Key Information

IMPORTANT DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Pentyrch Primary School

Reception School Times

The school day runs from 8.55am until 3.30pm. The school gate opens at 8.50am and shuts at 8.55am. Should you arrive after 8.55am, please report to the school office.

We have a 15 minute break in the morning and lunch time is from 12.00pm until 1.00pm. We will also have a 10 minute pause for play break in the afternoon.

Collection and Drop-off

Contact the school if you make arrangements for someone else to collect your child. Please make sure you are on time to collect your child, however if you are going to be unavoidably late, please telephone as soon as possible.

Drinks and snack

Every day the children will have milk; this is provided free of charge. If your child does not drink milk, they are able to use their water bottle which can be refilled throughout the day.

Please provide a daily bottle of water and two healthy snacks for your child to have at morning and afternoon break. These should be labelled clearly with your child's name in a suitable container. These containers should be separate to any lunch bag/container.

If your child has any dietary requirements or allergies, please inform the school office and Reception staff.

Lunch

School dinners are available free of charge to Reception pupils and can be ordered through ParentPay. If the menu provided isn't suitable, please provide your child with a healthy, balanced packed lunch.

Key Information

IMPORTANT DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Parking

Dropping and collecting your child - we respectfully ask that when parking on the roads outside of school, care is taken not to obstruct the school gates, residents' driveways and restricted areas.

Wraparound Provision

Provision will be available from 8am until 5:30pm.

- 8am-8.55am We operate the Welsh Assembly's Free Breakfast to Primary School Children Initiative. A registration form must be completed for your child to attend.
- 3:30pm-5:30pm Wraparound Care run in school by Little Haven Pentyrch for 3-11 year olds. For further information, please email learning@littlehaven.co.uk

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Reception Class Aims

WE AIM TO...

- Provide a secure, welcoming and happy atmosphere where children experience a variety of activities and the opportunity to participate in purposeful, structured and spontaneous play.

- Provide children with first-hand experiences appropriate to their stage of development.

- Encourage your child to make their own decisions and choices to enable them to become an independent learner.

- Develop a good partnership between home and school.





Pentyrch Primary School

Admission and Induction







Your child's first day

You will be contacted regarding your child's first day at school. On this day please arrive at the school entrance at your allocated time. You will be greeted by a member of staff and directed to your child's class entry point.

Emergency arrangements

It is important we have full details of how to contact you in case of an emergency. We will ask you to complete a set of admission forms.

Assessments

When your child joins Reception, they will be assessed as part of an initial on-entry assessment. This will look at:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills
- Mathematical Development
- Physical Development

School Clothing

Reception children are asked to wear school uniform. Uniform is available to purchase from Safewear UK
https://www.safewearuk.com/school-uniform-childrenswear/Pentyrch-Primary

We encourage children to develop independence and self help skills so it is important that they are supported to learn to dress themselves in their uniform. Careful consideration has been given to ensuring the school uniform can be easily managed and worn. Please ensure that every item of clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name.





Children will take part in 'Rucksack Day'for which they will need to come to school dressed ready for a day in the outdoors in i.e. House colour t-shirt and shorts or jogging bottoms with daps or trainers.

Outside provision is offered every day, so please make sure your child has clothing appropriate for the weather. We ask children to bring a pair of wellies to school, labelled with your child's name. These will remain in school for daily use.



Health and Illness

In the case of absence, please telephone the Office Manager, Miss Reed who can then inform the Nursery team.

For the health and well-being of children and staff, please keep your child at home if they are unwell. Children must not come to Nursery if they are suffering from common childhood illnesses such as a high temperature, sickness and / or diarrhoea or chicken pox.

Please note, children with sickness/diarrhoea must be well for 48 hours before they return to school. Please contact the school office for further information regarding time required away from school with specific illnesses.

If your child needs an Epi pen, Asthma medication, or any other prescribed medication, please make sure the school is aware and that we have the medication required in school and you have filled in the relevant paperwork available from the office. We are unable to administer unprescribed medication such as CalPol and can only give anti biotics if they need to be taken 4 times daily.

If your child becomes unwell at school, we will contact you so that they can be collected from school. **Completion of the admission form providing emergency contact numbers is imperative.** Please notify us should any contact numbers change as we require up to date information.

Asthma

Ask your GP for a spare pump so that it can be kept in school. The school's medication form must be completed and signed giving us details on dosage and use of pumps.

Allergies

Please inform the school if your child has any allergies and provide appropriate prescribed medication should your child need it.

Learning in Reception

Our Reception class is situated in our new, purpose- built setting that exudes a calm, welcoming environment with a home-from-home feel. Your child will develop a variety of skills in a range of purposeful , real life provision.

















Learning in Reception



















The New Curriculum

Our Foundation Phase curriculum is a careful balance of adult-led focused activities and pupil directed play, which ensure that the learning of our youngest pupils is both enjoyable and rewarding.



The six 'Areas of Learning ' are:
Expressive Arts;

- Health and Well-being;
- Humanities;
- Languages, Literacy and Communication;
- Mathematics and Numeracy;
- Science and Technology.

Children will also develop:

- their understanding of Religious Education;
- their understanding of diversity and the importance of respecting differences;
- experiences and skills for careers and the work place;
- their understanding of local, national and international contexts;
- appropriate relationships education.



Health and Wellbeing

...is about looking after their physical and mental health including emotional well-being. They'll learn about healthy eating and how to make good decisions, deal with influences and develop healthy relationships.



Developing children's personal and social skills and well-being is at the heart of our teaching in Pentyrch Primary School. By providing a caring and safe environment, children learn how to interact with adults and other children. They learn how to co-operate and to share.

We support the children to develop their abilities to understand and control their emotions. Developing children's aspirations, self-esteem and motivation, is a key focus throughout their school years.

We strive to promote a healthy lifestyle and a love of exercise. Through physical activity, children develop fine and gross motor skills. They learn to manipulate a range of equipment safely and with increasing control whilst developing muscular strength, mobility and an awareness of themselves.

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Language, Literacy and Communication

Your child will learn about languages. They'll understand and use Welsh, English and other Languages. they'll study and create literature, and communicate in spoken, written or visual ways. This could include poetry, drama and film.



In Reception, we aim to provide a rich language experience allowing the children to express themselves through role play, circle time, story time, rhymes and songs. These experiences will form a sound basis for early reading and writing skills.

We aim to develop all aspects of languages so that the children become good speakers and in time good readers and writers. We provide clear structured activities to challenge the children. These allow them to develop language and literacy skills at their own pace and with confidence. We follow a programme of phonics teaching in the early stages of Nursery that will be at the core of developing language and literacy skills.

The Welsh language is delivered through activities, song and incidental Welsh. The children are provided with opportunities to experience and enjoy using Welsh in their everyday activities.

'Helpwr Heddiw' time is used to teach simple sentence patterns and children will develop their confidence to ask and answer questions in Welsh.

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Mathematics and Numeracy

Your child will develop their understanding of numbers and use symbols in Maths. They'll explore shapes and measurement and learn about statistics and probability.



Mathematics within the Foundation Phase is based upon providing activities, both in the classroom and the outdoor learning environment. These will allow the children to learn through hands-on, real life experiences. These activities enable children to develop cognitive thinking whilst manipulating all kinds of equipment.

Through such playful opportunities, the children are involved in their own learning experiences. Children will develop mathematical language through participation in number songs and rhymes. They learn how to co-operate with others and begin to experience problem solving and decision making. Through focused activities the children then begin to develop a more formal understanding of Maths concepts such as addition and subtraction.

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Expressive Arts

Your child will explore art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills.

Throughout the Foundation Phase an important emphasis is placed upon creative development. Children will have the opportunities to observe, and to develop their creative and expressive skills. These make an important contribution to their overall progress.

Creativity provides children with opportunities to manipulate different textures, colours and mediums, to respond to and enjoy rhythm and music and create movement in dance, whilst engaging in the pure enjoyment of exploration.







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Humanities

Your child will learn about the world, society and events in the past and present. They'll explore the challenges and opportunities that face us, and what ethical action we can take to safeguard the world and its people in the future.

Children are naturally inquisitive about the world in which they live. They enjoy exploring, matching, sequencing and experimenting. Our role is to provide such opportunities for children to discover and understand the world around them.

Well-structured activities allow the child to develop a basic understanding of the locality, nature, ourselves and our health. Our contexts for learning take a thematic approach allowing the children to develop a clear understanding of today's world.



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Science and Technology

Your child will learn about biology, chemistry, physics, computer science and design and technology. They'll learn about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy, and how computers work.



Children learn best when they are provided with practical experiences in order to engage with the world around them. They will be actively encouraged to show curiosity and question how things work when constructing and deconstructing objects.

As independence is something we value highly as our school, we facilitate opportunities for children to use simple tools, materials and equipment when engaging in collaborative projects. As society is mostly shaped by technology, we begin to understand how computers work by following a sequence of instructions to control a device.



As young scientists, we actively promote the importance of trial and error. Through play-based activities, children will explore the effects that forces have on themselves and objects, forming the building blocks to understanding more complex theories.

Pentyrch Primary School

How can you help your child?

- Talk to your child positively about school and how much they will enjoy being here.
- Encourage your child to use the toilet independently. Teach your child to flush the toilet and wash their hands with soap.
- Label **all** coats, clothing and shoes with your child's name. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost items of clothing.
- Teach your child to dress and undress independently and put on shoes and socks.
- Tell us about any allergies or needs your child may have.
- Things that happen at home , may affect your child in school. Please tell us if there is a reason why your child is unsettled so that we can understand any possible change in behaviour.
- Keep your child at home if they are unwell.
- Give your child the opportunity to use crayons, pencils, glue, scissors etc at home.
- Outdoor play is an important part of your child's development. Please ensure your child has warm clothes in the colder months and is well protected from the sun in the summer.





