Ysgol Bryn Gwalia

2025-2026 PROSPECTUS

Clayton Road, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1SU www.bryngwalia.org 01352 752659

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"Ysgol Bryn Gwalia is a nurturing, inclusive school, which provides exceptional care and support for its pupils. Relationships across the school are strong and parents, pupils and staff feel valued. Provision for pupils' well-being is a strength of the school."

Estyn December 2023

Growing Together

YSGOL BRYN GWALIA

Aiming High

Welcome from the Headteacher

Growing Together, Aiming High

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to Ysgol Bryn Gwalia.

We are a one-form entry community primary school in the heart of Mold, just the right size to offer a caring, inclusive, and nurturing environment where every child is known, supported, and valued.

Choosing the right school for your child is a hugely important decision, and I hope this prospectus gives you a real sense of what makes Bryn Gwalia such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our strong values-based ethos, our broad and exciting curriculum, and our commitment to promoting children's academic achievement, well-being, and personal development.

At Bryn Gwalia, we believe that children who are happy, secure, and emotionally supported are best placed to succeed. We prioritise wellbeing in everything we do, from our dedicated nurture provision, Dosbarth Dewryn, to our strong partnerships with families and the wider community.

We are proud to be recognised as a Rights Respecting School, a School of Sanctuary, and an Ashoka Changemaker School — three powerful reflections of our commitment to developing responsible, compassionate citizens of both Wales and the wider world.

Our curriculum is guided by the Curriculum for Wales and rooted in inquiry-based learning, allowing pupils to develop curiosity, creativity, and confidence through meaningful, real-world experiences. We offer a wide range of enrichment opportunities and are actively involved in our local community, including projects with Mold Community Hospital, Mold Alun High School, and the Food and Fun holiday programme.

Although we are defined as a Predominantly English-Medium School, we place great emphasis on developing Welsh language and culture, ensuring our pupils grow with a strong sense of identity and cynefin.

We would be delighted to welcome you for a visit to see the school in action and to meet our dedicated staff and enthusiastic pupils. Please contact the school office to arrange a convenient time.

Thank you for your interest in Ysgol Bryn Gwalia. We look forward to starting this exciting learning journey with you and your child.

Warm regards,

Mrs L Dalton Pennaeth – Headteacher

Growing Together

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Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Welcome from the Chair of Governors
Mrs Janiene Davies

Dear Parent/Carer,

As Chair of the Governing Body, I am delighted to welcome you as you begin making one of the most important decisions for your child — choosing the right school for their future.

These are exciting and transformational times for education in Wales. Schools now have a pivotal role in nurturing children to become ambitious and capable learners, ethical and informed citizens, healthy and confident individuals, and enterprising and creative contributors. At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we are proud to be fully embracing this vision.

The Governing Body and I have the utmost confidence in our talented and dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to provide the highest standards of academic and personal development. Our shared aim is to raise aspirations and ensure that every pupil is supported, challenged, and celebrated as a unique individual.

We are committed to creating a learning environment where every child can flourish, developing the knowledge, skills, and resilience they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world. At Bryn Gwalia, we believe in preparing pupils not only for academic success but for life as compassionate, capable members of their community.

I hope this prospectus gives you an insight into our vibrant school and its values. However, to truly experience the welcoming atmosphere and outstanding provision at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, I encourage you to visit the school, meet our staff, and see for yourself what makes our community so special.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family into our school.

Warm regards,
Mrs Janiene Davies
Chair of Governors

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Admission Arrangements

Admission Arrangements

Visiting Ysgol Bryn Gwalia
Parents and carers considering enrolling their child at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia are warmly invited to visit the school during a normal school day. To arrange a tour and meeting with the Headteacher, please contact the school office by phone or email to book a mutually convenient time. This visit offers an excellent opportunity to ask questions, explore the school environment, and meet key staff and pupils.

Admission to Nursery and Reception
Children are admitted to our Lower Foundation Phase Class in the September following their third birthday. We offer a structured transition process to ensure that pupils feel settled and confident before they begin:

- Induction Evening: Parents/carers of new Nursery and Reception pupils are invited to a welcoming evening each June, where they can meet staff, ask questions, and learn more about school life.
- Familiarisation Visits: Children are invited to attend sessions in school before their official start to help them get to know their teachers, new classmates, and the learning environment.
- Wraparound Provision: Morning nursery pupils can access wraparound childcare onsite for the remainder of the school day (subject to availability and fees).

Please note: Nursery education is not statutory, and therefore admission to our nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception. Applications must be submitted through Flintshire County Council.

Application Process
All admissions are coordinated by Flintshire County Council, who apply the relevant Admissions Policy and allocate places accordingly.
To find out more, including application deadlines and procedures:

- Visit our website: www.bryngwalia.org
- Or scan the QR code in this prospectus with your smartphone for direct access to admissions information.

Looked-After Children
Children who are Looked After by the Local Authority are prioritised in the Admissions Policy. During their time at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, they will be supported closely by our 'Looked After Children' Co-ordinator, who is also our Additional Learning Needs and Achievement Co-ordinator (ALNCo). Their progress, wellbeing, and care are regularly monitored in collaboration with carers and the Local Authority.

Transition and Moving On
We are proud of our carefully planned transition programme. Pupils joining us mid-year or from other settings will be invited to visit before their official start date to familiarise themselves with the campus, their peers, and staff. Where needed, an individual transition plan will be created in collaboration with families and the ALNCo.
For pupils in Year 6, we work closely with local secondary schools to support a smooth and confident transition to high school. A variety of transition activities and visits help prepare our pupils for the next stage of their learning journey, ensuring they leave us as independent, resilient, and ready learners.

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Why Choose Ysgol Bryn Gwalia

Who We Are

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia is a warm, inclusive, and ambitious primary school located in the heart of Mold, Flintshire. We are a one-form entry school that serves our community with pride, offering a nurturing and stimulating environment where every child is encouraged to grow, thrive, and aim high. Our dedicated team of staff, governors, and wider community partners work together to ensure that each child is supported to achieve their full potential — academically, socially, and emotionally.

We are proud to be a school that places wellbeing, creativity, and curiosity at the centre of learning. As a Rights Respecting School, a School of Sanctuary, and an Ashoka Changemaker School, our values run deep — empowering pupils to be kind, confident, and active citizens of Wales and the wider world. Through our inquiry-based curriculum and strong partnerships with families and the local community, we aim to provide every child with the tools, knowledge, and experiences they need to succeed now and into the future.

Why Choose Ysgol Bryn Gwalia?

🌱 Warm, nurturing environment where every child is known and valued

🧠 Inquiry-based curriculum that sparks curiosity and deep thinking

🧍♂️ Focus on well-being and emotional development, including nurture provision

🌍 Rights Respecting, School of Sanctuary & Changemaker School

🎓 High-quality teaching and strong pupil progress recognised by Estyn

🎒 Enrichment through trips, residentials & real-world learning experiences

🥣 Free breakfast club and summer holiday provision

🏅 Award-winning staff and national recognition for excellence

What Sets Us Apart

Scan the QR code with your phone to see what sets us apart!
Discover how Ysgol Bryn Gwalia goes beyond the classroom to nurture, inspire, and empower every learner.

"Pupils feel safe and valued as a result of the school's caring and nurturing ethos."

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School of SANCTUARY AWARD
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary

PROUD TO BE A myHappymind SCHOOL

PRIMARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR
YSGOL BRYN GWALIA
CHANCE TO SHINE
compare themarket

TRAUMA INFORMED UK SCHOOLS™
School with TISUK Practitioners

2025 – 2027
Rights Respecting Schools
UNITED KINGDOM
unicef
Bronze Rights Committed

Growing Together

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Our Vision, Values, Behaviours and School Aims

School Vision

"Growing together, aiming high."

Our Values

KINDNESS

Showing kindness and empathy and ourselves and others at all times. Creating a positive environment for students and inspire them to be kind in other areas of their lives.

HONESTY

Feeling safe enough to be honest in any situation and understanding the importance of this. Knowing **how** to be honest in a kind and compassionate way.

RESILIENCE

Having a positive approach to learning, and never giving up even if a task is difficult or challenging. Using the support network around you to help in a difficult situation.

NURTURE

Can always be committed to knowing how to be self-regulated, equipped, determined, and ready to say '**Yes!**' to great learning experiences on offer every day!

Our Vision

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, our vision "Growing Together, Aiming High" is more than a motto — it's the foundation of everything we do. Our mission statement and school aims have been co-created by our children, staff, governors, and families, reflecting the collective voice of our community. As a proud community school, we place nurture and wellbeing at the heart of our practice, ensuring that every child is supported to reach their full potential and truly thrive — academically, socially, and emotionally. We are committed to developing a culture of kindness, where respect, care, and encouragement are lived daily, and where learners grow in confidence and character, supported by a strong network of peers and adults who believe in them.

Our Values

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, our core values of Kindness, Honesty, Resilience, and Nurture guide everything we do. These values are woven into daily school life and help shape our pupils into thoughtful, confident, and compassionate individuals. By living these values, our learners grow not only academically but also emotionally and socially — ready to face challenges, support others, and make a positive difference in the world around them.

Our Behaviours

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we believe that how we treat one another is just as important as what we learn. We expect all members of our school community to show respect, kindness, and care in their everyday interactions. To celebrate and reinforce these positive behaviours, we recognise our Bryn Gwalia GEMS — role models who demonstrate what it means to be Gentle and Kind, Excellent in Attitude, Mindful of Others, and Supportive and Nurturing. Each week, these pupils are celebrated in our school assembly. We also highlight acts of everyday kindness on our Kindness Tree, showing that even the smallest gestures can make a big difference in building a thoughtful, compassionate school community.

School Aims

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, our school aims are rooted in our vision "Growing Together, Aiming High", and reflect our commitment to every child's personal and academic growth. We aim to:

- Empower ambitious, capable learners who are curious, reflective, and ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Prioritise positive relationships, recognising that kindness, respect, and trust are the foundation of a successful learning community.
- Encourage enterprising, creative contributors who can collaborate, innovate, and express themselves confidently.
- Develop ethical, informed citizens who understand their rights and responsibilities as members of Wales and the wider world.
- Foster healthy, confident individuals who feel secure, self-aware, and ready to take on challenges with resilience.
- Provide a broad, balanced, and inquiry-led curriculum that is engaging, inclusive, and relevant to the 21st century.
- Create a safe, caring, and nurturing environment where every child is valued, supported, and celebrated.
- Promote a strong sense of belonging to our school and wider community through meaningful partnerships and shared experiences.
- Ensure that all children are taught how to be great learners, enabling them to lead their own learning with independence and purpose.
- Celebrate diversity, individuality, and achievement, helping every child discover and reach their full potential.

Growing Together

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Aiming High

Our School & Curriculum

"Pupils build positive working relationships with staff. This contributes to pupils' strong sense of well-being. They display excellent behaviour in class and around the school."

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School Hours

Reception	8:50 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Year 1/2	8:50 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Year 3	8:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Year 4	8:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Year 5	8:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Year 6	8:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

"Pupils build positive working relationships with staff. This contributes to pupils' strong sense of well-being. They display excellent behaviour in class and around the school."

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Term Dates

To access details of the term dates for school, please follow this link: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Holidays--Training-Days.aspx.

Alternatively, you may scan the following QR code.

Teaching Staff

The school benefits from a highly qualified, dedicated, and experienced staff made up of teachers, teaching assistants—including an Award-winning TA of the Year at the Pearson National Teaching Awards—secretaries, cooks, lunchtime supervisors, a caretaker, and cleaners. Our leadership team has been recognised with Head Teacher of the Year awards for both Flintshire and Wrexham, and our school has proudly received Primary School of the Year honours in Flintshire and Wrexham. We also work closely with visiting staff such as Inclusion Officers, Advisory Teachers, Educational Psychologists, Peripatetic Music Teachers, and other external agencies. Additionally, we enjoy strong links with the University of Chester and CaBan (Bangor University).

Equipment and Facilities

Our school is exceptionally well maintained and thoughtfully resourced to create an inspiring and supportive learning environment. Each classroom is tastefully decorated to a high standard, designed as a neutral, trauma-informed space that promotes calm and focus. Every room includes a quiet area to support pupils' emotional wellbeing. Understanding the importance of biophilia for learning and wellbeing, all classrooms feature plants to bring nature indoors and create a nurturing atmosphere. Classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards and dedicated kitchen areas.
Facilities also include a fully refurbished library, a spacious school hall with a stage, and extensive outdoor learning spaces.

Outdoor Learning is a key focus throughout the school. Our outdoor areas serve as an extension of the classroom, providing a rich, integrated curriculum experience through carefully planned, hands-on activities. We are proud participants in the Ysgolion Eco-Schools Scheme, which supports our commitment to environmental responsibility and enhances our outdoor provision. Our grounds feature an expansive Forest School area, offering unique learning opportunities in a natural setting.

Forest School

We are lucky to have our own Forest School in the school grounds, and have several members of staff qualified as Forest School practitioners. In recent years, we have expanded the forest area with the children and staff planting 450 new trees gifted to us by The Woodland Trust

Our Curriculum Just Got Even Better!

We're proud to share our updated Curriculum Rationale – a clearer, stronger vision of how and why we teach the way we do at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia.

Our revised curriculum framework reflects:

- A commitment to academic excellence
- Real-world relevance for our students
- Inclusive and student-centered learning
- Strong values and future-ready skills

We invite our community – parents, students, and partners – to explore the updated rationale and see how we're shaping education for the future.

Read the full Curriculum Rationale here: https://shorturl.at/dOaBp

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we are more than just a school — we are a thriving community of curiosity, compassion, and opportunity, where every child is supported to grow, lead, and thrive.

Curriculum

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, our curriculum has been thoughtfully designed using the Navigating the Curriculum for Wales framework as a guiding structure. This curriculum model allows us to remain responsive, inclusive, and forward-thinking while staying true to the principles and values of Curriculum for Wales. Our curriculum is designed to provide rich, inclusive, and meaningful learning experiences that support all children to thrive.

At its core are the Four Purposes, which shape our vision and aspirations for all learners — to become ambitious, capable learners; enterprising, creative contributors; ethical, informed citizens; and healthy, confident individuals. These purposes are the foundation upon which we build every aspect of our curriculum and assessment processes.

"The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum. Through this, teachers plan an interesting range of learning experiences. These support pupils to develop their knowledge and skills well. Teachers ensure that pupils contribute their ideas suitably to planning and this motivates pupils to engage well in their learning. The school enriches its curriculum successfully through visits and activities within the school grounds, local area and further afield."

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In designing our curriculum, we have carefully considered the unique context, identity, and needs of our school community. This includes the backgrounds, interests, and experiences of our learners, as well as the local environment and wider Welsh heritage that shape who we are. We have used this understanding to ensure that all Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs) — Languages, Literacy and Communication; Mathematics and Numeracy; Science and Technology; Humanities; Health and Well-being; and Expressive Arts — are not only fully represented but also delivered in a way that provides clear continuity and progression across year groups. Each AoLE is underpinned by strong disciplinary knowledge, allowing pupils to develop subject-specific understanding while also making meaningful connections across the curriculum. This approach supports deep learning, encourages high expectations, and ensures that every child is equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive now and in the future.

"The school curriculum is broad and balanced and teachers provide a progressive range of activities to develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital skills".
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In 2025, we redesigned our two-year topic cycle to ensure that our curriculum is relevant, meaningful, and well-suited to an inquiry-based approach. Each overarching topic is intentionally broad and open-ended, allowing it to be adapted across all year groups — from Nursery to Year 6. This flexibility enables teachers to pose big questions that are developmentally appropriate for their learners, while still connecting to a shared theme across the school. This structure ensures both coherence and progression, allowing all pupils to engage deeply with their learning through exploration, curiosity, and cross-curricular inquiry.

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion

We're proud to be an inclusive school where we celebrate what makes each child unique. Our aim is to make sure that every pupil has the support and opportunities they need to achieve their full potential.

We approach all inclusion and additional needs provision with a person-centred mindset. This means we put the child at the heart of everything we do, focusing on their strengths, interests and what helps them thrive. Every child at our school has a one-page profile. These help staff get to know each pupil as an individual and understand how best to meet their needs.

Our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) leads this work across the school. This includes:

- Keeping a close eye on pupils' progress through termly pupil progress meetings, where we discuss every child in the school as an individual and identify anyone who might benefit from extra support as part of our school's 'Universal Offer'.
- Developing person-centred practice so that any extra help is planned around what's right for each child.
- Coordinating the work of our teaching assistants, who provide extra support for individuals and groups, and checking that this support is making a positive difference.
- Planning annual reviews for pupils with Individual Development Plans (IDPs), involving parents and carers fully in the process so that their views and insights help shape the support we provide.
- Working with external services such as Educational Psychology and Inclusion teams when further advice or assessment is needed.
- Making sure that all IDPs are of high quality and focus on person-centred outcomes.

Support for Additional Learning Needs in Wales is changing with the introduction of the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Act. These changes place an even stronger emphasis on person-centred approaches and working closely with other services to meet children's needs. If you'd like to find out more, please speak to our ALNCo or visit our website.

"Ysgol Bryn Gwalia provides a caring, inclusive learning environment, which caters effectively for the needs of its pupils. Provision for pupils with ALN is strong. Teachers build positive relationships with pupils and their families, enabling staff to identify pupils' strengths and potential barriers to learning. This supports staff well to provide a bespoke range of interventions to meet pupils' needs. Leaders monitor the impact of interventions vigilantly and adjust provision when appropriate."

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"Relationships across the school are strong and parents, pupils and staff feel valued."

Estyn December 2023

Home School Agreement

A Home School Agreement has been created to outline the expectations of the school, parents/carers, and pupils as they progress through Ysgol Bryn Gwalia. This agreement is reviewed every year, with input from parents/carers and pupils.

School Meals

School meals are prepared on-site, and we have a large dining hall next to the kitchen. Pupils can choose from a variety of meals each day, and meals are ordered and paid for using SchoolComms.

As of 2025, school meals are free for all pupils from Reception up to Year 6.
Children may also bring a packed lunch if preferred. During lunch, pupils are supervised by our senior mid-day supervisor and dining room assistants.
If you believe your child may be eligible for free school meals, please contact FreeSchoolMeals@flintshire.gov.uk

Reporting to Parents/Carers

A report on your child's progress is sent out at the end of each term. Parents are invited to meet with teachers during scheduled Parents' Evenings throughout the year to discuss their child's progress and school life. Parents can also request a meeting with their child's class teacher at any time by contacting the school office.

Attendance and Punctuality

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we have high expectations for attendance and punctuality because both are essential for your child's success. If your child is absent, please inform the school office as soon as possible. We follow the Local Authority Attendance Policy, which you can request from the school office. Our attendance target for this academic year is 95%.

Equal Opportunities

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we firmly believe that every pupil has the right to develop their skills and talents without disadvantage. Our school fully complies with the Equality Act 2010.

We are committed to ensuring that all children, regardless of race, gender, or background, receive equal care, attention, and respect. Every pupil has the right to access age-appropriate activities across all areas of school life.

Our Governors receive termly updates on any incidents related to racial abuse or bullying. Equal opportunities are a core part of the school's ongoing self-evaluation process, and relevant reports are submitted to the Local Authority as required.

At Bryn Gwalia, we are dedicated to inclusive education. Wherever possible, children with physical disabilities are supported to attend their local primary school. The school, in partnership with the Local Authority, will consider any necessary adaptations to the building to ensure that all pupils can fully participate in school life.

Sports and Extra-Curricular Clubs

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia offers a wide and varied range of sporting and extra-curricular activities to enrich pupils' school experience. These activities take place both after school and during some lunchtimes. Examples of clubs include Football Club, Netball Club, Gardening Club, Urdd, Science Club, and Eco Club. The variety of clubs offered may change throughout the year, depending on weather conditions, staff availability, and pupil interests.

We are proud to have been awarded the Dragon Sports Platinum Award in recognition of our commitment to participating in sports throughout the year. Additionally, we were honoured with the Primary School of the Year award for cricket at the Chance to Shine Awards.

Our pupils have taken part in a diverse range of sports, including curling, water polo, cricket, gymnastics, football, tag rugby, basketball, floorball, hockey, table tennis, badminton, tennis, netball, bowling, swimming, triathlon, and golf.

We have an excellent partnership with Ace of Sports, who provide expert weekly football coaching to children across a range of classes, further enhancing our physical education programme.

All teaching and non-teaching staff regularly attend First Aid courses to keep their skills up to date. First Aid materials are readily available at designated points throughout the school. Staff are vigilant in monitoring and recording any child injuries systematically. Parents and carers are promptly informed if their child receives First Aid while at school. Serious incidents are also recorded and reported to the Local Authority as required.

In cases of concern, parents or carers are contacted immediately. It is therefore essential that up-to-date telephone contact numbers for home, work, and an additional emergency contact (such as a close relative) are provided. Parents and carers are asked to confirm or update these contact details at the start of each academic year.

Should your child require medication during the school day, a consent form must be completed. This form can be found in the Managing Healthcare Needs Policy, which is available on request from the school or on our website.

Charging and Remissions Policy

In line with the Education Act 1988, the Governing Body has a statutory duty to publish a Charging and Remissions Policy for the school. A copy of this policy is available on the school website or from the school office upon request.

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we aim to provide enriching experiences for all pupils. While many activities are offered free of charge, there are occasions where a payment is required. For certain educational activities, parents/carers are asked to pay 75% of the cost.

Families in receipt of Universal Credit or certain Tax Credits may be eligible for support or full remission of these costs. Please contact the school office for more information or to discuss financial support in confidence.

School Uniform

Although school uniform is not compulsory at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we do encourage it, as it helps children feel part of the school community and promotes a sense of belonging and pride.

Our school uniform includes:

- Black Bryn Gwalia sweatshirt or plain black sweatshirt/cardigan
- Red Bryn Gwalia polo shirt or plain red polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers, skirts, or pinafores (no leggings, please)
- Grey or black tailored shorts in warmer weather
- Red gingham summer dress (optional in warmer weather)
- Black shoes

PE Kit:

- White polo shirt
- Black sports shorts
- Black pumps
- PE kits should be in school every day.

Jewellery:
For safety reasons, jewellery is not allowed, except for small ear studs, which must be removed for PE lessons.

Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body plays a vital role in the leadership and strategic direction of Ysgol Bryn Gwalia. Governors work in partnership with the Headteacher and staff to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.

Our Governing Body is responsible for:

- Supporting school leaders in shaping the curriculum and what is taught
- Setting policies and standards, including those for behaviour and inclusion
- Recruiting and selecting staff
- Overseeing how the school budget is allocated and spent
- Contributing to the management of the school's admissions process

Governors act as critical friends to the school, offering both challenge and support to help drive continuous improvement.

"Governors provide passionate care and support for the school. They have a clear understanding of national priorities and they work effectively alongside school leaders to monitor the impact of strategic initiatives, such as the impact of support for vulnerable pupils. Governors also use their own expertise to support school progress effectively."

Estyn December 2023

Our Governors

Janiene Davies – Chair of Governors
• Alice Garland • Maria Kennedy • Jennie Downes • Luke Bond
• Amie Morris • Sara Burrows • Jayne Williams
• Anne Hill • Katie Glover-Jones • Lorraine Dalton • Jane Roberts • Heather Foulkes

"Governors and teachers contribute effectively to school improvement through joint learning walks, work scrutiny and listening to the views of pupils. This ensures there is a consistent approach to improvement and that there is clarity about school priorities."

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Flying Start and Early Education

We are proud to be a Flying Start and Early Education provider.
Flying Start places are available to eligible children from the term after their 2nd birthday.
Early Education places are available from the term after a child's 3rd birthday.
Our pre-school provision is designed to enrich, engage, and inspire our youngest learners, giving them the best possible start to their education in a nurturing and stimulating environment.
For more information, including eligibility and how to apply, please visit:
👉 Flintshire Early Entitlement Scheme

Wrap Around Care

We are pleased to offer quality wrap-around care through our Breakfast Club and Fun Club, both run by the Managing Committee. These clubs provide a safe, caring environment and are open to all children from Nursery age upwards.

Club Times and Details:

- Breakfast Club:
  - 7:50 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. (Free)
  - 8:20 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. (Free)
- Fun Club (after school):
  - 3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Paid)

Prices for Fun Club are available from the School Office.
Please note: The Wrap Around Care services are run independently of the school by the Managing Committee.

Growing Together

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Summer Holiday Club

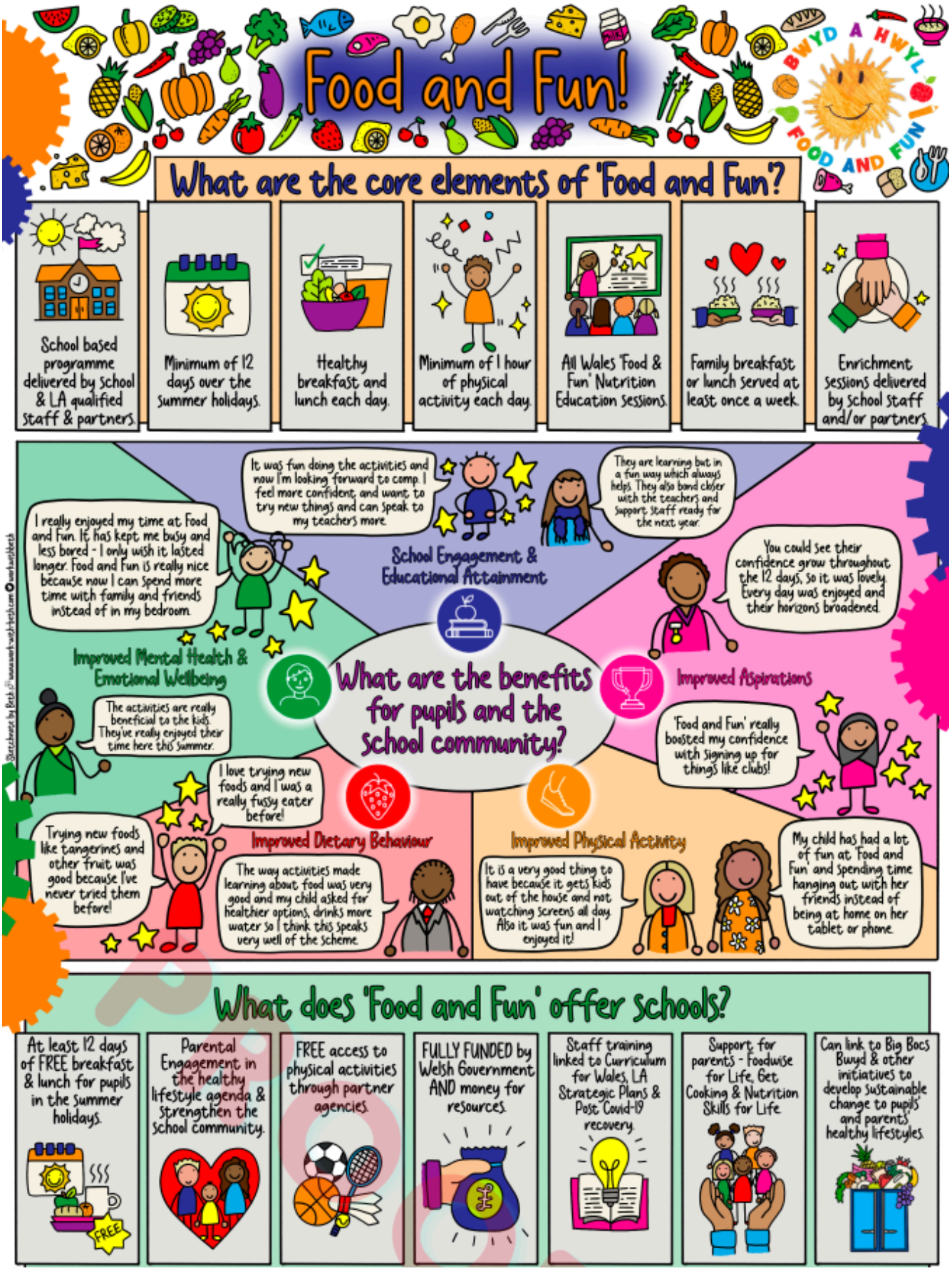
Food & Fun

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we are proud to be part of the Food and Fun programme—a school-based education initiative that offers children nutritious meals, food and nutrition education, physical activity, and enrichment sessions during the summer holidays.

Originally piloted by Cardiff Council in 2015, Food and Fun has grown into a national, fully funded Welsh Government programme, managed by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA). In 2024 alone, 205 schools across Wales delivered this vital programme, providing over 13,000 places each day to support children's health and wellbeing.

We firmly believe in the value of this provision and have embedded it into our school calendar. Our children enjoy a wide variety of fun, engaging activities designed to inspire a lifelong love of learning, healthy eating, and active living. Through Food and Fun, we nurture enthusiasm and wellbeing, ensuring every child benefits from this enriching experience.

Food and Fun runs for the first 3 weeks of the summer holidays Monday - Thursday 9-1. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are all included. Parents lunch is on a Wednesday. This is a great time for everyone to come together and enjoy a meal whilst socialising.


Food and Fun!
BWYD A HWYL
FOOD AND FUN
What are the core elements of 'Food and Fun'?
School based programme delivered by School & LA qualified staff & partners.
Minimum of 12 days over the summer holidays.
Healthy breakfast and lunch each day.
Minimum of 1 hour of physical activity each day.
All Wales 'Food & Fun' Nutrition Education sessions.
Family breakfast or lunch served at least once a week.
Enrichment sessions delivered by School staff and/or partners.
What are the benefits for pupils and the school community?
School Engagement & Educational Attainment
It was fun doing the activities and now I'm looking forward to comp. I feel more confident, and want to try new things and can speak to my teachers more.
They are learning but in a fun way which always helps. They also bond closer with the teachers and support staff ready for the next year.
Improved Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing
I really enjoyed my time at Food and Fun. It has kept me busy and less bored - I only wish it lasted longer. Food and Fun is really nice because now I can spend more time with family and friends instead of in my bedroom.
The activities are really beneficial to the kids. They've really enjoyed their time here this summer.
Improved Aspirations
You could see their confidence grow throughout the 12 days, so it was lovely. Every day was enjoyed and their horizons broadened.
'Food and Fun' really boosted my confidence with signing up for things like clubs!
Improved Dietary Behaviour
I love trying new foods and I was a really fussy eater before!
Trying new foods like tangerines and other fruit was good because I've never tried them before!
The way activities made learning about food was very good and my child asked for healthier options, drinks more water so I think this speaks very well of the scheme.
Improved Physical Activity
It is a very good thing to have because it gets kids out of the house and not watching screens all day. Also it was fun and I enjoyed it!
My child has had a lot of fun at Food and Fun and spending time hanging out with her friends instead of being at home on her tablet or phone.
What does 'Food and Fun' offer schools?
At least 12 days of FREE breakfast & lunch for pupils in the summer holidays.
FREE
Parental Engagement in the healthy lifestyle agenda & strengthen the school community.
FREE access to physical activities through partner agencies.
FULLY FUNDED by Welsh Government AND money for resources.
Staff training linked to Curriculum for Wales, LA Strategic Plans & Post Covid-19 recovery.
Support for parents - Foodwise for Life, Get Cooking & Nutrition Skills for Life.
Can link to Big Bocs Bwyd & other initiatives to develop sustainable change to pupils' and parents' healthy lifestyles.

Growing Together

YSGOL BRYN GWALIA

Aiming High

Inspection

Full copies of the Estyn inspection are available from the school office or on the Estyn website

Inspection and Performance

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia is a nurturing, inclusive school, which provides exceptional care and support for its pupils. Relationships across the school are strong and parents, pupils and staff feel valued. Provision for pupils' well-being is a strength of the school. The school offers a range of beneficial initiatives to help pupils to improve their self-esteem and recognise their emotions. For example, the school's nurture class, Dosbarth Derwen, supports small groups of pupils to regulate their behaviour and to make effective progress in their learning.

Leaders and staff know their pupils well. Approaches to teaching match pupils' developmental needs well throughout their time at school. Staff use questioning, assessment and feedback effectively to check pupils' understanding and to move learning on. Provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is strong. This includes carefully tailored support from the school's teaching assistant. Despite their low starting points, most pupils engage well with their learning and make strong progress in their literacy, numeracy and digital skills during their time at the school

The school curriculum is broad and balanced and teachers provide a progressive range of activities to develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital skills. However, across the school, opportunities for pupils to apply their skills in relevant, real-life situations are inconsistent. Teachers support pupils to develop their sense of 'cynefin' (belonging) and their understanding of life as modern-day citizens in Wales effectively. This work supports pupils to gain a good understanding of their own identity and to develop empathy with other people.

The headteacher is a compassionate, caring leader who works successfully alongside the governing body and staff to drive school improvement. Self-evaluation procedures are robust and this supports leaders to identify school strengths and areas for further improvement effectively. Leaders adopt a worthwhile, collaborative approach embracing the input of parents and the community. This provides beneficial additional support to the school and helps pupils to make strong progress with their learning.

Scan the QR code to read our full Estyn Inspection Report.

YSGOL BRYN GWALIA

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