



Ysgol Gynradd Cwrt Rawlin Primary School

Prospectus | Prosbectws





Croeso i Ysgol Gynradd Cwrt Rawlin

Welcome to Cwrt Rawlin Primary School

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Croeso/Welcome to our school. Choosing the right school for your child is very important. Parents want a good education for their children, but they also want them to be happy, to feel safe, secure and meet their full potential both academically and pastorally. At Cwrt Rawlin Primary School we believe we can offer all these things. We pride ourselves on the exciting, innovative and broad curriculum which we offer to all our pupils and the pastoral care we provide and the feeling of community which exists within our school.

Cwrt Rawlin Primary is situated near the town of Caerphilly, just a short distance away from the A470 and M4 motorway. The school is a 3-11 English medium community primary school and currently accommodates 360 pupils. The school opened in 2001 to cater for a large diverse, housing estate of approximately 1100 families. The building is of a modern design with a large entrance area, multi-purpose hall, community room, IT suite, nursery, library and separate infant and junior classrooms. Both infant and junior pupils enjoy large playground areas, marked with a variety of playground games and two large activity areas.

Families who are considering sending their children to Cwrt Rawlin are encouraged to visit the school to see for themselves all that we have to offer. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information or to arrange a school visit.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Mrs Tara Lloyd,
Headteacher



Cwrt Rawlin Primary Vision

We aim to:

- create the type of ethos conducive to us all working and learning together
- encourage children to be actively involved in purposeful, real life activities which will equip them with skills and knowledge ready for life outside of Cwrt Rawlin Primary
- to engage our children through a relevant, exciting and innovative curriculum, which is based upon the four purposes
- empower each child to reach their full potential and encourage them to become independent, thinking learners
- set high standards of behaviour and encourage a good balance between work and play
- develop respect for religious, non-religious and moral value and understanding of other races, religion and cultures
- encourage a sense of responsibility in caring for the school environment, the wider community and develop their global citizenship role
- nurture a happy, inclusive and respectful community, where each child is valued.

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE



Our School Values

- Friendship
- Respect
- Perseverance
- Kindness
- Compassion
- Forgiveness

Breakfast Club

Cwrt Rawlin Primary provides a Welsh Government free Breakfast Club. Doors open at 8.15am and close at 8.30. The children are provided with a healthy breakfast and are then walked to their classrooms for 9am. Children are provided with toast, cereal, yoghurts, fruits and a selection of fruit juices, water or milk. This service is provided by Caerphilly Council Catering service.

After School Club

The After School Provision is run by a private company called Playworks. The Club is run on site from 3.30-6pm. For further details please contact the school office.

Charging and Remissions

Cwrt Rawlin's charging and remission policy is reviewed on a three year basis and can be located on the school website.

School Session Times

Cwrt Rawlin Primary offers wrap around care. We run a Welsh Government Free Breakfast Club and a private company runs an after school club on site. Both provisions are popular and often oversubscribed, so please contact the school for more details.

School starts at 9am, children are permitted onto the school site to enter school from 8.50am, where they will be welcomed and supervised by staff.

Nursery: 9am - 11.30 and 1.00 - 3.30

Reception - Year 2: 9am - 3.30

Lunchtime: 12 - 1

Years 3 - 6: 9am to 3.30

Lunchtime: 12 - 1

Admissions

Parents are able to apply for a place in the Nursery class in the September of the school year in which the children reach their fourth birthday, on a part time basis. Nursery children will receive either a morning or afternoon placement.

The application process to obtain a place at Cwrt Rawlin Primary School is facilitated by Caerphilly Council. The school then receives a list of those whose names are on the list during the month of May. We then send out a letter with details of the placement, opportunity to visit the school and also attend a presentation led by the Nursery staff. This helps with the transition from home to school.

Admission to the Nursery class takes place each September and will usually be staggered across two weeks, to allow children time to settle in small groups with their new teachers. Unfortunately, securing a place in Nursery does not mean an automatic transfer into Reception. Parents of the Nursery children then need to reapply through the Local Authority for a place in our Reception class, at the beginning of the school year in which they are five years old. If you have any questions with regards this process do not hesitate to contact the school office, 02920807070.

With an admission number of 46 per year group throughout the school, there are a number of mixed age classes within the school, which has proven to have many positive effects upon social and academic progress.

Attendance

The Governing Body review the attendance policy every year and then inform parents of any changes. At Cwrt Rawlin Primary School we expect every child to be in school every day, unless they are unwell. Cwrt Rawlin Primary School encourages regular and punctual attendance from all children.

The register is taken every morning and afternoon. If your child arrives late to school, after the register is taken (by 9.15, by 1.15) they will receive a late mark. If late, the child's name will be recorded in the office in case of a fire drill.

We set high attendance targets and inform parents of their child's attendance percentage each term. We celebrate good and improved attendance and work closely with the Local Authorities Education Welfare Officer (EWO) to follow up and support families whose attendance gives cause for concern.

If your child is unwell and is unable to attend school, we ask you to inform the office as early as possible on the first day of sickness and then again on the third day. If we receive no reason for an absence we operate a "first day response" and will ring you to find out the reason for absence.

Responding to Non Attendance

When a child does not attend school, we will respond in the following way;

- Ring you to confirm why the child is absent.
- If your child's attendance is cause for concern we will contact you to discuss it.
- If there is no improvement to your child's attendance, it will be referred to the EWO.
- Failure to comply with the EWO may result in further action.
- The school term dates are published at least a year in advance.

If a family need to request leave in term time and this is unavoidable, then a form must be completed from the office at least two weeks prior to the leave date.

The Headteacher will follow the current school policy and decide whether to authorise the absence. If the number of days exceeds 10 days within the academic year then these will be unauthorised and a Fixed Penalty Notice(FPN) could be issued.



Our Curriculum for Cwrt Rawlin

(underpinned by the Curriculum for Wales)

The Curriculum for Wales (CfW), for learners aged 3-16 will become statutory in September 2022. This is an exciting time for all members of the school community as we develop and teach an innovative, relevant and exciting curriculum with the input and steer of our learners.

The basis of the Curriculum for Wales are underpinned by 4 Purposes , that is to develop,

- 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

There are six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs) which form our curriculum, they are;

- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Humanities
- Expressive Arts
- Health and Wellbeing
- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Science and Technology



We believe in ourselves and what we can do. We want to learn and do better. We have skills to learn.



We can be creative and think of new ideas. We can solve problems. We can use this in our work.



We understand our rights and responsibilities. We take part in our community. We care about the world.



We have healthy minds and bodies. We feel good about ourselves and what we believe in.

Our Cwrt Rawlin Primary Curriculum

The National Welsh Curriculum changed in September 2022. Our evolving curriculum is based upon the New Curriculum for Wales, it is developed with our Cwrt Rawlin children at the heart of everything. Every term, the children contribute to the planning, activities and reflection of it. Our curriculum is based upon the 4 Purposes and interweaves all six Areas of Learning and Experience into purposeful learning opportunities for our learners. Our themes encompass ideas from teachers, support staff and the pupils and ensure that everyone owns their own learning opportunities.

Our learning pedagogy is based upon the 12 pedagogical principles, which forms the platform from which, we are then able to apply a wide range of ways to develop and embed learning. We use the discrete teaching of skills, alongside purposeful, kinaesthetic and exciting teaching, linked to real life. Allowing our learners to develop skills within authentic learning opportunities. Immersion days at the start of the term are then followed by celebration days at the end of the term, to showcase learning that has taken place.

Our Curriculum is ever evolving and changing to meet the needs of our pupils and encompasses a wide range of opportunities to develop skills across all 6 Areas of Learning and Experience, whilst keeping the 4 Purposes at the heart of what we do.

Pupil Voice

We encourage as many children as possible to become involved into our school's development which give them greater knowledge and insight into the world around them. Our children are encouraged to contribute and participate in the development of all areas of school life and in the development of our school curriculum. Children are representative within our Areas of Learning and Experience and often give presentations to our Governing Body. Our children also form groups that develop different aspects of the school, such as Schools Council, Criw Cymraeg and Worry Buddies.

A Little About . . .

The Six Areas of Learning and Experience

Expressive Arts

The dynamic nature of the Expressive Arts can engage, motivate and encourage learners to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills to the full. The Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience spans five disciplines: art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music.

Whether as creators or as audience, through engaging with the expressive arts, learners can gain an understanding and an appreciation of cultures and societies in Wales and in the world. Such engagement can equip learners with the skills to explore cultural differences through time and place. Experiencing the Expressive Arts can engage learners physically, socially and emotionally, nurturing their well-being, self-esteem and resilience.

Experiencing the Expressive Arts can also encourage learners to develop not only their ability to appreciate the creative work of other people, but also their own creative talents, artistic skills and performance skills. The aim is to provide learners with opportunities to explore, refine and communicate ideas while thinking creatively and engaging their imagination and senses. Engagement with this Area requires personal application, perseverance and close attention to detail, dispositions that contribute to making learners ambitious, capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives.

Experiences in this Area can provide inspiration and motivation as it brings learners into contact with creative processes. This means providing learners with opportunities such as visits to theatres and galleries and bringing the expertise of external practitioners into the classroom.

Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing Area of Learning and Experience provides a holistic structure for understanding Health and Wellbeing.

It is concerned with developing the capacity of learners to navigate life's opportunities and challenges. The fundamental components of this Area are physical health and development, mental health, and emotional and social well-being. It will support learners to understand and appreciate how the different components of Health and Wellbeing are interconnected, and it recognises that good Health and Wellbeing are important to enable successful learning.

Engagement with this Area will help to foster a whole-school approach that enables Health and Wellbeing to permeate all aspects of school life.

Effective realisation of the vision described in this Area is fundamental to developing healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society. By developing learners' motivation, resilience, empathy and decision-making abilities, they can be supported to become ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.

Learners can also be supported to become ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world by developing their ability to show respect, to value equity, to listen to others and to evaluate the social influences affecting them.

Through enabling learners to manage risks, express ideas and emotions, develop and maintain healthy relationships, and take on different roles and responsibilities, the learning and experience in this Area can support learners to become enterprising, creative contributors ready to play a full part in life and work.



Humanities

The Humanities Area of Learning and Experience seeks to awaken a sense of wonder, fire the imagination and inspire learners to grow in knowledge, understanding and wisdom. This Area encourages learners to engage with the most important issues facing humanity, including sustainability and social change, and help to develop the skills necessary to interpret and articulate the past and the present.

The Area encompasses geography; history; religion, values and ethics; business studies and social studies. These disciplines share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills, while having their own discrete body of knowledge and skills.

Humanities is central to learners becoming ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world. In contemporary and historical contexts, investigation and exploration of the human experience in their own localities and elsewhere in Wales, as well as in the wider world, can help learners discover their heritage and develop a sense of place.

As they explore their locality and Wales, as well as the wider world, learners can establish a solid base of knowledge and understanding of geographical, historical, religious, non-religious, business and social studies concepts. This exploration will encourage learners to participate in different methods of enquiry, evaluate the evidence that they find, and apply and communicate their findings effectively. These experiences, in and outside the classroom, will help them become ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.

It is important that learners have opportunities to discuss and explore their personal perspectives on religious and non-religious worldviews, ethical challenges and social inclusion issues. Likewise, opportunities to explore the natural world, locally, within and beyond Wales, will help foster in them a sense of place and of wellbeing.

Science and Technology

The importance of Science and Technology in our modern world cannot be overstated. Developments in these areas have always been drivers of change in society, underpinning innovation and impacting on everyone's lives economically, culturally and environmentally. As such, the Science and Technology Area of Learning and Experience will be increasingly relevant in the opportunities young people encounter and the life choices that they make.

Ready access to vast amounts of data requires all learners to be able to assess inputs critically, understand the basis of information presented as fact, and make informed judgements that impact their own behaviours and values. They need to develop the ability to meaningfully ask the question, 'Just because we can, does that mean we should?'

Through robust and consistent evaluation of Scientific and Technological evidence, learners can become ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world, who will be able to make informed decisions about future actions. Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society are informed by knowledge of their bodies and the ecosystems around them, and of how technological innovations can support improvements in health and lifestyle.

Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives should engage with Scientific and Technological change. The knowledge and deep understanding gained through experiencing what matters in Science and Technology can help learners live independent and fulfilling lives that sees them contributing to society and culture in a variety of ways. Learners who are enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work embrace such challenges, as they are encouraged to take risks, to innovate and evaluate, and learn to develop solutions. Thus, they can become more resilient and purposeful learners across all Areas of Learning and Experience

This Area draws on the disciplines of biology, chemistry, computer science, design and technology, and physics to enhance learners' knowledge and understanding of the world.

Mathematics and Numeracy

The development of Mathematics has always gone hand in hand with the development of civilisation itself. A truly international discipline, it surrounds us and underpins so many aspects of our daily lives, such as architecture, art, music, money and engineering. And while it is creative and beautiful, both in its own right and in its applications, it is also essential for progress in other Areas of Learning and Experience.

What is more, Numeracy – the application of Mathematics to solve problems in real-world contexts – plays a critical part in our everyday lives, and in the economic health of the nation. It is imperative, therefore, that Mathematics and Numeracy experiences are as engaging, exciting and accessible as possible for learners, and that these experiences are geared towards ensuring that learners develop Mathematical resilience.

In the early years, play forms an important part in the development of Mathematics and

Numeracy, enabling learners to solve problems, explore ideas, establish connections and collaborate with others. In later years, learners need to have opportunities to work both independently and collaboratively to build on the foundations established in the early years. Progression in the Mathematics and Numeracy Area of Learning and Experience involves the development of five connected and interdependent proficiencies which have no hierarchy. These are crucial considerations for schools when designing their curriculum to ensure the progression of learners.

- Conceptual understanding
- Communication using symbols
- Fluency
- Logical reasoning
- Strategic competence

Language, Literacy and Communication

The Languages, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning and Experience addresses fundamental aspects of human communication. It aims to support learning across the whole curriculum and to enable learners to gain knowledge and skills in Welsh, English and international languages as well as in literature.

The four statements that express what matters in this Area should be addressed holistically. This means that different languages should be explored in relation to one another, so too the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It also means that learning about and through literature should be seen as contributing to all aspects of learning about languages.

Learning and experience in this Area aims to enable learners to communicate effectively using Welsh, English and international languages. It aims to encourage learners to transfer what they have learned about how



languages work in one language to the learning and using of other languages.

This readiness to learn is further supported since effective language skills help learners to make sense of concepts across the curriculum, for example by enabling them to articulate their reasoning when solving problems and analysing information. Effective multilingual skills deepen this ability as they enable learners to respond in many more contexts

Given that a key aspect of effective language learning is the willingness to experiment and take risks in trying out new structures, sounds and patterns, learning and experience in this Area can empower learners to be creative and to persevere when facing challenges. Together, these skills can build learners' confidence to grasp new opportunities and to adapt to different roles which in turn can develop them as enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)

RVE sits within Humanities as part of this curriculum and is a statutory element. We give the children opportunity to enquire and explore various religious and non religious beliefs and religions. Through cross curricular activities and events throughout the year we recognise the diversity of cultures.

The children will explore religion by expressing their own experiences through discussion, literature, music, writing and art. The Christian faith has a great emphasis in childrens work.

Collective Worship

Collective worship takes place online or in the school hall. Since September 2022 there is no right to withdraw from RVE or Collective Worshp.

Cwricwlwm Cymreig and Welsh Language Development

Cwrt Rawlin Primary is committed to promoting Welsh as a second language. We aim to develop the children's oracy, written and reading skills and help them develop an understanding of how language works. The Welsh language is used during lessons times and throughout the day. The school has Welsh signage in classrooms and in communal areas. Children are also given opportunities to develop their understanding of the history, art, music and geography of Wales. We celebrate St David's day each year with a school Eisteddfod and often take part in the local Eisteddfods. We also build in visits to places of interest in Wales.

In developing the Cwricwlwm Cymreig the school aims to ensure the children have experiences that raise their awareness of the importance of a sense of place and heritage, of the language and literature in the history and life of Wales and an understanding of the expressive arts in Wales.

Cross-Curricular Skills

The cross- curricular skills run throughout our 6 Areas of Learning and Experience, they are literacy, numeracy and digital competence, these are mandatory elements of our New Curriculum.

Outdoor Learning

Indoor and outdoor environments that are fun, exciting, stimulating and safe promote children's development and natural curiosity to explore and learn through first hand, real life experiences. We have a stimulating forest school area which is used to enhance learning.

Sports

Cwrt Rawlin is a very active school and sport plays a significant part of school life. We recognise the positive impact that sports can have on both physical and mental health and encourage all children to take part in a safe inclusive environment. Physical Education (PE) is taught to all children twice a week.

Sporting opportunities are given to older children who represent the school in many team sports. The Year 4 children attend a three week swimming course during the year which develops their confidence and competence in swimming.

The school has good facilities including attractive grounds, a sports hall used for winter and summer sports and two playgrounds marked with playground games.

Extra-Curricular

The school is committed to providing a range of extra-curricular activities after school. We recognise that education does not just occur in the classrooms and hope that the extra curricular opportunities on offer, extend, enriches and enhances the children's experiences. The school also takes part in local events, such as the annual Filliffest in Caerphilly and Local Urdd Eisteddfods.

A Healthy School

Cwrt Rawlin is a Healthy School and has attained its Healthy Schools National Quality Award. The children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to school every day. Welsh Government fund milk for the Foundation Phase children and any child in KS2 who wishes to have milk can purchase it. All children have regular access to water throughout the school day.

A well prepared meal is available, cooked in our own kitchen by our cook. Our school complies with the Welsh Government's Appetite for Life" guidelines and comprises of fresh produce. Payment is made online for all meals. Those children bringing a packed lunch are encouraged to bring a healthy packed lunch.





School Uniform

Our school uniform can be bought at YC Sports in Whitchurch village. The uniform consists of

- Grey trousers, pinafore dress or skirt
- White or yellow polo shirt
- Green sweatshirt/cardigan/hoodie with school logo
- Black shoes/trainers (no stripes or colour)

In the summer months, grey shorts and a checked green dress can be worn.

No jewellery or other fashion accessories can be worn to school. However, small stud earrings and watches can be worn.

Friends of Cwrt Rawlin (PTA)

Our Parent Teacher Association, The Friends of Cwrt Rawlin, meet regularly to arrange fund raising events and support school activities. All parents/carers are welcome to attend the meetings and offer suggestions. Please contact the office if you are interested in supporting the school.

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

All children should have the right to access information that keeps them safe from harm. As a school we have a crucial role alongside Parents/carers to ensure our children are kept safe.

RSE is taught developmentally and appropriately curriculum at Cwrt Rawlin Primary. We gradually build knowledge, skills and ethical values as the children develop throughout our school. We equip children with the tools to be able to understand how relationships, sex, gender and sexuality share their own and other people's lives, but only at appropriate times and ages within their school journey. Our latest RSE policy can be located on the school website. We work in partnership with the local police, school nurse and other services, such as NSPCC, to deliver this aspect of the curriculum.

Rights Respecting School

Our Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are respected, protected and promoted. We weave the rights into our teaching and our assemblies to allow all children the opportunity to know and apply their rights as they move through our school.

Home School Agreement

A copy of the home school agreement is included in this prospectus. We request that parents and child sign the agreement and adhere to it throughout their time in Cwrt Rawlin Primary.

Positive Behaviour

The Anti-Bullying and Code of Behaviour policies are available on the school website. The aims of the policies are to promote the security, happiness and opportunities for the children of Cwrt Rawlin. It clearly states that bullying has no place in the school. Our three behaviour rules are underpinned by a reward and consequence system which is in place from Nursery to Year 6.

Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe



Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) liaises with staff and outside agencies to ensure suitable provisions and support are actioned for identified children and their families. As a school, we want to ensure that children are identified early and the right support is put in place. We also have a range of wellbeing support programmes in school, such as ELSA and THRIVE that are led by our trained Teaching Assistants. We work closely with families and support them as well as their children where specific needs are identified. More detail can be found in the ALN policy on our school website.

School Premises and School Safety

The school has a health and safety officer that undertakes internal and external inspections to assess any possible risks for children or adults. CCTV systems are in place around the external of the school building. The school and car park gates are locked during the school day. All staff wear identification lanyards around the school, so they are easily identifiable.

Our caretaker is on site every day and works closely with the health and safety officer. Toilets and rooms are cleaned during and at the end of the school day.

Child Protection and Safeguarding

The school has a statutory duty under the Children Act 1989 and the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Governing Body of Cwrt Rawlin is committed to a practice that protects children from harm. All staff and volunteers have an enhanced DBS check before being able to work within the school. Staff have annual safeguarding training and report any concerns they may have about any child to the schools child protection officers, namely the Headteacher or Deputy, or in their absence a senior member of staff. The Governors also elect a Governor responsible for Safeguarding. The school adopts the Local Authority Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, which is available on the school website.





Cwrt Rawlin Primary School

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