



Ysgol Bryn Gwalia

2026-2027 PROSPECTUS



Growing Together, Aiming High.



BELONG



BELIEVE



ACHIEVE



THRIVE



Clayton Road, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1SU



www.bryngwalia.org



01352 752659



TABLE OF CONTENTS



1	Welcome from the Headteacher	04
----------	-------------------------------------	-----------

2	Welcome from the Chair of Governors	06
----------	--	-----------

3	Why Choose Ysgol Bryn Gwalia	10
----------	-------------------------------------	-----------

4	Our Vision, Values, Behaviours and School Aims	14
----------	---	-----------

5	Our School & Curriculum	17
----------	------------------------------------	-----------

6	Admission Arrangements	08
----------	-------------------------------	-----------

7	Summer Holiday Club	30
----------	----------------------------	-----------

8	Inspection	33
----------	-------------------	-----------

INSPECTION



What Estyn Says

“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

From the 2026 Interim Visit

Estyn highlighted that:

- ✓ “Senior leaders have a clear vision for developing pupils’ application of literacy, numeracy and digital skills across the school.”
- ✓ “There is a strong focus on consistency of approach and ensuring learning is meaningful to pupils.”
- ✓ “Authentic opportunities to enhance pupils’ oracy skills are developing well.”
- ✓ “Staff plan a range of worthwhile opportunities for pupils to speak to a range of audiences for a variety of purposes.”



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg
a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales



Growing Together,
Aiming High.

Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027



**WELCOME FROM
THE HEADTEACHER**



Welcome **FROM THE HEAD**

Growing Together, Aiming High.

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to **Ysgol Bryn Gwalia**.

We are a one-form entry community primary school at the heart of Mold, offering a caring, inclusive, and nurturing environment where every child is known, supported, and valued. Our size enables us to build strong relationships with children and families, ensuring that every pupil feels a genuine sense of belonging and is supported to flourish.

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make, and I hope this prospectus provides a clear insight into what makes Bryn Gwalia such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our values-led ethos, our ambitious and engaging curriculum, and our commitment to helping every child achieve their full potential academically, socially, emotionally, and creatively.

At Bryn Gwalia, we believe that children thrive when they feel happy, safe, and supported. Wellbeing lies at the heart of everything we do, underpinned by strong relationships, a nurturing ethos, and close partnerships with families and the wider community. We recognise that children learn best when they feel secure and valued, and we strive to create an environment where every child can succeed.

We are proud to be recognised as a Rights Respecting School, a School of Sanctuary, and an Ashoka Changemaker School. These achievements reflect our commitment to developing confident, compassionate, and responsible young people who understand their role in creating a fairer, kinder, and more inclusive world.

Our curriculum is inspired by the Curriculum for Wales and designed to foster curiosity, creativity, resilience, and independence. Through meaningful and authentic learning experiences, pupils are encouraged to ask questions, solve problems, and apply their skills in real-life contexts. Recent Estyn feedback recognised the strong progress we have made in embedding literacy, numeracy, and digital skills across the curriculum, highlighting the engaging opportunities pupils have to develop their writing, problem-solving, communication and financial skills through purposeful learning experiences.

We are particularly proud of the many ways our pupils contribute to their community. Initiatives such as our pupil-led Hope Hut, partnerships with Mold Community Hospital and Alun School, and involvement in local projects help children develop empathy, leadership, and a strong sense of social responsibility. These opportunities enable pupils to understand the world around them and make a positive difference within it.

As a Predominantly English-Medium School, we place great importance on promoting the Welsh language, culture and heritage. We are committed to helping our pupils develop a strong sense of identity, belonging and *cynefin*, while preparing them to become active citizens of Wales and the wider world.

Our dedicated staff are committed to continuous improvement and professional learning, ensuring that teaching and learning remain innovative, engaging and responsive to the needs of our pupils. We are proud of the collaborative culture that exists within our school community and of the high aspirations we hold for every child.

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

Thank you for your interest in Ysgol Bryn Gwalia. We look forward to working in partnership with you and your child as they embark on an exciting and rewarding learning journey.

At Bryn Gwalia, we are proud of our past, ambitious for our future, and committed to ensuring that every child **belongs, achieves and thrives.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lorraine Dalton

Pennaeth / Headteacher

OUR VALUES SHINE THROUGH IN ALL WE DO



Kindness



Respect



Resilience



Togetherness



Ambition



Mrs Lorraine Dalton
Pennaeth / Headteacher

WHAT ESTYN SAID IN 2026

- “Senior leaders have a clear vision for developing pupils’ application of literacy, numeracy and digital skills across the school.”
- “There is a strong focus on consistency of approach and ensuring learning is meaningful to pupils.”
- “Authentic opportunities to enhance pupils’ oracy skills are developing well.”
- “Staff plan a range of worthwhile opportunities for pupils to speak to a range of audiences for a variety of purposes.”



Read our full
CURRICULUM RATIONALE

<https://shorturl.at/dOaBp>



**Rooted in our
community.**
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027





**WELCOME FROM
THE CHAIR OF
GOVERNORS**



Welcome from the

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Mrs Janiene Davies



Dear Parent/Carer,

As Chair of Governors, I am delighted to welcome you to Ysgol Bryn Gwalia as you begin the important journey of choosing the right school for your child.

At Bryn Gwalia, we are proud to be a school where every child is valued, encouraged and supported to achieve their very best. Our vision is rooted in the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales, ensuring that pupils develop into ambitious and capable learners, enterprising and creative contributors, ethical and informed citizens, and healthy and confident individuals.

We are committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment where children feel safe, happy and inspired to learn. Alongside high expectations for achievement, we place great importance on wellbeing, relationships and developing the skills children need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

The Governing Body has the utmost confidence in our talented and dedicated staff, whose commitment, professionalism and care ensure that every child receives the highest quality educational experience. Together, we work to raise aspirations, celebrate success and provide opportunities that enable all pupils to flourish both academically and personally.

We are proud of the progress the school continues to make and of the strong partnerships that exist between pupils, staff, parents, governors and the wider community. These relationships are at the heart of what makes Bryn Gwalia such a special place to learn and grow.

I hope this prospectus provides you with a flavour of life at our school. However, the best way to experience the warmth, enthusiasm and sense of community that define Bryn Gwalia is to visit us in person. I encourage you to come and meet our staff, talk to our pupils and see our school in action.

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

Warm regards,

Mrs Janiene Davies

Chair of Governors



BELONG

We belong
and feel valued



BELIEVE

We believe in
ourselves and
in each other



ACHIEVE

We achieve
our best



THRIVE

We thrive in
a changing world



ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS





ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

A warm welcome to Ysgol Bryn Gwalia



VISITING YSGOL BRYN GWALIA

We warmly welcome prospective parents and carers to visit Ysgol Bryn Gwalia and experience our school community first-hand. Visiting during a normal school day provides an opportunity to see learning in action, explore our facilities, and gain a real sense of the caring and inclusive environment we offer.

During your visit, you will have the opportunity to meet the Headteacher, tour the school, and ask any questions you may have about school life, our curriculum, and the support available for your child.



To arrange a visit, please contact the school office by telephone or email. We will be pleased to arrange a mutually convenient time and look forward to welcoming you to Bryn Gwalia.



ADMISSION TO NURSERY AND RECEPTION

Children are eligible for admission to our Nursery class in the September following their third birthday. We work closely with families to ensure that every child experiences a positive and successful transition into school.

Our transition programme includes:



Induction Evening – Parents and carers of new Nursery and Reception pupils are invited to an information evening during the summer term to meet staff, learn about school routines, and ask questions.



Transition Visits – Children are invited to attend a series of visits before starting school, helping them become familiar with their new learning environment, teachers, and classmates.



Partnership with Families – We recognise the importance of working closely with parents and carers during this important milestone and provide opportunities to share information and support a smooth transition.



Wraparound Childcare – Morning Nursery pupils may access onsite wraparound childcare for the remainder of the school day, subject to availability and applicable charges.



IMPORTANT ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Nursery education is non-statutory and attendance in our Nursery class does not automatically guarantee a place in Reception.

Applications for Nursery and Reception places must be made through Flintshire County Council in accordance with the local authority's admissions procedures and timescales. Parents and carers are encouraged to check the latest admissions guidance on the Council's website and submit applications within the published deadlines.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Admissions to Ysgol Bryn Gwalia are administered by Flintshire County Council, which applies the Local Authority's Admissions Policy and allocates school places accordingly.

For information about admissions criteria, application procedures, and key deadlines, please visit the school's website or the Flintshire County Council admissions pages.

Further information can be found at:



www.bryngwalia.org

If you require any assistance with the admissions process, our school office team will be happy to provide guidance and direct you to the appropriate information.



LOOKED-AFTER AND PREVIOUSLY LOOKED-AFTER CHILDREN

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia is committed to ensuring that all children feel safe, supported and able to achieve their full potential. In line with the Local Authority Admissions Policy, priority is given to children who are Looked After or Previously Looked After.

Within school, these pupils are supported by our Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo), who works closely with families, carers and external agencies to ensure that each child receives appropriate support. Their wellbeing, progress and achievement are carefully monitored to help them thrive both academically and emotionally.



TRANSITION AND MOVING ON

We recognise that starting a new school or moving between phases of education is an important milestone for children and families. Our comprehensive transition programme is designed to ensure that every child feels confident, secure and ready for the next stage of their learning journey.

- ✓ Children joining Ysgol Bryn Gwalia during the school year are supported through a personalised transition process. Wherever possible, pupils are invited to visit the school before their start date to become familiar with staff, classmates and routines. Where additional support is required, individual transition arrangements are planned in partnership with families and relevant professionals.
- ✓ We work closely with local pre-school settings, schools and external agencies to ensure that information is shared effectively and that children's individual needs are understood and supported from the outset.
- ✓ As pupils move on to secondary education, we collaborate closely with our partner high schools to provide a smooth and positive transition. Throughout Year 6, pupils participate in a range of transition activities, visits and curriculum experiences that help them develop confidence, independence and readiness for the challenges and opportunities of secondary school.

Our aim is to ensure that every pupil leaves Ysgol Bryn Gwalia as a resilient, capable and enthusiastic learner, well prepared for the next stage of their education.





**WHY CHOOSE
YSGOL BRYN GWALIA**



WHO WE ARE

Nurture • Inspire • Achieve



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.

WE ARE PROUD TO BE...



A RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Putting children's rights at the heart of everything we do.



A SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

A welcoming place for all, where everyone belongs.



AN ASHOKA CHANGEMAKER SCHOOL

Empowering young people to be changemakers in their world.



One-form entry school with a family feel



Inquiry-based learning inspired by the Curriculum for Wales



Wellbeing, creativity and curiosity at the centre of all we do



Preparing kind, confident and ambitious learners for life in Wales and the wider world



Rooted in our community.
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027

WHY CHOOSE

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia?

At the heart
of our community,
inspiring brighter
futures.



WARM, NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

where every child is
known and valued



HIGH-QUALITY TEACHING

and strong pupil
progress recognised
by Estyn



INQUIRY-BASED CURRICULUM

that sparks curiosity
and deep thinking



ENRICHMENT THROUGH TRIPS, RESIDENTIALS

& real-world learning
experiences



FOCUS ON WELL-BEING AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

including nurture
provision



FREE BREAKFAST CLUB AND SUMMER HOLIDAY PROVISION



RIGHTS RESPECTING, SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY & CHANGEMAKER SCHOOL



AWARD-WINNING SCHOOL



Rooted in our
community.
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027

WHAT SETS US APART

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

Estyn December 2023

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we go beyond the ordinary to create extraordinary opportunities for every child.



PRIMARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Proud to be recognised for our commitment to excellence, inclusion and community.



STRONG PROGRESS FOR ALL PUPILS

High-quality teaching leads to strong outcomes and excellent progress from all starting points.



YOUNG ENTERPRISE FINANCIAL EDUCATION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Equipping our pupils with real-life skills for a confident and successful future.



MY HAPPY MIND SCHOOL

Supporting positive mental health and resilience through a whole-school approach.



TRAUMA INFORMED APPROACH

Understanding and responding to the needs of every child with care, compassion and consistency.



SILVER AWARD FOR CYMRAEG CAMPUS

Celebrating our strong commitment to the Welsh language and culture across the school.



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL, SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY & CHANGEMAKER

A values-driven school empowering pupils to be kind, confident and active citizens of Wales and the wider world.



WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE AND COMMUNITY FOCUSED

Strong partnerships with families and the local community at the heart of all we do.

ESTYN HIGHLIGHTS (DECEMBER 2023)



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



Pupils are happy, confident and behave well. They show kindness and respect towards others.



Leaders and staff have high expectations and provide a wide range of engaging learning experiences.



Teaching is of a high quality and supports strong progress for all pupils.



The curriculum develops pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding effectively.



Leaders work successfully with staff, governors and partners to promote the best outcomes for all learners.



Rooted in our community.
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027



**OUR SCHOOL
& CURRICULUM**

OUR VISION



*“Growing together,
aiming high.”*



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



KINDNESS

We show kindness and empathy to 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!



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.



Rooted in our community.
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027

OUR BEHAVIOURS

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia



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.



GENTLE AND KIND

We show kindness, care and consideration for everyone.



EXCELLENT IN ATTITUDE

We try our best, show a positive attitude and take pride in our learning.



MINDFUL OF OTHERS

We are respectful, listen well and think about how our actions affect others.



SUPPORTIVE AND NURTURING

We support and encourage others. We help to create a safe and happy school.

Our **Kindness Tree** celebrates acts of everyday kindness. Even the smallest gestures can make a big difference.



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:

1



Empower ambitious, capable learners who are curious, reflective, and ready to learn throughout their lives.

2



Prioritise positive relationships, recognising that kindness, respect, and trust are the foundation of a successful learning community.

3



Encourage enterprising, creative contributors who can collaborate, innovate, and express themselves confidently.

4



Develop ethical, informed citizens who understand their rights and responsibilities as members of Wales and the wider world.

5



Foster healthy, confident individuals who feel secure, self-aware, and ready to take on challenges with resilience.

6



Provide a broad, balanced, and inquiry-led curriculum that is engaging, inclusive, and relevant to the 21st century.

7



Create a safe, caring, and nurturing environment where every child is valued, supported, and celebrated.

8



Promote a strong sense of belonging to our school and wider community through meaningful partnerships and shared experiences.

9



Ensure that all children are taught how to be great learners, enabling them to lead their own learning with independence and purpose.

10



Celebrate diversity, individuality, and achievement, helping every child discover and reach their full potential.





★

OUR SCHOOL & CURRICULUM

★

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.



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>

OUR DEDICATED TEAM



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).



Our school community thrives because of the commitment, passion, and care of the whole team.



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**.



REFURBISHED LIBRARY

A welcoming, well-stocked space that inspires a love of reading and learning.



SCHOOL HALL WITH STAGE

A spacious hall used for assemblies, performances, events, and physical activities.



EXTENSIVE OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACES

Varied outdoor areas that support play, exploration, and hands-on learning.



TRAUMA-INFORMED ENVIRONMENT

Calm, supportive spaces carefully designed to promote wellbeing and help every child thrive.



KITCHEN AREAS

Dedicated kitchen spaces in classrooms to support practical learning and life skills.

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.

By learning outdoors, our pupils grow in **confidence, creativity, and resilience** while developing a deep **respect for nature** and the world around them.



Rooted in our community.
Growing together.



Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

2026 – 2027

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>



OUR CURRICULUM

*Shaping Futures,
Inspiring Minds*

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.



**Ambitious,
capable
learners**

Ready to learn throughout their lives and achieve their potential.



**Enterprising,
creative
contributors**

Ready to play a full part in life and work.



**Ethical,
informed
citizens**

Ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.



**Healthy,
confident
individuals**

Ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.



What Estyn said about Ysgol Bryn Gwalia
Estyn 2023

"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."



Estyn 2026

- ✓ The school has high expectations for all pupils. Most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN), make good progress from their starting points.
- ✓ Leaders have a clear vision for the school which focuses strongly on improving outcomes and wellbeing for all pupils.
- ✓ Pupils are polite, respectful and confident. They behave well in lessons and around the school.



At Bryn Gwalia, our curriculum opens doors, builds character, and prepares every child for a bright future.



OUR CURRICULUM

*Curious Minds,
Bright Futures* !

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, our curriculum is designed to spark curiosity, build knowledge, develop skills and nurture character. It is inclusive, ambitious and inspired by the principles of Curriculum for Wales.

OUR VISION IN ACTION

We plan rich, relevant learning experiences that connect ideas, people and the world around us. Our curriculum:

-  Inspires a love of learning through engaging, real-world contexts
-  Builds knowledge and skills progressively across all Areas of Learning and Experience
-  Supports wellbeing and inclusion so every child can thrive
-  Encourages learners to make a positive difference in their community and beyond

“

Our curriculum is more than a plan — it's a promise to our children:

to help them discover who they are, what they can achieve, and how they can shape the world.



aiming high
growing together

WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE FOR OUR LEARNERS

 **LEARN WITH PURPOSE**
Engaging topics that connect learning to life.

 **THRIVE TOGETHER**
Inclusive classrooms where everyone feels valued.

 **THINK DEEPLY**
Opportunities to question, reflect and be curious.

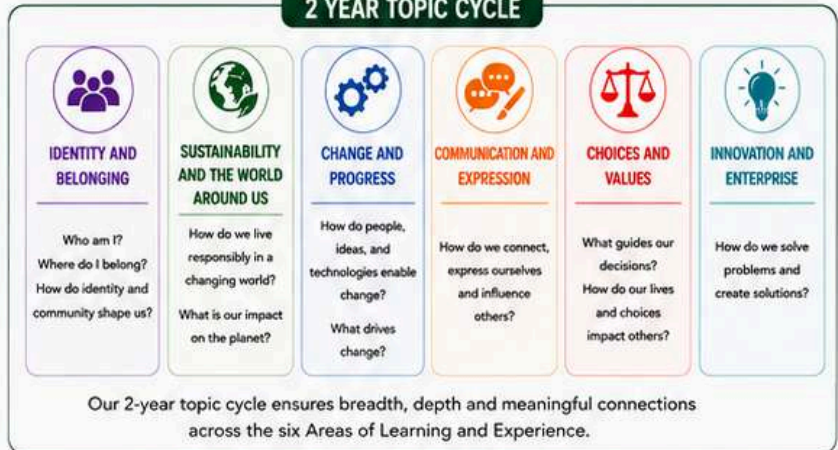
 **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
Learning that empowers them to shape the future.

“

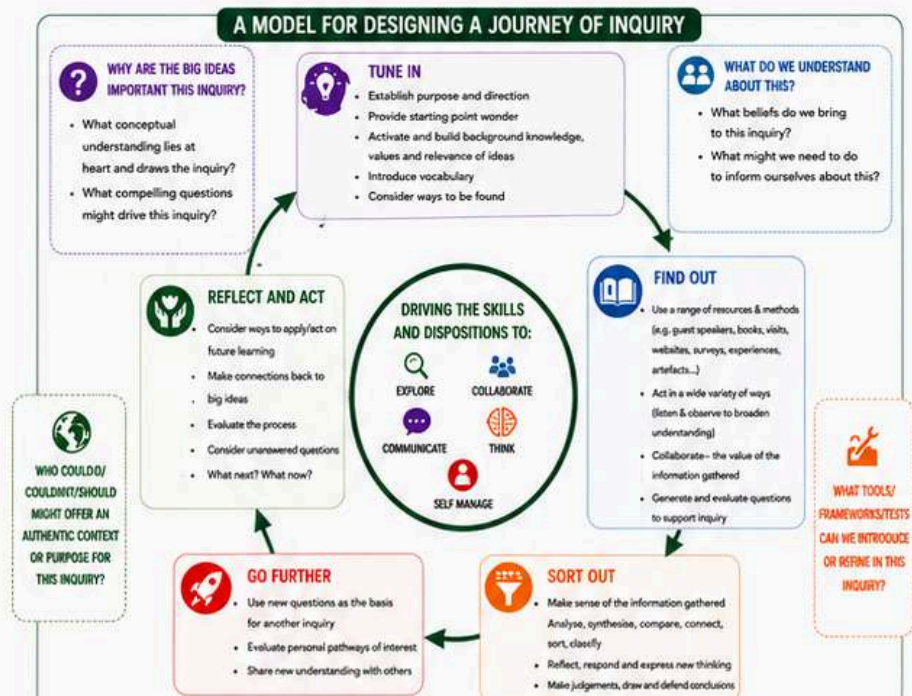
“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

– W.B. Yeats ”

2 YEAR TOPIC CYCLE



A MODEL FOR DESIGNING A JOURNEY OF INQUIRY



WHEN PLANNING IT IS IMPORTANT WE ASK...



OUR CURRICULUM IS UNDEPINNED BY OUR VALUES

 GENTLE AND KIND

 EXCELLENT IN EFFORT

 MINDFUL OF OTHERS

 SUPPORTIVE AND NURTURING

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we are committed to a curriculum that evolves, inspires and prepares our learners to be *confident*, *capable* and *compassionate* for life.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

and Inclusion



Every child.
Every strength.
Every opportunity.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EVERY LEARNER

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.

“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.”

Estyn December 2023

”

OUR ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS COORDINATOR (ALNCo) LEADS THIS WORK ACROSS THE SCHOOL. THIS INCLUDES:



Monitoring progress closely

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.

WE KNOW, SEE AND CELEBRATE EACH CHILD



We know each child as an individual



We focus on strengths and interests



We remove barriers and build confidence



We help every child thrive



Inclusion is everyone's responsibility, and together we help every learner belong, achieve and succeed.

WHAT ESTYN SAID ABOUT ALN AND INCLUSION

Estyn 2023

“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.”

Estyn 2026

- ✓ “The school has a strong culture of inclusion and high expectations for all pupils, including those with additional learning needs.”
- ✓ “Pupils with ALN make good progress from their starting points because support is tailored well to meet their needs.”
- ✓ “Leaders and staff work effectively with families and external professionals to provide the right support at the right time.”
- ✓ “Pupils with ALN are included fully in the life of the school and benefit from a wide range of experiences.”



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.

- ✓ Stronger focus on the voice of the child
- ✓ Effective partnership working
- ✓ Timely and appropriate support
- ✓ Better outcomes for children and young people



If you'd like to find out more, please speak to our ALNCo or visit our website.



COMMUNITY Service

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we believe in the importance of giving back and making a positive difference in our local community and beyond. Through a range of activities and partnerships, our pupils learn the value of kindness, empathy and responsibility while developing the confidence to make a change.



Working together

We partner with local organisations and charities to support those in need and celebrate our community.



Pupil-led initiatives

Pupils take the lead in organising events, fundraising and campaigns that matter to them.



Building character

Through community service, our pupils develop respect, compassion and a strong sense of citizenship.



A wider perspective

We encourage our pupils to think beyond themselves and understand the impact of their actions.

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 mid-day supervisory 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.

“ 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.



We are committed to providing a safe, happy and inclusive environment where every child can learn and thrive.



Parents/carers will support their child's learning, wellbeing and attendance.



Pupils will do their best, show respect and take pride in their learning and school community.

This agreement is reviewed every year, with input from parents/carers and pupils.



ATTENDANCE and Punctuality



At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we have high expectations for attendance and punctuality because both are essential for your child's success.



Good attendance supports learning, builds confidence and helps children achieve their full potential.



Punctuality ensures a calm, positive start to the school day and helps children make the most of every learning opportunity.



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%**.

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Better Learning

Being in school every day helps children stay on track with their learning and make good progress.



Stronger Friendships

Regular attendance helps children build strong relationships and feel part of the school community.



More Opportunities

Children who attend regularly can take part in all the exciting activities and experiences school has to offer.



Positive Habits for Life

Good attendance and punctuality build responsibility and prepare children for the future.



Every Day Counts

Missing even a few days can make a big difference to your child's learning and confidence.



Together, we can give every child the best start and a bright future.

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



We believe in the importance of giving back and making a positive difference in our local community and beyond. Through a range of activities and partnerships, our pupils learn the value of kindness, empathy and responsibility while developing the confidence to make a change.



Supporting Our Community

We take part in local initiatives, charity events and fundraising activities that help those in need.



Caring for Our Environment

Pupils are encouraged to care for our school and the wider environment through eco projects and sustainability initiatives.



Learning Life Skills

Through community service, pupils develop empathy, teamwork and leadership skills that benefit them for life.



Building Stronger Connections

We work with local organisations and groups to create meaningful partnerships that enrich our pupils' experiences.



Small actions today, create a better tomorrow.

SPORTS AND *Extra-Curricular* Clubs

COMMUNITY SERVICE

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.



CHANCE TO SHINE
SCHOOLS



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.



Everyone deserves the chance to learn, grow and succeed.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform 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.

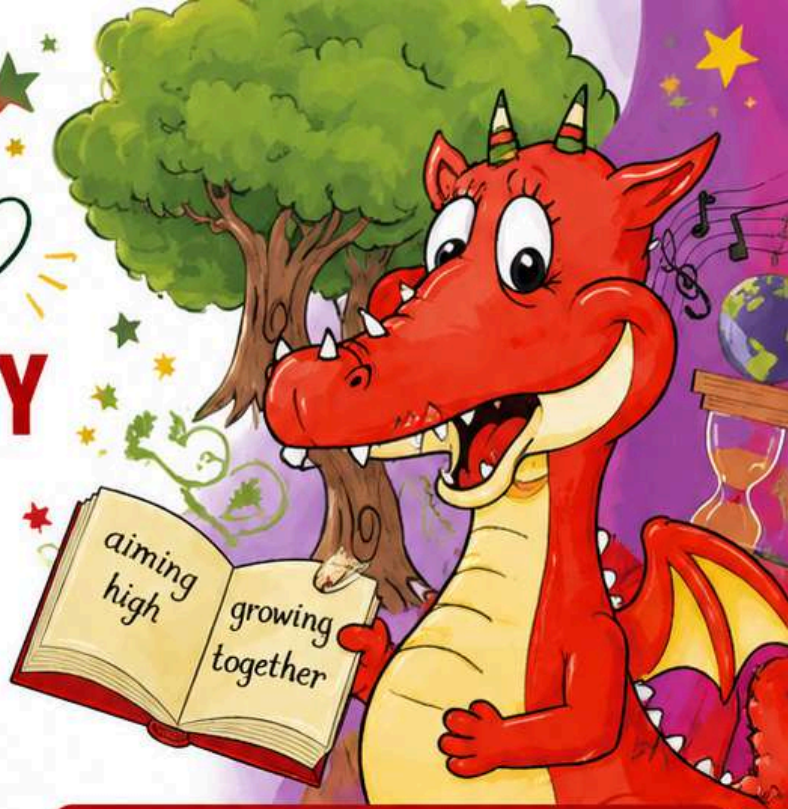


Thank you for supporting our school values by ensuring your child wears the correct uniform each day.



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.



ESTYN RECOGNITION

“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

“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.”

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



FLYING START AND EARLY EDUCATION

Giving Every Child the Best Possible Start

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we believe that positive early experiences lay the foundation for a lifetime of learning. We are proud to be both a Flying Start and Early Education provider, offering high-quality pre-school provision in a nurturing, stimulating and engaging environment where every child can thrive.

FLYING START



Flying Start places are available to eligible children from the term following their **second birthday**.

Flying Start provides children and families with access to high-quality early years provision and support, helping to ensure that every child has the strongest possible start in life.

EARLY EDUCATION



Early Education places are available from the term following a child's **third birthday**.

Our Early Education provision promotes curiosity, creativity and independence through play-based learning that supports language, communication, numeracy and personal development.



A NURTURING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our experienced staff create warm, welcoming and inclusive learning spaces where children feel safe, valued and excited to learn.

- ★ High-quality learning through play
- ★ Skilled and caring practitioners
- ★ Engaging indoor and outdoor environments
- ★ Strong partnerships with families
- ★ Opportunities to develop confidence, independence and resilience
- ★ Smooth transition into Nursery and full-time school life



For further information regarding eligibility and applications, please visit:

➡ [Flintshire Early Entitlement Scheme](#)

WRAP AROUND CARE

Supporting Families Every Day

We are pleased to offer quality wrap-around childcare through our Breakfast Club and Fun Club, providing a safe, caring and enjoyable environment for children before and after the school day.

These services support working families while giving children opportunities to socialise, play and participate in a range of engaging activities.

BREAKFAST CLUB



7:50 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. (Free)
8:20 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. (Free)

Children enjoy a calm and welcoming start to the school day, with a healthy breakfast and opportunities to socialise with friends before lessons begin.

FUN CLUB (AFTER SCHOOL)



3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Paid)

Fun Club offers a variety of enjoyable activities including arts and crafts, games, outdoor play and themed sessions in a relaxed and supportive environment.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Wrap Around Care services are operated independently of the school by the **Managing Committee**. For current prices, registration details and availability, please contact the School Office.



Growing Together from the Very Beginning

Proud to support our children and families from their earliest learning experiences, helping every child develop the confidence, skills and love of learning that will stay with them throughout their educational journey.





SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB



FOOD & FUN



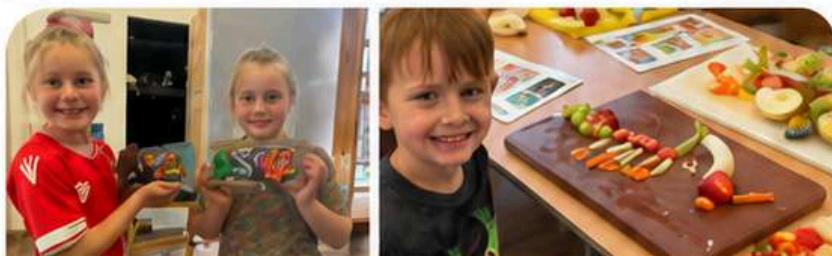
*Healthy Food, Active Bodies,
= Happy Minds =*

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.



A time to **learn, play,**
make friends
and create
memories!



Food and Fun runs for the first 3 weeks of the summer holidays Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 1:00.



Breakfast
included



Lunch
included



Snacks
included



Parents lunch is on a Wednesday.

This is a great time for everyone to come together and enjoy a meal whilst socialising.



THROUGH FOOD AND FUN, CHILDREN ENJOY:



Nutritious
meals and
healthy habits



Physical
activity and
active play



Fun and
enriching
learning



Creative
activities and
new skills



Friendships,
teamwork and
confidence



A safe, caring
and inclusive
environment



*Nourishing Bodies, Inspiring Minds,
Creating Bright Futures*



Food and Fun!

Every day, Food and Fun helps us...



Enjoy healthy, nutritious meals and snacks



Learn about food, nutrition and healthy choices



Be active and have fun!



Take part in fun and exciting enrichment activities



Build friendships, confidence and teamwork



Develop skills for life and a positive outlook for the future

We learn, we play, we grow!

We learn about where food comes from.



We try new foods and learn to enjoy healthy eating.



We move more and feel our best!



We cook, create and have lots of fun together!



Healthy bodies, happy minds, brighter futures!

We look after our minds as well as our bodies.



Why does Food and Fun matter?



Supports our health and wellbeing



Helps us concentrate and learn better



Encourages positive habits for life



Brings our school community together



Creates happy memories that last!

What can you expect from Food and Fun?

Runs in the first 3 weeks of the summer holidays
Monday – Thursday
9:00am – 1:00pm



Breakfast, lunch and snacks included



Fun activities that are safe, inclusive and engaging



A caring team who support and encourage every child



Parents lunch on Wednesday – a chance to share a meal together



All children welcome – everyone belongs!

Good food, great fun, stronger together!

Let's make every day Food and Fun!



INSPECTION

INSPECTION AND PERFORMANCE

*Excellence Through Care, Inclusion
and High Expectations*

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we are committed to providing the very best education and care for all our pupils. We are proud of the recognition we have received from Estyn and our ongoing journey of improvement.



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros
Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru

Her Majesty's Inspectorate for
Education and Training in Wales



WELLBEING AND INCLUSION

The school provides exceptional care and support for its pupils. A range of beneficial initiatives help pupils to improve their self-esteem and recognise their emotions. Dosbarth Derwen nurture provision supports small groups of pupils to regulate their behaviour and make effective progress.

“The school offers a range of beneficial initiatives to help pupils improve their self-esteem and recognise their emotions.”
Estyn



HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

Leaders and staff know their pupils well. Teaching matches pupils' developmental needs and staff use questioning, assessment and feedback effectively to move learning on.

“Staff use questioning, assessment and feedback effectively to check pupils' understanding and to move learning on.”
Estyn



STRONG ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS PROVISION

Provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is strong. This includes carefully tailored support from the school's teaching assistant.

“Provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is strong.”
Estyn



A BROAD AND ENGAGING CURRICULUM

The curriculum is broad and balanced and teachers provide a progressive range of activities to develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital skills. Teachers support pupils to develop their sense of 'cynefin' (belonging) and their understanding of life as modern-day citizens in Wales.

“The school curriculum is broad and balanced and teachers provide a progressive range of activities to develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital skills.”
Estyn



EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The headteacher is a compassionate, caring leader who works successfully alongside the governing body and staff to drive school improvement. Self-evaluation is robust and supports leaders to identify strengths and areas for further improvement.

“The headteacher is a compassionate, caring leader who works successfully alongside the governing body and staff to drive school improvement.”
Estyn

“Self-evaluation procedures are robust and this supports leaders to identify school strengths and areas for further improvement effectively.”
Estyn

ESTYN INTERIM VISIT 2026



In March 2026, Estyn carried out an Interim Visit to Ysgol Bryn Gwalia as part of its ongoing engagement with schools across Wales. Inspectors reviewed the school's progress since the previous inspection and explored aspects of leadership, curriculum development and pupil wellbeing.

The visit recognised the school's continued commitment to:

- ✓ Providing a nurturing and inclusive environment where pupils feel safe, valued and supported.
- ✓ Developing an engaging Curriculum for Wales that reflects the needs and interests of learners.
- ✓ Promoting pupils' wellbeing alongside academic achievement.
- ✓ Strengthening partnerships with parents, governors and the wider community.
- ✓ Maintaining a culture of continuous improvement through effective self-evaluation and professional learning.



OUR COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, we use inspection findings, stakeholder feedback and ongoing self-evaluation to continually improve the experiences and outcomes of our pupils. We are proud of the positive recognition received from Estyn and remain ambitious in our pursuit of excellence for every child.

“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



“The headteacher is a compassionate, caring leader who works successfully alongside the governing body and staff to drive school improvement.”
Estyn



“Leaders adopt a worthwhile, collaborative approach embracing the input of parents and the community.”
Estyn



FURTHER INFORMATION

Full copies of the Estyn inspection report (2023) and the Estyn Interim Visit Letter (2026) are available from the school office or on the Estyn website.





*Growing Together,
Aiming High*



📍 Clayton Road, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1SU

🌐 www.bryngwalia.org

☎ 01352 752659

♥️ *We belong.*

★️ *We achieve.*

☆️ *We thrive.*