



Curriculum Policy

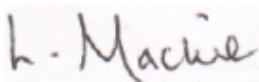
2025-26

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Review Date: Autumn Term Annually

Signed: 

David Williams, Chair Governing Body



Signed:

Lauren Mackie, Headteacher

Our Vision

At Llangatwg we nurture individuals to grow, flourish and be inspired for happiness, success and lifelong learning. We work together to be better, celebrating progress and achievement. As a community we encourage and challenge learners to be independent, resilient citizens who make valued contributions to our modern society. Learning is at the heart of what we do.

What is our curriculum about?

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

The school's curriculum follows statutory requirements and the Curriculum for Wales. The curriculum will be broad and balanced to allow pupils to progress in each of the four purposes. Areas will ensure that it encompasses all of the "What Matters" statements and be delivered using a variety of teaching approaches underpinned by the 12 pedagogical principles. The curriculum will prepare learners to make valued contributions to our future society and will be based within the local context while embracing the global dimension we are part of.

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. Our curriculum is everything a learner experiences in pursuit of the four purposes. It is not simply what we teach, but how we teach and crucially, why we teach it.

The [four purposes](#) are the shared vision and aspiration for every child and young person at Llangatwg. In fulfilling these, we set high expectations for all, promote individual and national well-being, tackle ignorance and misinformation, and encourage critical and civic engagement. The development of integral and cross-curricular skills is embedded in this approach. The curriculum has been developed based on stakeholder feedback including learners, parents and governors.



How do we deliver our curriculum?

By developing excellent, high quality teaching learners will find the curriculum engaging and relevant. Our ethos and vision will ensure that all learners are challenged and supported to do the very best they can and make the most of the learning opportunities presented. Staff will be effectively supported to provide a curriculum that meets the local context of our learners and can be delivered through a range of approaches based on individual needs. Staff will have access to high quality professional learning opportunities with collaboration central to this.

At Llangatwg, learning is delivered across 7 Areas of Learning Experiences (AOLE's): Mathematics and Numeracy, English and Literacy, Science and Technology, Humanities, Languages, Expressive Arts and Health and Wellbeing at KS3. This ensures comprehensive coverage of the "What Matters" statements. At KS4 learners select from a range of GCSE and vocational courses to study alongside the core subjects.

Lessons will be planned to develop skills and deepen learners' understanding and depth of knowledge. They will be linked to authentic, real life experiences to allow learners to see their relevance to the world they live in. Assessment and feedback will ensure that progress is appropriate and clear while linked to the progression code. A range of interventions and extra-curricular opportunities will support formal lessons. While beliefs and values will lie at the heart of our curriculum 3 basic principles will flow thorough it – Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe.

Why is our curriculum so important?

Our curriculum will provide learners with high quality learning experiences that will allow them to grow as individuals and prepare them for the next steps in their lives. It will allow them to access further qualifications and enter the world of work. Learners will be reflective individuals and ready to make a valued contribution to the local and wider community. As individuals they will be ambitious, capable, informed and enterprising.

How do we review our curriculum?

Self-evaluation activities are scheduled throughout the year to ensure our curriculum is regularly and robustly reviewed. These activities involve lesson observations, learning walks, book reviews, learner interviews, learner voice surveys, parental surveys and group discussions. Findings are used to inform planning on a short, mediums and long-term basis to ensure our curriculum adapts to meet the changing needs of our learners and local, national and global challenges.

Monitoring & Evaluation of this 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.

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. Overall, the curriculum is the driver behind pupils developing as individuals across the 4 purposes.

Objectives

The curriculum should:

- Enable pupils to become successful lifelong 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.

Staff Development

To ensure that pupils receive the best learning experiences staff have access to a varied and comprehensive staff development programme. Professional learning takes place during ADDs, INSET and directed time both in and outside of school. Staff have the opportunity to shape their own professional learning and are encouraged to work collaboratively when opportunities arise.

Skills Development

At the heart of our curriculum is the development of skills and their application to allow pupils to grow and make progress across the 4 purposes. We aim to deliver a modern, process-based curriculum that allows individuals to make progress across the 4 purposes and develop skills for life.

The delivery of lessons that develop Integral Skills and Cross Cutting Themes is crucial to this, as are the links between our SIP aims and the curriculum.



Relationships and sexuality education (RSE)

RSE has a positive and empowering role in learners' education and plays a vital role in supporting them to realise the four purposes as part of a whole-school approach. Helping learners to form and maintain a range of relationships, all based on mutual trust and respect, is the foundation of RSE.

Human rights

Human rights are the freedoms and protections to which all people are entitled. In Wales our human rights are protected in law by the Human Rights Act 1998.

The Human Rights Act 1998 outlines and safeguards everyone's rights. This is irrespective of nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, sexual orientation or any other status.

Diversity

Diversity here refers to recognising and celebrating the diverse nature of social groups and communities and to ensuring that the curriculum reflects that diversity and is responsive to the experiences of those groups and communities. At its most basic, it means being aware of the characteristics of others and treating others with compassion, empathy, understanding and equity, regardless of those characteristics.

Careers and work-related experiences (CWRE)

Learning about CWRE is fundamental to developing skills for work and life. This helps learners to understand the relationship between their learning and the world of work. The four purposes and the integral skills that support them are central to preparing learners for careers and work.

Local, national and international contexts

The local, national and international contexts provide key perspectives for learners and are of particular importance in supporting learners to realise the four purposes. They help learners make sense of the skills and knowledge they are developing by making connections with surroundings, experiences and events they may be more familiar with. They also introduce learners to less familiar contexts, broadening their horizons, engaging with perspectives different from their own and appreciating wider challenges and issues. These contexts also help them make sense of their relationship with their communities, their national identity and the wider world.



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Integral Skills

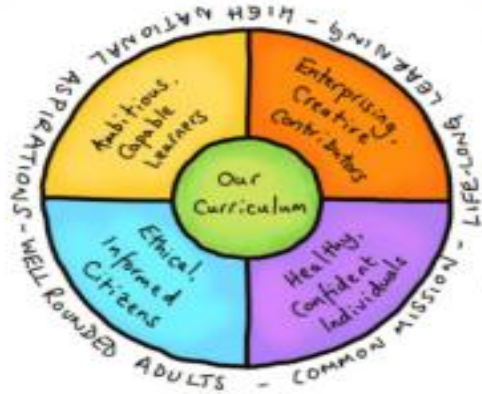


Creativity and innovation



Numeracy

Literacy



Planning and organising

Digital Competency

Critical thinking and problem solving



Personal effectiveness



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 curriculum is based on a 3 year KS3 and 2 year KS4 model.

KS3 – Years 7 – 9

When pupils enter Llangatwg Community School in Year 7 they are generally taught in mixed ability groups. Testing across a range of methods, including CAT's, ensure pupils are challenged appropriately. As pupils progress through KS3 there is some setting in core subjects as they approach KS4.

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, Science, Welsh and RVE. A flexible curriculum menu is also being developed for those pupils who would find the more traditional route to qualifications difficult.

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 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, to record attainment and monitor progress and clear and transparent tracking systems are in place.

AOLE Leaders are responsible for shaping the curriculum in their area to meets the needs of our learners while meeting statutory requirements. Line management systems are in place to support this.

Curriculum Support

Curriculum support for pupils is provided in a number of ways:

- Form tutors act as a Learner Support for the pupils in their forms, this 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.
- Comprehensive support packages include intervention opportunities
- Curriculum advice is provided at appropriate times as part of the CWRE programme
- Fortnightly WASP meetings at year level consider pupils who may be struggling with accessing the curriculum.
- Parents are kept informed of progress via parents' evenings, regular reports and the use of Classcharts.
- The Pupil Inclusion Co-ordinator 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 Enfys.

Health & Wellbeing

Health & Well-being flows through the curriculum and is delivered in a variety of ways. All AOLE's have responsibility for delivering aspects and KS3 pupils have timetabled H&WB lessons. Regular H&WB activities are held over the year for all year groups and assemblies are used for specific themes i.e. careers and decision making. The curriculum 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 curriculum 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.

The RSE curriculum covers a wide range of themes and contexts which raise the awareness of identity, relationship, sexual health, empowerment, safety and respect. These are covered across several Areas of Learning together with external agencies such as NPT School Nurses to ensure powerful messages have the greatest impact.

Working in partnership with external organisations is key to our delivery approach. 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.

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.

KS3 Provision

Subjects	Number of lessons per fortnight
Art	2
English	7
French	3
Geog	3
Hist	3
ICT	2
Maths	7
Music	2
PE	3
Health & Well-being	2
RVE	3
Science	6
Tech	3
Welsh	4
Total	50

	Lessons per fortnight	KS 4 Curriculum - Subjects	GCSEs (or equivalent)
Compulsory Subjects	7	GCSE English Language	1
	7	GCSE English Language and Literature	2
	7	GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Numeracy	2
	9	GCSE Double Science	2
	4	GCSE Welsh Second Language	1
	4	Equality & Diversity	1/2
	2	Physical Education	N/A
	3	Skills Challenge Certificate	1
	1	Myfyrio - Reflection and Future Planning	1
	Optional Subjects	5	GCSE Triple Award Science
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		GCSE Drama	1
5		WJEC Sports Award	1
5		SWEET	1
5		GCSE Business Studies	1
5		GCSE ICT	1
5		VTCT Hairdressing	1
5		Construction and the Built environment	1
5		Princes Trust	1
5		Skillstart	2

5	Agored Cymru	1
4	Equality & Diversity	1/2