

Bro Ederm Cluster Schools

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg Curriculum Policy

Aim

The intention of the Policy is to explain what the focus of the curriculum will be in the Bro Ederm cluster. The School will plan against the 6 Areas of Learning and Experience but the 4 purposes will drive the curriculum forward with the key skills being the foundation for every aspect of the curriculum in our school and in our cluster.

Video of our Curriculum Bro Ederm Cluster Curriculum

Children's Rights

- Article 3: All organizations involved with children should always do what is best for each child.
- Article 6: You have the right to life and to grow up to be healthy.
- Article 27: Your right to a good standard of life.
- Article 28: Your right to learn and go to school.
- Article 29: Your right to be the best you can be.
- Article 30: Your right to use your own language. Article 31: Your right to relax and play.
- Article 37: Your right to be treated fairly

Vision

The Bro Ederm Cluster Curriculum aims to meet the needs of our pupils, who come from various backgrounds in a mixed catchment area in East Cardiff, the capital of Wales. The Four Purposes are at the heart of the Bro Ederm Cluster Curriculum. Although these are long-term purposes, they require daily attention in order to be realised.

As we guide pupils who are proud of their civic heritage in our capital, Welshness, the Welsh language and its historical development are at the core of our vision. The purposeful interweaving of our curriculum areas ensures that Bro Ederm Cluster pupils benefit from the breadth of the curriculum while focusing on What is Important.

The people studied in the Bro Ederm Cluster Curriculum are a diverse cross-section and include role models who are an inspiration to the whole range of pupils in the cluster. Being brought up in a multicultural city where living together and getting along is a key part of daily life, instilling tolerance and respect in our pupils is essential.

Encouraging ambition in our pupils means developing sound skills and strategies to enable them to face success and failure. Perseverance and resilience are key as part of the growth mindset instilled in our pupils. Solid knowledge lays the foundation for pupils in the cluster to benefit from skills and experiences that can be transferred to various contexts today, and in the future.

The schools in the cluster have the ability to transform the lives of our pupils. This is where they gain the knowledge, skills and experiences that will enrich the rest of their lives. The roots and wings in the Cluster logo epitomize this.

The purpose of the curriculum

- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that fosters ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Providing experiences, knowledge and skills that promote learners as enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full role in life and Work.
- Provide a range of opportunities inside and outside the classroom that enrich learning and encourage principled, informed citizens in Wales and the world.
- Meet the needs of all learners in order to encourage healthy, confident and resilient individuals who are ready to live a complete life as valuable members of society.
- Bringing up principled citizens who are proud of their home, Wales and the Welsh language
- Develop a positive attitude and commitment to learning
- Develop the ability to find, evaluate and use evidence when forming opinions and discussing current issues based on their knowledge and values, knowledge, skills and understanding that are relevant to life and employment in a world that is constantly evolving.
- Develop cross-curricular skills; literacy, numeracy and digital literacy
- develop holistic skills such as creativity, critical thinking and problem solving, personal effectiveness and planning and organisation
- Develop recognition of their strengths and talents together with appreciating the successes of others

- Develop a sense of responsibility for their progress and identifying aspects to improve the ability to work independently and collaborate confidently as a member of a group
- Develop self-worth and the understanding of human rights and diversity.

Implementation of the Curriculum

We have planning based on the cluster curriculum with the school monitoring provision through the self evaluation processes. The work plans are structured to highlight the skills, knowledge and understanding that need to be developed over time.

It is ensured that there is a balance between the expertise and experience of teachers across the age and ability range and that all teachers are qualified to teach through the medium of Welsh. The teachers plan together to ensure effective progression and continuity across the stages of progress. Where relevant, appropriate independent tasks are planned which give learners the opportunity to cultivate the skills presented in the classroom together with enriching their understanding.

In order to cover all learners, whatever the age, background, needs or ability, the curriculum takes into account progress from a holistic point of view by using the principles of child development when planning, designing and implementing our curriculum. The requirements of the Equal Opportunity Act are met in order to make every effort to ensure that all learners receive full access to the curriculum.

The four purposes of the Curriculum

The curriculum of Ysgol y Berllan Deg must help children and young people achieve the 4 main purposes.

The 4 main purposes are going to help children and young people to be:

1. Ambitious and capable learners: This means that they believe in themselves and what they can do. They want to learn and do better. They have the skills to learn.
2. Enterprising and creative: This means that they can be creative and think of new ideas. They can solve problems. They can apply this in their work.
3. Principled and informed citizens: This means that they understand their rights and responsibilities. They are involved in their community. They look after the world.
4. Healthy and confident: This means they have a healthy mind and body. They feel good about themselves and what they believe.

Curriculum Content

The curriculum is a responsive one that empowers learners to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to learn successfully and realize the four purposes. Through the curriculum we increase our learners' interest in their education, and they will develop into more capable and independent individuals, ready to contribute in the world around them. They will be healthier and more confident to interact with a diverse range of people, places and experiences. This is good preparation for the next stage of their learning journey. Over a period, at their own level and in their own time, the learners build relationships with others, develop life skills and develop personal interests that will enable them to fulfill their potential.

The curriculum covers the six Learning and Experience Areas; Expressive Arts, Science and Technology, Health and Wellbeing, Languages, Literacy and Communication, Mathematics and Numeracy, Humanities. The six Fields bring familiar disciplines together, and encourage meaningful and strong connections across different disciplines. This will enable learners to make connections across their learning and to combine different experiences, knowledge and skills.

Principles of Curriculum Planning in the Bro Edern Curriculum

Our Curriculum;

Authentic - Rooted in Welsh values and culture.

Based on evidence - making use of best practice in Wales and beyond

Responsive - relevant to today's needs

Inclusive - easy for everyone to understand covering the right of every child and young person to a high quality education

Ambitious - embodies high expectations without setting artificial limits

Empowering - enabling young people to face challenges with confidence

United - allows continuity and progression (step by step)

Interesting - promotes enjoyment of learning

Based on subsidiarity - instills confidence in everyone and encourages appropriate ownership

Easy to handle - recognizes the implications of having appropriate assessment and accountability arrangements

6 Areas of Learning and Experience:

At Ysgol Y Berllan Deg we ensure that the pupils receive a variety of experiences within all areas of learning and experience of the curriculum.

The 6 Areas of Learning and Experience are:

1. The Expressive Arts

At Ysgol Y Berllan Deg there will be an opportunity for children and young people to explore the arts and learn how to enjoy and think about other people's art. All pupils should also have the opportunity to be creative. They can learn these things through a mix of different lessons such as:

- Art
- Dance
- Film
- Drama
- Music
- Digital media (Digital media means any artwork you create through technology, for example, video, audio recording and websites).

2. Health and well-being

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will teach children and young people how to look after their health. This means:

- ensure that our body is healthy.
- keep our mind healthy.
- ensure healthy relationships with people.
- the ability to make good life decisions.

Well-being is defined as anything to do with your health and happiness, at Ysgol y Berllan Deg lessons, circle times, promoting national mental health weeks and classroom services are used to teach and promote well-being.

3. The Humanities

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will teach children and young people to think about the world in order to help them understand it better.

This can be through subjects such as:

- History
- Geography
- Religions, values and ethics
- Business
- Social Studies

4. Languages, Literacy and Communication

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will teach children and young people to understand and use different languages, including Welsh, English and other modern languages. At the moment, at Ysgol Y Berllan Deg pupils in Year 6 receive a fortnightly French or German lesson delivered by Ysgol Bro Edern teachers. Although, we take every opportunity to teach multiple languages taking advantage of opportunities and the unique linguistic experiences of our pupils and their families.

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg is a designated Welsh language school so at the heart of the school's vision is the Welsh language. We promote it in every element of the school's life and work. The pupils of Ysgol Y Berllan Deg leave the school as confident and proud bilingual pupils and with a good grasp of a third language, with some being multilingual.

When we refer to Literacy we consider the pupils' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills; skills that enable them to make sense of the world around us.

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will also teach our pupils to understand and appreciate literature and create their own literature. When considering literature, we give the pupils the opportunity to experience and enjoy books, poems and films.

5. Mathematics and Numeracy

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will teach children and young people to understand and use numbers. Using numbers in everyday life is called numeracy. Learning about mathematics and numeracy will mean:

- understand how numbers work.
- understand how symbols can be used and what they mean. A symbol is a sign that can tell you what to do. For example, the plus sign means you are adding two numbers together. Like $2 + 2$. Sometimes symbols are also used instead of numbers, for example $a - b$.
- understand how to measure things and work with different shapes.
- understand how to gather information using this information to make decisions.

6. Science and Technology

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will teach children and young people to understand nature and living things. They must learn about the forces around us. Forces are things you can't see that affect you, like gravity.

Ysgol Y Berllan Deg will also teach children and young people about how technology works to solve problems. This can be through subjects such as biology, chemistry, physics and computer science.

Cross Curricular Themes or Skills for the whole curriculum:

At Ysgol y Berllan Deg, the teachers will plan to ensure that each subject develops the cross-curricular skills below:

- Literacy skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- Numeracy skills – understanding and using numbers.
- Digital skills – ability to learn and understand technology. This means the ability to use digital devices such as computers, smartphones and tablets.

The above skills will be key to the success of each child so that they have the best possible access to the Curriculum for Wales.

Wider skills to consider when planning:

Critical thinking and problem solving - adopting logical and critical processes to analyze and understand situations

Planning and Organizing - securing solutions and implementing ideas

Creativity and Innovation - exploring ideas and expressing opinions

Personal Effectiveness - behave in an effective and appropriate manner

How will it be possible to achieve the above?

Firstly, the teachers will plan carefully against themes that enable the school to reach a balance in terms of the six areas of learning and experience. At Ysgol y Berllan Deg, emphasis is placed on developing and enriching the pupils' Language and Mathematics skills so that they can confidently apply these skills cross-curricularly in the six areas of learning and experience. Health and well-being will be expected to appear clearly in the planning and when considering Humanities, Science and Technology and Expressive Arts it will be possible to choose a theme with a tendency towards a particular area of learning and experience e.g. Humanities studying the local area, Science and Technology considering inventions etc. The pupils' voice will be key in the planning process.

Pupil Voice:

When planning cross-curricular themes or enhanced tasks, pupils' input will be at the heart of planning and teaching and learning. As a result, our hope at Ysgol y Berllan Deg is that the pupils will take ownership of the activities and their own learning. We will collect the pupils' ideas about the theme and the pupils can share their ideas. Consistently throughout the theme, the teachers respond to the pupils' curiosity and questions guiding the activities.

Pedagogy:

At the heart of the school's pedagogy are the 12 pedagogical principles.

Personal Development

In addition to the academic development of the individual the curriculum promotes holistic and complete personal development and recognizes additional mandated frameworks.

Welsh Culture and the Welsh Language:

As a Welsh-medium school, a large part of the curriculum is taught through Welsh which encourages multilingual citizens who develop effective communication, language and literacy skills in order to express themselves, develop strong social relations and to learn more generally. By offering experiences of Welsh and global cultures, learners have the opportunity to cultivate personal identity and an appreciation of the modern multicultural society. The strong sense of belonging helps to create positive feelings of connection between our learners, the school community, their local area, Wales and the wider world.

Religion, Values and Ethics:

The Religion, Values and Ethics provision will be objective and inclusive, reflecting diversity and fostering awareness, understanding and respect towards various viewpoints and values. There will be opportunities through Religion, Values and Ethics for all learners to engage with different religious and non-religious philosophical convictions in our area and in Wales as well as the wider world. In accordance with the Curriculum for Wales law, a parent does not have the right to apply to withdraw a child from Religion, Values and Ethics.

Relationship and Sexuality Education

The Relationship and Sexuality Education Code Curriculum for Wales (January 2022) is used when planning the relationship and sexuality education program across the Bro Edern Cluster. This Code contains mandatory requirements, and the legal basis for these requirements can be found in the legislative summary in these framework guidelines on the Curriculum for Wales. This means that all learners must have this education and there is no right to withdraw a child from relationship and sexuality education lessons from September 2022. The aim is to help pupils to develop the skills and knowledge that are appropriate to their age and understanding and enable them to make responsible decisions about their relationships, emotions and sexual health and well-being. The relationship and sexuality education will take into account a variety of factors including the knowledge and maturity of the learner, their physiological and emotional development as well as any additional learning needs.

Careers education and Work-related experiences

Guiding learners' awareness of who they are and who they can grow to be is the basis of our school's ethos. The curriculum is designed to raise the aspirations of all learners. In promoting ambitious, capable learners, a variety of world of work experiences are provided in partnership with a wide range of people and organisations.

Equal Rights and Opportunity

The curriculum gives the learner the opportunity to learn about human rights encouraging learners to enquire, analyse, form arguments, make decisions, collaborate, evaluate and develop behaviours that are guided by values. The aim of our curriculum is to offer equal opportunities to all individuals in all aspects of school life without discriminating on the basis of ability, sexuality, race, disability or religion. To this end all learners will have the right to access a wide and balanced range of educational activities, without discrimination. The school will foster the development of the individual so that they reach their potential without any type of stereotyping.

Keeping the Policy Up to Date:

This policy is a constantly amending policy, it is essential to allow adaptation and change in order to really take advantage of the flexibility of the new Curriculum for Wales.

The school's research work and beyond will add to the experiences of teachers and pupils.

We encourage our teachers to take risks in order to excite and reform the pedagogy. Despite this, when taking risks the basic expectations of the curriculum remain high.

Online learning has opened the door for the school to enrich teaching practices with a mix of methods and blended learning. These practices will continue within the school's curricular procedures.