

**YSGOL BWLCHGWYN
COMMUNITY
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



PROSPECTUS



Ysgol Bwlchgwyn
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Bwlchgwyn
LL11 5UA
Ffon: 01978-269930



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Brymbo Road
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YSGOL BWLCHGWYN COMMUNITY PRIMARY

mailbox@bwlchgwyn-pri.wrexham.sch.uk
Mr. Dylan Williams: Headteacher

<https://www.bwlchgwyn-school.co.uk>
Mr. Jerry Wellens Chair of Governing Body

WELCOME TO YSGOL BWLCHGWYN

We warmly welcome you and your child to Ysgol Bwlchgwyn C.P. This prospectus will give you an insight into our school and perhaps answer some of your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information.

Dear Parents,

Choosing the right school for your child is vitally important. All parents want a good education for their children but they also want them to be happy and to feel safe and secure. We believe that we provide this by placing high value on pastoral care - viewing the school as a 'family' whilst aiming high in all that we do together.

We provide a broad, balanced and enriched education in Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 and the high standards of learning are a credit to the hard work of both staff and pupils. We are equally proud of the atmosphere of friendliness and co-operation which is always evident in our school.

We value all our pupils equally, but we also value their right to be different and to excel in different ways. Our children are respected equally regardless of gender, colour or creed and we aim to assist children in achieving their true potential and believing in their own worth. These aims are underpinned by clear values which are shared, understood and promoted by the school community.

Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions and to assist in creating a harmonious atmosphere within the school. Every opportunity is taken to ensure children, staff, parents and governors understand and agree with the principles by which we live.

Working in partnership, staff and governors aim to provide the best possible learning opportunities for your child/children and together with you as parents we believe we can achieve this.

Yours sincerely

Mr. D. R. Williams

Headteacher





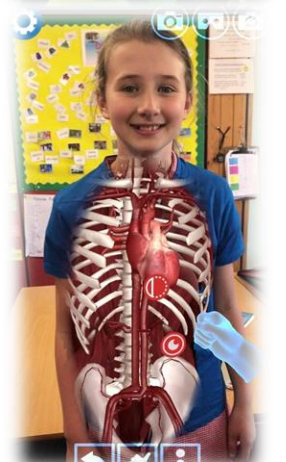
OUR VISION AND VALUES

Confidence in a school comes from knowing and understanding what is happening within it and therefore we are always open to suggestions for improving communication with our parents. The staff and governors of Ysgol Bwlchgwyn are totally committed to ensuring that your child has the most valuable, creative and balanced learning experiences underpinned by strong wellbeing and moral guidance. We believe it is essential that school provides a caring environment for children to achieve their full potential and that parents and teachers working together can establish mutual understanding, trust and shared responsibility. The school asks pupils, parents, staff and governors for feedback relating to the school through an annual questionnaire. All issues raised are reflected upon and addressed as appropriate. We aim to work together with all our stakeholders on continuous school self-improvement. We are proud of the polite and well behaved pupils at Ysgol Bwlchgwyn and the values below help us achieve this, ensuring we meet our golden rules of being *'Ready, Respectful and Safe'*



At Ysgol Bwlchgwyn CP we aim high by:

- ~ *Challenging ourselves and each other to create a positive learning culture with high expectations.*
- ~ *Respecting one another and the world we live in*
- ~ *Believing in ourselves and in what we can achieve by embracing challenge together*
- ~ *Nurturing a happy and inclusive school family which is at the heart of the community*



Policies relating to pupil wellbeing and safeguarding are available via our school website



ORGANISATION AND CURRICULUM

Our school has a committed staff who take pride in a strong teamwork approach to all aspects of our work. There is no substitute for the basis of a sound education and we aim to achieve this by well-planned, creative and committed teaching. A great deal of care is taken in planning the curriculum and the organisation of the school to meet the individual needs of each child. Class teachers report to parents each term either by consultation meeting or written report, providing details of curriculum and their child's progress. The school is increasingly popular but our class sizes are relatively small, allowing each child to receive individual attention. This enables our teachers to develop pupils to their full potential across all areas of learning.

We provide our pupils with a curriculum which seeks to educate 'the whole person' as well as in academic and creative ways. We strive to make our curriculum appropriate to pupils' needs by engaging them in planning and contributing to the direction of the learning, actively contributing creatively to their learning and utilising a range of digital media. The content of the curriculum is broad, balanced and relevant, carefully taking into account pupils wellbeing and safety. Pupils contribute their voice and leadership through our various pupil bodies such as the School Council, Eco Council, Criw Cymraeg and our Bwlchgwyn Digital Leaders. The curriculum is reviewed regularly and we are working well towards the new *Curriculum for Wales* ensuring that pupils receive an education that is relevant and up to date.

We offer a range of enrichment opportunities from our involvement in innovative projects such as Lead Creative Schools, to experiences in our generous and beautiful outdoor areas, a range of exciting educational trips that are linked to the class learning themes, as well as a variety of extra-curricular clubs such as: football, tennis, building club, rugby, gymnastics and multiskills.

THE CURRICULUM FOR WALES

As a school we have been working very hard to develop and innovate our practice over the last few years. Despite the impact of Covid we feel that our school vision is aligned with the aspirational, holistic Curriculum for Wales and reflects our nurturing ethos. This vision is based on key features of the new curriculum and values that we believe our school community hold in high regard including:

- a strong nurturing and inclusive environment
- listening to the voices of our pupils and parents
- high expectations for our learners in all aspects of their lives
- a strong sense of community and family 'feel'

We strive for our pupils' curriculum to offer experiences that allow them to:

- learn about their local area, Wales and the world
- learn about the planet's sustainability and what they could do to protect it
- learn in authentic and 'real life' contexts
- have a greater awareness of the world of work, the digital world and the skills required to succeed
- to engage with visitors and enjoy educational trips that supports their learning
- develop their health, fitness and personal well-being including dealing with different emotions and conditions





The new Curriculum for Wales, implemented in September 2022, has at its core four key purposes, namely to create young people who are:



- *ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives*
- *enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work*
- *ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world*
- *healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.*

The new curriculum replaces existing, traditional subject areas into six Areas of Learning and Experience, namely:

- *expressive arts*
- *health and well-being*
- *humanities*
- *languages, literacy and communication*
- *mathematics and numeracy*
- *science and technology.*



Our Curriculum Rationale Statement and related policies are available on our school website: <http://www.bwlchgwyn-school.co.uk>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The ethos of the school rests on Christian values and worship is conducted through a broadly Christian theme. Other religions are studied as part of the R.E. curriculum and we regularly plan whole school learning such as 'Diwali Week'. Our local Reverend visits the school regularly and some of the church festivals are conducted by the pupils in Christ Church Bwlchgwyn. Parents wishing to withdraw their children from these activities are asked to write to the Headteacher.



RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

The schools programme of relationship and sex education, as agreed by the Governing Body, is linked with other areas of the Curriculum for Wales. Parents may view the policy to inform them of the approaches and subject matter addressed in each class.

Policies relating to religious education, sex education and any curriculum complaints are available on our school website: <http://www.bwlchgwyn-school.co.uk>





ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Provision is made for children with additional learning needs, including more able children, to follow the Curriculum and to participate in all aims and objectives of the school. Early identification and monitoring is implemented and there is a rigorous tracking system within the school for monitoring provision and pupils' progress. The policy of the school is to integrate pupils with additional learning needs into main-stream education. Person Centred Practice is at the heart of the support we provide and close home school liaison ensures that there is an effective dialogue with parents, fostering effective partnership work.

In September 2021 the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Act was implemented. The act sets out the new statutory support system in Wales for children and young people with special needs. The term ALN replaces 'special educational needs' (SEN) and 'learning difficulties and/or disabilities' (LDD), covering all children and young people with additional needs. A key element of the ALN Act is the provision of an Individual Development Plan (IDP) for every child who has ALN, regardless of the severity. The ALN Act aims to help children and young people with ALN overcome barriers to learning and reach their full potential.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Our school has lovely grounds and we have a large playing field and a multi-use games area. There are a wide range of sports activities undertaken during the year both as part of the curriculum and extra-curricular clubs including netball, football, tennis, gymnastics, cricket and rugby. Children also have the opportunity to represent the school in swimming and football. Swimming lessons are given to pupils from Year 2 and are taken at Ysgol Clywedog.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We encourage pupils at Ysgol Bwlchgwyn to wear their uniform with pride as it demonstrates that they are part of the school community. We have high expectations from our pupils with regards to school uniform and appearance, and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour, equality, supports effective teaching and learning and contributes to the ethos of the school. We offer a dedicated uniform supplier but also provide recycled uniform and permit non-branded uniform options to ensure that our requirements are equitable and inclusive. Further details for ordering can be found on our website.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

- *Maroon sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo*
- *White polo shirt with school logo*
- *Polo shirts/ sweatshirts without Logos are permitted*
- *Grey trousers/skirt*
- *Red and white gingham summer dress/grey shorts*
- *Sensible, black flat shoes (high heels not permitted)*

PE KIT:

- *Trainers / plimsolls*
- *White, round neck T-shirt with or without school logo*
- *Black shorts*
- *Black or blue tracksuit/joggers for outdoor games in cold weather*



We offer a number of Ysgol Bwlchgwyn embroidered uniform items which can be purchased online directly from our supplier.

WELSH LANGUAGE

Ysgol Bwlchgwyn is an English medium school but provides bilingual opportunities for pupils to experience and use the Welsh Language. We actively encourage pupils and staff to use the language as much as possible both in lessons and when communicating day to day around the school. This is supported by our Criw Cymraeg pupil body who present a weekly Cymraeg Campus award for the use of Cymraeg yn yr Ysgol.



TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Our pupils transfer to a range of schools in Wrexham, Flintshire and Denbshire at the age of 11. These include Ysgol Clywedog, St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School, Bryn Alyn High School, Rhosnesni High School, Castell Alun High School and Ysgol Brynhyfryd.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The school has adopted the Local Authority's Equal Opportunities policy and plan. The school always endeavours to uphold it with opportunities being the same for all who attend. The school has an accessibility plan which identifies facilities for pupils with physical disabilities. The school has wheelchair access and disabled toilet facilities. The school's ethos of inclusion is shared by all staff and pupils and is actively promoted through the school's values. Admission for pupils with disabilities should be sought via the Local Authority Admissions and Inclusion teams respectively.



CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

No charge is made to parents for any education provided wholly or mainly during school hours, admission to school for children of compulsory school age, activities which are part of the National Curriculum, or are part of a prescribed examination syllabus, or part of Religious Education, the supply of any materials, books and instruments or other equipment, transport to school. Parents can make voluntary contributions for educational and residential trips and musical tuition to enhance the curriculum.



ONLINE PAYMENTS

To enable parents to easily access and keep up to date with payments we use an online system called 'ParentPay' for payment of all items including: pupil meals, breakfast club, snack money, music tuition, book bags, swimming lessons, trips and additional options can be added when needed. Wrexham County Borough Council have introduced this system for the mutual benefit of both school/parents and is Bwlchgwyn School's preferred method of payment. All parents are issued with a unique payment reference no. for each child once they are on-roll at Bwlchgwyn School. Further details and instructions on how to use the system can be found on the School website.



HOW PARENTS CAN APPLY FOR THEIR CHILD TO BE ADMITTED TO OUR SCHOOL



We welcome enquiries directly for admission to our school however the Local Education Authority is the admitting authority for all children in the County of Wrexham and applications will be considered by the Admissions Team. If you wish to visit the school please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to share our lovely educational environment with you.

The Wrexham Local Authority Admission Policy can be viewed on our website for further details. Deadlines for application at the age ranges below are published annually and can be obtained from the Wrexham LA admissions team.

Early Entitlement

Children are entitled to 10 hours of Early Education, the term following their third birthday. Early Education is available in the Spring and Summer terms only. If you are eligible to claim the Government's 30 hours Childcare Offer - 10 hours of the 30 form the educational element of the offer accessed by Early Entitlement in the school's Early Years class, the remaining hours can be used by way of childcare which is offered by Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew our onsite childcare facility.

Nursery

Children aged 3+ are admitted to our Nursery class in the September following their third birthday. We hope that by joining us in these formative years we lay good educational foundations. Welcoming parent meetings are held for new as well as current parents. We encourage parents to make an initial visit to the school in advance of your child's third birthday and place their name on our waiting list as this helps with forward planning.

If you are eligible to claim the Government's 30 hours Childcare Offer - 12.5 hours of the 30 form the educational element of the offer accessed by Nursery in the school's Early Years class, the remaining hours can be used by way of childcare which is offered by Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew – our onsite childcare facility.

Reception

Each child about to commence full time education will be offered a place in a school maintained by the Local Authority. Children in our Nursery Class who live in our catchment area will be eligible to apply for a place in our Reception Class.

Admission for older classes can be arranged at any time via the Local Authority Admissions Team and parents are asked to consult the Headteacher.

School Session Times:

Early Entitlement:	Morning	
Monday - Thursday mornings	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	
Nursery:	Morning	
Monday - Friday mornings	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	
Years 1 & 2:	Morning	Afternoon
	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon	1:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Years 3,4,5 & 6:	Morning	Afternoon
	8:55 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.	1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The school has a very good track record of attendance and we communicate up to date information regarding each pupil's attendance on a termly basis to parents. This enables us to maintain high standards of pupil attendance. Attendance for the academic year 2023/24 was **95.4%**



SCHOOL SECURITY AND HEALTH & SAFETY

The school has extensive grounds which have a secure boundary throughout. Ingress to school is via a locked gated system and secured entrance. Robust signing in processes are in place to ensure the safety of our children. The site is maintained by the LA Facilities Management team and regular monitoring and site checks are carried out by the Headteacher, caretaker and nominated Health and Safety Governor.



OUR STAFF

Name	Position
Mr Dylan Williams	Headteacher
Miss Samantha Jutson	Assistant Headteacher / Class 3 Teacher
Mrs Rachel Valentine	Class 2 Teacher
Mrs Helen Edge	Teaching Support
Mrs Anna Griffiths	Class 1 Teacher
Miss Jennie Daniels	Early Years Teacher
Miss Lauren Jones	Teaching Support / Breakfast Club Assistant
Mrs Elizabeth Williams	Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator
Mrs Linda Edwards	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Anne Simmons	Teaching Assistant
Ms Nadine Hodges	Teaching Assistant
Ms Claire Lewis	Teaching Assistant
Miss Lucy Williams	Teaching Assistant
Mr David Jackson	Teaching Assistant / Breakfast Club Assistant / Caretaker
Mrs Janine Jones	1:1 Teaching Assistant / Breakfast Club Supervisor / Cleaning Assistant / Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Linda Roberts	Lunchtime Supervisor / Cleaning Assistant
Mrs Carolyn Richards	School Cook/ Cleaning Assistant
Mrs Lynne Wright	Catering Assistant
Mrs Nicola Roberts	Administrator

TERM DATES 2024-25

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
School opens	2 nd September	6 th January	28 th April
School closes – Half Term	25 th October	21 st February	23 rd May
School opens	4 th November	3 rd March	2 nd June
School closes	20 th December	11 th April	21 st July

SCHOOL MEALS /FREE SCHOOL MEALS

In September 2022 Welsh Government began rolling out free school meals for all primary school aged children in Wales. This will initially be for Reception pupils in September 2022 with older year groups following in due course.

Children whose parents receive the following support payments are entitled to receive Free School Meals in maintained schools in Wales: *Income Support (IS)**

- *Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)**
- *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *Income-related Employment Support Allowance (IR)*
- *Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit with an annual total income below the HMRC set limit*
- *Guarantee element of State Pension Credit*
- *Working Tax Credit ‘run-on’ – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit*
- *Universal Credit.*

***Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also eligible to receive free school lunches.**

If you are eligible to receive free school meals it is important to your child’s school that you apply as this may provide additional funding. If your child prefers to take a packed lunch or make other arrangements, it is still important to register for free school meals. Please contact the school office for further information and help applying for free school meals if you think you might be entitled.

PARENT TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION - PTFA

Bwlchgwyn School has an active and invaluable PTFA that organises successful and fun events for pupils, parents and community members with the aim of raising valuable funds to support our children’s learning within school. These have included pupil discos, community cheese and wine evening, summer fair, Easter egg decorating and film evenings to mention but a few. Parents/friends can contribute as much as they are able and any help/input is appreciated and is invaluable for continued success. If you wish to be involved please contact any of the committee members via the PTFA post box or by email: bwlchgwynschool.ptfa@gmail.com



BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is held each morning in the school hall and all pupils are very welcome to attend. Breakfast club runs between 7:55 a.m. and the start of the school day. A Breakfast Club registration form must be completed and returned before your child/ren can attend. Further details and instructions on how to make booking and register your child can be found on the School website.

BWLCHGWYN CABIN CREW

Bwlchgwyn School's out of school childcare facility is known as Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew and is a non-profit making organisation, run for the benefit of local parents. The setting is a registered childcare provider offering high-quality childcare which is accessible and affordable to all, including children from other schools. We are regulated by the Care Inspectorate for Wales (CIW) and adhere to the National Minimum Standards for Childcare. We provide care for children aged from 2 to 12 years up to a maximum of 40 children and adhere to CIW's recommended adult: child ratios.



Childcare offered includes:

- *Nursery plus (age 3+ years) - open 11:30am 'til 3:05pm every weekday during term time*
- *After-School Club (age 3 - 12 years) - open 3:05pm 'til 6pm every weekday during term time*
- *Holiday Club (age 3 - 12years) - open 8:15am 'til 5:30pm every weekday during school holidays (including inset days)*
- *Flying Start / Playgroup (age 2+ years) - open 9:00am 'til 11:30am every weekday during term time.*



We operate from a self-contained building situated within the grounds of Bwlchgwyn School. Our aim is to provide a happy, warm, stimulating and secure environment so that your child/ren can enjoy their time with us. We offer a range of play activities/workshops in a welcoming and safe atmosphere. We are extremely proud of the findings of our most recent CIW inspection as well as being awarded 'Out of School Club of the Year' and 'Playgroup of the Year' by Wrexham Childcare Awards.



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