



Ysgol Gymunedol **Llangatwg**
Llangatwg Community School

Main Road | Cadoxton | Neath | SA10 8DB

Curriculum Policy

Ysbrydoli Dyheu Llwyddo **Inspire Aspire Succeed**

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The curriculum at Llangatwg Community School consists of everything we provide that promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, intellectual, personal, social and physical development. As well as formal lessons and extracurricular activities, it includes our approaches to teaching, learning and assessment, the quality of relationships within school, and the values embodied in the way the school operates.

The school's curriculum follows statutory requirements and the requirements of the National Curriculum. It is balanced and broadly based, and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of our pupils and of society and prepares our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Literacy and numeracy are fundamental to the curriculum and to everyday life. All departments promote the development of Literacy and Numeracy in accordance with the statutory framework. Pupils are also expected to acquire the skills of Developing ICT through the Digital Competency Framework. As a result, fulfilling the skills framework and the enhancement of pupils essential skills. The curriculum will also provide pupils with the opportunity to develop the wider key skills of Improving Own Performance, Working with Others and Problem Solving.

Aim

All learners of the school, irrespective of race, gender, religion or ability are entitled to access a curriculum which is broad, balanced, relevant, differentiated, coherent, and meets all statutory requirements.

The curriculum at Llangatwg Community School therefore seeks to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes that are necessary for pupils' development as active and responsible citizens at each stage of their education.

The curriculum prepares learners for further study, employment and adult life.

Objectives

The curriculum should:

- Enable pupils to become successful life long learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Develop confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Produce responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society
- Challenge all learners to achieve and fulfil their potential.
- Raise aspirations and set appropriate challenges
- Allow personalisation for individual interventions, including catch-up and one-to-one tuition
- Make sense to learners so they can see the connections between different subjects, skills, cross-curricular dimensions
- Give the whole planned learning experience a clear sense of purpose
- Relate to and build on learners' knowledge and experiences of the world in which they live
- Foster good learning relationships between teachers and pupils and between pupils and their peers
- Provide opportunities for pupils to learn in a variety of ways and settings
- Include global, national, local and personal dimensions
- Provide opportunities for learners to draw upon the Welsh Language and Culture
- Make certain all young people develop the skills and abilities needed for success in life and can apply them in a wide range of context
- Provide appropriate 14-19 Learning Pathways
- Be balanced, relevant and differentiated
- Meet statutory requirements.

Curriculum Implementation

The curriculum at Llangatwg Community School takes account of statutory orders which includes

- The revised National Curriculum Subject Orders and Frameworks
- Learning Pathways 14-19
- Literacy and Numeracy Framework

Curriculum Organisation

Three fundamental principles provide the basis for the academic organisation of the school.

- The need to make all aspects of the curriculum accessible to all learners.
- The need to provide a system, which will allow all learners to reach their full potential in each individual subject.
- The desire to meet individual needs.

The National Curriculum consists of subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science, Information Communication Technology (ICT), Welsh, Design and Technology (DT), Physical Development (PE), Religious Education (RE), Music, Art, History and Geography.

KS3 – Years 7 – 9

When pupils enter Llangatwg Community School in Year 7 they are taught in mixed ability groups. After the first half term; teacher assessments or end of Key Stage Teacher Assessment National Test results and Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) are used to allocate pupils to classes. An important feature is the dialogue that occurs between feeder school staff and Llangatwg staff in this process, as data alone does not give the full picture of an individual pupil. There after the pupils` achievements reflected in the schools own formative data process and the professional judgement of the teachers informs grouping structures.

KS4 – Year 10 and 11

There is no banding for option blocks and all pupils have a free choice of subjects that they would like to study at KS4. Pupils are taught in similar way to that at KS3 although there is the facility for pupils to be set by ability in English, Maths and Science. A flexible curriculum menu is also being developed for those pupils who would find the more traditional route to qualifications difficult. In all instances the “Inclusion” agenda is a high priority, along with progression within the national framework and Pupils receive support through our Pupil Support Centre.

Pastoral groups.

Pupils in all year groups are placed in mixed ability registration groups and will remain in these for the duration of their time in Llangatwg.

Curriculum Content

At Key Stage 3 nearly all pupils study all ten subjects of the National Curriculum together with religious education and personal and social education (which includes careers, health and sex education and an understanding of the effects of drug misuse). The curriculum promotes transition from Key Stage 2 through to Key Stage 4 and beyond.

At Key Stage 4 pupils study a compulsory programme that includes English, Mathematics and Numeracy, Science, Welsh, Physical Education, Religious Studies and the Welsh Baccalaureate. Pupils are encouraged to study a balanced selection of subjects.

Skills Development

The curriculum allows for the development of transferable generic skills for learners. Learning in any subject can provide opportunities to develop:

- Thinking
- Communication
- ICT
- Number
- Problem solving
- Working with others
- Improving one's own learning

Literacy and numeracy are fundamental to the curriculum and to everyday life. All departments promote the development of Literacy and Numeracy in accordance with the statutory framework. Pupils are also expected to acquire the skills of Developing ICT. As a result, fulfilling the skills framework and the enhancement of pupils essential skills. The curriculum will also provide pupils with the opportunity to develop the wider key skills of Improving Own Performance, Working with Others and Problem Solving.

Cross Curricular Themes

Opportunities are provided within the curriculum across the range of subjects to promote:

- Cwricwlwm Cymreig
- Wales, Europe and the World
- Equal Opportunities, Equality and Diversity
- Food and Fitness
- Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship
- The World of Work and Entrepreneurship.

Curriculum Delivery

All teachers within the school are expected to create an environment to enable high quality teaching to take place. Assessment for Learning is an integral part of the curriculum delivery. Assessment of Learning is used to record attainment and monitor progress.

Each subject leader will produce a subject handbook which will encompass the philosophy of the department, its aims and objectives, teaching and learning styles, resources and assessment policy.

The handbook will contain a scheme of work in which the aims outlined are translated into practice. It will reflect the general ethos and curricular policies and objectives of the school.

The handbook will serve as a means of ensuring cohesion of approach, objectives, teaching style and standards among colleagues. It will be a means of expressing the department's work to other colleagues, headteacher, governors and parents.

Curriculum Support

Curriculum support for pupils is delivered through the Learner Support sessions. It is provided in a number of ways:

- Form tutors acts as a Learner Support for the pupils in their forms
- The fortnightly Learner Support is the main vehicle for providing learning support in both KS3 and KS4
- If the Learner Support decides the learner needs more help or advice, he or she can be referred to the most appropriate person e.g. The careers co-ordinator.

- Curriculum advice is provided at appropriate times as part of the PSE / careers programme
- The Pupil Inclusion Manager is able to provide an alternative curriculum for those pupils that need it
- The assistant headteacher is able to design individual curriculum packages to meet the needs of individual pupils making use of the Pupil Support Unit.

PSE & Wellbeing

Learners follow a programme of PSE that meets the requirements of the Personal and Social Education Framework for 7 to 19-year-olds in Wales. The programme prepares pupils to be personally and socially effective by providing learning experiences in which they can develop and apply skills, explore personal attitudes and values, and acquire appropriate knowledge and understanding.

The programme relates to issues including sex and relationships, body image, drug, alcohol and tobacco use. Education for health seeks to encourage pupils to eat sensibly, stay physically active and maintain good levels of personal wellbeing.

To help understand the characteristics of a healthy lifestyle and make informed decisions learners have opportunities across the curriculum to:

- Meet, talk and work with a range of people, including professionals from the health and emergency services
- Develop positive relationships with a wide range of people
- Consider social and moral dilemmas, including the varied attitudes and values underpinning some of the healthy lifestyle issues they experience in their communities
- Prepare for change, for example by anticipating the challenges of new and widening social groups as they get older, and by considering the choices they may have to make
- Feel positive about themselves, for example by giving and receiving positive feedback, and keeping a record of progress and achievements

Enriching the Curriculum

Llangatwg will provide its learners with a large range of extra-curricular activities. All of these activities are seen as enhancing the learning experience and providing learners with opportunities not available during the school day. They are very much valued by both pupils and their parents, as can be seen by the large numbers attending.

Sport is a strength of the school, with all the major sporting activities catered for. This is supplemented by a programme of physical activities provided by the 5x60 officer.

The quality of the music department has long been recognised. As well as peripatetic instrumental tuition being available to all pupils, there are regular practices and concerts for the various bands, ensembles and choirs. Major musical productions are staged regularly.

Enrichment.

There is an extensive range of clubs and societies. The school also enters many local and national competitions and quizzes.

As well as clubs, a wide range of trips and visits provide further opportunities for pupils and students to enhance their learning.

Monitoring & Evaluation of the Policy

The Curriculum Policy will be reviewed at least annually by the leadership team to ensure that it remains appropriate for learners, can be adequately staffed and meets statutory requirements.

The quality of curriculum provision will also be evaluated by the Curriculum Committee of the governing body. This committee will be responsible for amending and developing the Curriculum Policy on behalf of the governing body.

KS3 Provision

Subjects	Number of lessons per fortnight
Art	3
English	7
French	3
Geog	3
Hist	3
ICT	2
Maths	7
Music	2
PE	2
RE	3
Science	6
Tech	4
Welsh	4
PSE	1
Total	50

Compulsory Subjects	Lessons per fortnight	KS 4 Curriculum - Subjects	GCSEs (or equivalent)
	7	GCSE English Language	1
	7	GCSE English Language and Literature	2
	7	GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Numeracy	2
	9	GCSE Science and Additional Science	2
	4	GCSE Welsh Second Language	1
	3	GCSE Religious Education	1
	2	Physical Education	N/A
	3	Skills Challenge Certificate	1
Optional Subjects	5	GCSE Triple Award Science	3
	5	GCSE Geography	1
	5	GCSE History	1
	5	GCSE French	1
	5	GCSE German	1
	5	GCSE DT Resistant Materials	1
	5	GCSE DT Graphic Product	1
	5	WJEC Hospitality and Catering	1
	5	GCSE Health and Social Care	1
	5	GCSE Art and Design	1
	5	GCSE Music	1
	5	GCSE Physical Education	1
	5	WJEC Sports Award	1
	5	GCSE Leisure and tourism	1
	5	GCSE Business Studies	1
	5	GCSE ICT	1
	5	VTCT Hairdressing	1
	5	Construction and the Built environment	1
	5	Princes Trust qualification	1