Ysgol Y Faenol Bodelwyddan



School Prospectus 2026-2027

Email: ysgol.yfaenol@denbighshire.gov.uk
Website: www.ysgolyfaenol.co.uk

CYNGOR Sir Ddinbych Denbighshire COUNTY COUNCIL

Table of Contents

About Our School 3

Our Values 4

Admission to School 5

Our Facilities & Provision 6

Class Organisation and School Staff 7

The Governing Body 8

Attendance & Punctuality 8

Collective Worship 8

School Session Times and Term Dates 9

School Uniform 10

The School Day 11-12

The Curriculum 13-20

Learners Groups 21

Equal Opportunities 22

Charging & Remissions 22

Our Ethos & Pastoral Care 23

Behaviour & Discipline 24

Safeguarding 25

Health & Safety 26

School Security 27

Complaints 27

Access to Documents 27

Working Together 27

Welcome

Starting a new school is an important step in your child's life. We aim to provide a caring and secure environment in which your child will be happy, will feel valued and challenged.
From their earliest days at school, we want children to enjoy being at school and to learn to work and play together in harmony. At the same time, we encourage each child to achieve and maintain high standards.

Education is a partnership between the home and school. During the important formative years that your child is attending Ysgol Y Faenol, we aim to work with you to build the foundations upon which your child's future can be firmly laid.

Starting a new school can be an exciting time for both parents and children alike. There is much to learn and a great deal that is new or different. The purpose of this handbook is to introduce the school to parents and pupils and to explain the school's curriculum and related activities and procedures. If you find that after reading it, you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us - we will be pleased to help.

Mrs. Rhian Jones Headteacher

About Our School

Ysgol Y Faenol is a local authority community primary school, situated in the village of Bodelwyddan, Denbighshire. Ysgol Y Faenol is a predominantly English medium primary school, where pupils experience the curriculum mainly through the medium of English, but where Welsh is taught as a second language and some aspects of some subjects may be taught in Welsh. English is the language of the day to day business of the school. The school generally communicates to parents in English. We have no affiliation with any particular religion or religious denomination. We cater for pupils from 3-11 years of age and currently have 131 full-time pupils and 21 nursery pupils. The school has a hall/gymnasium and is surrounded by an extensive playing field and an attractive play area. A playgroup, a breakfast club, an after-school club and holiday club are run on the school premises.

School Contact Information
Ysgol Y Faenol
John's Drive
Bodelwyddan
Denbighshire LL18 5TG

Telephone: 01745 583370

E-mail: ysgol.yfaenol@denbighshire.gov.uk
Website : www.ysgolyfaenol.co.uk
Denbighshire County Council Schools Information Page: https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/education-and-schools/education-and-schools.aspx

Headteacher:	Mrs. Rhian Jones
Deputy Headteacher:	Mrs. Jade McManus
Chair of the Governing Body:	Mr. K. Naylor

‘Giving Our Best, Creating Our Future’

We maximise the skills and talents of our school community by providing experiences that are fun and challenging in a caring and happy environment.



At Ysgol Y Faenol we believe in:

- Nurturing skills and talents
- Promoting a love of lifelong learning
- Building self esteem and confidence
- Working together as a team
- Caring for and respecting one another



Admission to School

Admission information and the Admissions Policy is available in the Denbighshire Schools Information Guide which is available on the Denbighshire website:

https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/education-and-schools/school-admissions/school-admissions.aspx

We are always pleased to hear from parents who are interested in bringing their children to our school and we try to do our best to make the admissions process as easy as possible. We encourage and welcome all parents to come and have a look around and to have a chat before deciding on the school.
Denbighshire County Council is the admissions authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools in Denbighshire.



Admission to the Nursery/Reception

Parents wanting their child to attend our nursery and/or reception classes will need to fill in the application form issued by the Admission Department of Denbighshire County Council. Application forms, details of the admission criteria and closing dates for applications are available from school or on the Denbighshire website. If you are successful in attaining a place you will be informed by Denbighshire County Council. All parents of new nursery and reception pupils are invited to an induction meeting, held during the Summer Term.

Admission to Reception Onwards - Mid Phase/Year Transfers

It may be that you are moving to the area, or that you wish to move your child from a local school to Ysgol Y Faenol. If this is the case, we would ask that you contact the admissions department to discuss the situation and check on the availability of places. Also, it is important that you speak to the headteacher of your child's current school to make them aware that you are thinking of moving your child. Application forms and details of the admission criteria are available from the Denbighshire website.

School Transfer

The majority of our Year 6 children transfer to the local high school, Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan in Abergele. Other options are available to parents, such as Denbigh High School, Rhyl High School, and Ysgol Glan Clwyd (Welsh medium education). Staff are happy to discuss options with parents.

Our Facilities & Provision

The school was built in 1957, with further additions in 1986 and 2006. We have six classrooms, a library and various working areas. We have a well-equipped hall, which is used as a gymnasium, a dining area and as a base for breakfast club, after-school club and holiday club. We have spacious grounds, with hard surface areas and a large playing field. There is also a separate nursery playground, a school garden and a forest school area.




Breakfast Club

Our free breakfast club operates Monday to Friday during term time. The club opens at 8 a.m. and pupils need to arrive by 8.30 a.m. A healthy and nutritious breakfast is available for all pupils attending. The free breakfast club is open to all registered pupils.

Playgroup

Y Faenol Playgroup is based on school premises and provides high quality sessional care that enhances the development and education of pre-school children in a safe and stimulating environment. Ysgol Y Faenol Playgroup is registered by CSSIW to care for 24 children between the ages of 2 years 6 months and 4 years. The sessions are timed to fit in around school nursery in order to provide wrap around care if parents require it.





After-School/Holiday Club

Little Lambs Fun Club is based on school premises and provides after-school care between the end of the school day and 6 p.m. The club also runs during school holidays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and on school staff training days.

Class Organisation and School Staff

During 2026/27 our class structure is as follows:

Foundation Phase 1 – Dosbarth Yr Aran
Mixed class of Nursery (a.m. and p.m.) and Reception pupils
Registration Teacher: Mrs. Vanessa Pritchard-Jones

Foundation Phase 2 – Dosbarth Moel Siabod
Mixed class of Year 1 and Year 2 pupils
Registration Teacher: Miss. Haf Davies

Year 2/3 – Dosbarth Cadar Idris
Mixed class of Year 2 and Year 3 pupils
Registration Teacher: Mr. Christopher Morgan

Year 4/5 – Dosbarth Tryfan
Mixed class of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils
Registration Teacher: Mrs. Jade McManus

Year 5/6 – Dosbarth Yr Wyddfa
Mixed class of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils
Registration Teacher: Mrs. Samantha Cooper

In addition to the class teachers we have a number of other staff who support pupils' learning and the smooth running of the school:

Teaching Assistant	-	Mrs. Lyn Stanton
Teaching Assistant	-	Mrs. Maureen MacKenzie
Teaching Assistant	-	Mrs. Angela Bayliss
Teaching Assistant	-	Miss. Sinthujah Anpalagan
Teaching Assistant	-	Miss. Sarah Morris
Teaching Assistant	-	Mrs. Catherine Lloyd
Teaching Assistant	-	Miss. Stacey Brice
School Secretary	-	Mrs. Karen Morley
Caretaker	-	Mr. Gary Walsh
Breakfast Club Assistant	-	Mrs. Esra Gul

The Governing Body

The governing body actively engages with parents, and remain accountable, by providing them with information and opportunities to discuss and have an input into school. During the Autumn Term the Governing Body provide a written Annual Report to parents on how it has discharged duties. The governing body have an information page on the school website.

Attendance & Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are vitally important.
If your child is absent from school please let us know the reason as soon as possible by a written note, telephone call or personal call. We use a text system called Teachers2Parents to contact you if your child has not arrived in school by 9.30 a.m. If possible, please let us know beforehand of appointments at the hospital, dentist, doctor etc.

Term time Leave
The Governing Body of Ysgol Y Faenol have agreed that, in line with Denbighshire's Policy, unless there are exceptional circumstances, no leave will generally be granted for the purpose of family holidays.
Any requests for term time leave should be submitted on the standard form at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the absence period requested. Each application will be considered individually taking into account relevant factors.

Collective Worship

There is a legal requirement for schools to conduct a 'daily act of collective worship and so pupils at Ysgol Y Faenol participate in a daily act of worship. Ysgol Y Faenol's school community includes children from a variety of cultures and faiths, and non-faith backgrounds. Thus, collective worship at Ysgol Y Faenol, although of a broadly Christian nature, is planned to be sensitive to the collective character of our school and to be inclusive.
Parents have the statutory right to withdraw their children from Acts of Collective Worship.
Before exercising the right of withdrawal, it is recommended that parents discuss the matter with the Head Teacher. The parental right to withdraw a child is freely exercisable and the school will give effect to any such request.



School Session Times & Term Dates

School Session Times

	AM	PM
Nursery	8.55 a.m. – 11.25 a.m.	12.50 p.m. – 3.20 p.m.
Reception	8.55 a.m. – 11.55 a.m.	1.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.
Year 1 & 2	8.55 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	1.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.
KS2	8.55 a.m. – 12.05 p.m.	1.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.

Term dates and events are displayed on the calendar pages of our school website. This academic year term dates and dates for future years are available on the school and Denbighshire websites:
School term dates | Denbighshire County Council

School Uniform

At Ysgol Y Faenol we have a school uniform policy. We believe a school uniform:

- provides a sense of identity, community and cohesion within the school
- supports positive behaviour and school discipline
- ensures pupils dress appropriately for learning activities
- removes peer pressure to dress in particular fashions
- enables pupils of all backgrounds to share in a common identity
- supports and promotes the ethos of the school

School Uniform: All pupils should wear school uniform, which consists of:

- **white or red polo shirt or white shirt/blouse**
- **grey or black trousers/shorts/skirt or pinafore.** Skirts and dresses should be of an appropriate length, either on or slightly above/below the knee. Summer gingham red dresses can be worn during the warmer months.
- **red sweatshirt/cardigan.**
- **Footwear** should be flat, sensible and safe, fitting securely on to the feet.

It is not required that the polo shirts, red jumpers/cardigans/fleeces are embroidered with the school logo, but if parents wish do purchase such items with logos these are available from 1st Class Uniforms in Prestatyn or online from https://myclothing.com/

PE Kit/Physical Activities: All pupils should wear the appropriate kit for PE and physical activities, which consists of:

- **White T-Shirt or Polo Shirt** with short sleeves, unbranded. No crop tops or vest tops
- **Black/Dark Coloured Shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings,** unbranded or have only small branded logo
- **Trainers/Pumps** - required for outdoor games only,
- Optional extra for outdoor PE – **black zip top or track suit top** unbranded or have only small branded logo
- **Wellington Boots** – required for some outdoor activities

Jewellery: For health and safety reasons pupils should not wear jewellery to school, other than watches and stud earrings.
Make Up: No make-up should be worn.
Hair: Pupils are expected to wear their hair in a fashion suitable for school. Extremes of fashion or brightly dyed hair are not allowed. Hair dyed in natural colours is acceptable

Affordability: All the uniform items listed above are readily available from supermarkets and high street stockists. Our uniform has been kept simple to avoid unnecessary expense. Items embroidered with the school logo are available from our school uniform suppliers, but it is not a requirement.

The Welsh Government recognises that some parents face financial hardship from the costs of purchasing school uniforms for their children. Children whose families are on lower incomes and qualify for certain benefits can apply for a School Essentials Grant: https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/education-and-schools/grants-and-funding/school-essentials-grant.aspx

Lost Property: All items of clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled. Unnamed items will be put in the lost property boxes and will be disposed of at the end of each half term.

The School Day

Breakfast Club opens at 8 a.m. for those parents who wish to use this facility. Sessions are free – the cost is met by the Welsh Government and subsidised by the school. A form to register your child at breakfast club is available from the school secretary.

Registration - 8.55 a.m. & 1.00 p.m.
The school day starts at 8.55 am. The children line up in their classes on the yard and are greeted by a familiar face. Pupils can arrive on premises from 8.45 a.m. (unless attending the free breakfast club). The registers are taken at the start of every school session.

Collective Worship
Whole school Collective Worship is held on Mondays and Fridays. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays class assemblies are held.

Playtimes & Lunchtime:
Morning Break: 10.20 a.m. – 10.40 a.m.
Afternoon Break: 2.00 p.m. – 2.10 p.m.
There are 2 sittings for lunch with pupil having a playtime either before or after their lunch.

Pupils and junior pupils play on the main yard and on the field in dry weather. The members of staff on duty circulate and supervise all areas of the playground. Children are encouraged to report to staff if they have any questions, worries or concerns.

Lunch Time
School meals are freshly prepared and cooked on the premises by the cook. A menu of meals is provided by the school cook at the beginning of the school year and is available for viewing at http://www.denbighshireschoolmeals.co.uk/ As part of the Universal Free School Meals programme run by the Welsh Government all primary school pupils can have a free meal. Children with particular dietary requirements e.g. vegetarians, children with allergies etc. can be catered for by arrangement with the cook. Alternatively, children can bring a packed lunch from home if you prefer. Please note, however, that there are no refrigeration facilities available, so please select items for your child's lunchbox carefully.
If pupils are going home for lunch a responsible adult must collect the child or in the case of junior pupils making their own way home, the school should be informed in writing. Children who go home for lunch must inform a lunchtime supervisor that they have returned to school.

Water is Cool

As a school we recognise that it is important that the children have access to water throughout the day. Studies have shown that children who drink plenty of water have improved levels of concentration and do better at school! The children are therefore encouraged to bring a school water bottle each day, which they can keep in the classroom. We have specific refillable water bottles for the children and these are available for sale from the school secretary (£1.50). No drink other than water is allowed in these bottles. We have a water cooler, where the children can refill their bottles.

Children are encouraged to bring an additional drink that can be consumed at break time or lunchtime - no glass bottles or cans though please.

Healthy Eating

The younger pupils (nursery and reception) participate in a healthy snack time, where parents are asked to provide a healthy snack of fruit.

For pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 we have a snack trolley, where children can buy a piece of fruit of 30p. Parents can alternatively pay for fruit in advance on a half termly basis. Children do not have to buy their tuck from school however, we do insist that they only bring healthy snacks.

All pupils in nursery to Year 2 are provided with a drink of milk daily.

Collection of money

We operate Parentpay system, which means that parents can make payments for snack, trips etc. securely online through using a credit or debit card. All parents are issued with log in details upon pupil admission. If for some reason cash or cheques are sent into school they should be in an envelope, clearly labelled with your child's name.



The Curriculum

A new curriculum has been developed in Wales and became statutory for primary schools in September 2022.

What has changed?
There is new curriculum, made in Wales by teachers, partners, practitioners, and businesses and shaped by the best ideas from around the world.

Why has the curriculum changed?
The national curriculum was first introduced in 1988 before on-line shopping, Google and the Cloud. Now, the world of work is different, technology is different, society is constantly changing. The curriculum must prepare young people to develop higher standards of literacy and numeracy, to become more digitally and bilingually competent, and to be confident, capable and compassionate citizens – citizens of Wales and citizens of the world.

These guides explain the new curriculum in a straightforward way.

- A guide for parents
- Young person's guide
- Easy read
- Animation

Curriculum at Ysgol Y Faenol



These elements of learning are important to us

Outdoor Learning

At Ysgol Y Faenol we pride ourselves on utilizing outdoor learning to teach all aspects of the curriculum. Our goal is to connect children with the environment, while they play, explore, discover and have fun.

Cymraeg

As well as learning the Welsh language we put a strong focus upon our learners exploring Welsh culture and heritage.

Cross Curricular Skills

We place a strong emphasis upon developing learners' skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competency. These are the essential building blocks for accessing broader and lifelong learning.















Health & Wellbeing

Health and wellbeing are prioritized at Ysgol Y Faenol. We want our learners to develop strong social, emotional, mental and physical skills in a calm and healthy learning environment.

Enrichment

We strive to make learning meaningful and rewarding, We want our learners to have expansive, rich and fun learning experiences.

Pupil Agency

At Ysgol Y Faenol we believe in giving learners a voice. We have active pupil voice groups and learners have a meaningful say in planning their work.

Habits of Mind

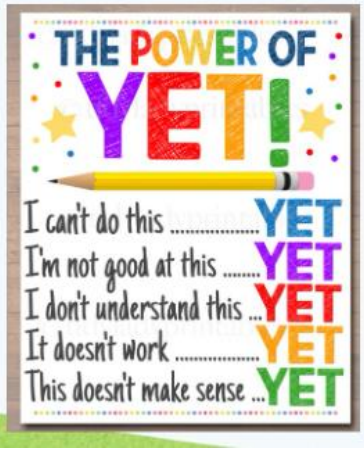
At Ysgol Y Faenol we believe developing positive mindsets and creative habits of mind are essential to support our learners to become confident, fulfilled and successful.

Growth Mindset

We encourage a growth mindset and use of learning muscles at Ysgol Y Faenol. These

- Help young people to become better learners
- Developing positive learning habits
- Prepare young people for a lifetime of learning





Our Learning Muscles

Concentration

Cooperation

Curiosity

Perseverance

Engagement

Having a Go

Keep Improving

Imaginative

Habits of Mind

- Opportunities and experiences to develop the Creative Habits of Mind are incorporated into daily learning.
- Learners are made aware of the Creative Habits of Mind and of the characteristics of 'What a good …… (collaborator etc.) looks like. The creative habits of mind wheel and this criteria are visible around the school.



Creative Habits of Mind

Inquisitive	Persistent	Imaginative	Disciplined	Collaborative
I am curious. I ask lots of questions of myself and others. I explore and investigate to find answers. I try to find things out for myself. I use the resources around me. I use what I have already learned to think of new questions.	I don't give up, even if things are difficult. I like to challenge myself. I don't let myself get distracted. I get absorbed in my play /learning and concentrate well. I can be flexible and change plans if needed.	I make connections in my learning I use logic and reasoning to work things out. I use trial and error to help me find solutions. I generate and refine ideas. I am open minded and willing to try new things.	I have a 'can do' attitude. I give my best I am reflective and I think careful about my learning. I can talk about my learning. I learn from my mistakes. I review and redo in order to improve my learning.	I can work independently, but am also good team player. I am a good listener. I can confidently and clearly communicate my thoughts and ideas. I can provide constructive comments to help others improve. I can take on board feedback from others to help me improve.

To help children develop Creative Habits of Mind please:

Encourage them to be curious and to look at, explore and reflect upon the world, through both first hand experience and through looking at books and reading and other secondary sources.

Encourage children to ask lots of 'deep' questions. Deep questions -- demand more than a yes or no answer -- they need to make you think and they do not have an immediate answer. They require some deeper thought, research or investigation

Support children to answer their questions themselves through research, experimentation and through using through trial and error, if appropriate.

Ask questions about children's learning or play. Help them reflect on what they have done and think of new questions/possibilities: What would happen if…..? Tell me about it…. Why do you think…? What can you do about it? How do you know? Why did ……. happen?

Help children to learn to use resources such as reference books, dictionaries, the internet. (All children have access to Encyclopaedia Britannica on hwb)

Key elements of the Curriculum for Wales include:

The Curriculum for Wales 4 purposes are at the heart of Ysgol Y Faenol's curriculum. The 4 purposes are underpinned by the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Ambitious, capable learners ... who are ready to learn throughout their lives, and who:	Enterprising, creative contributors ... who willing to play a full part in life and work and who:	Ethical, informed citizens ... who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world, and who:	Healthy, confident individuals ... willing to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society, and who develop:
•set high standards for themselves •enjoy challenge and solve problems •develop knowledge and skills and apply them in different contexts •are able to discuss their learning confidently •Are able to communicate effectively in English and Welsh •use mathematics and numeracy and digital technologies effectively	•think creatively •apply their knowledge and skills to create, adapt and to solve problems •identify and grasp opportunities •Are confident to take risks •lead and work together in teams •express ideas and emotions in different ways •use their energy and skills for the benefit of others	•make judgments and discuss issues based on their knowledge and values •understand and exercise their responsibilities human rights •understand and consider the impact of their actions •know about their culture and community, •know about society and the world in the present and past •respect the needs and rights of others, as a member of a diverse society •see that they have a role to play to ensure the planet's sustainability	•physical and mental health and safety, •relationships based on respect and trust •personal values •skills and independence to deal with everyday life •the ability to face and overcome challenges

The 4 Purposes underpin all aspects of our curriculum design, planning and teaching. Our vision and values as a school support the 4 purposes.

The Curriculum for Wales gives us the freedom to design our own content based on:
- 6 Areas of Learning and Experience and their What Matters Statements
- Cross Curricular Skills Development
- 5 Cross-Cutting Themes

The 6 Areas of Learning and Experience					
The Expressive Arts	**Health and Wellbeing**	**Humanities**	**Mathematics and Numeracy**	**Languages, Literacy and Communication**	**Science and technology**
Disciplines developed in this school : *Art, Music, Dance Drama Film and Digital Media*	*Disciplines developed in this school :* *Physical Health and development, mental health, emotional and social wellbeing*	*Disciplines developed in this school :* *Geography, History, Religion , Values and Ethics, Business Studies, Social Studies, Economics, Philosophy*	*Includes 5 interdisciplinary competences:* *1.Conceptual Understanding* *2.Communication using symbols* *3.Fluency* *4.Logical reasoning* *5 Strategic competence*	*Disciplines developed in this school :* *Welsh,English, International Languages, Literature*	*Disciplines developed in this school :* *Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Physics*
Cross Curricular Skills *We will plan for the development of the following cross-curricular skills within and across the Areas of Learning and Experience using the revised national frameworks*					
Literacy		Numeracy		Digital Competence	
Cross-cutting themes *We shall include and extend the themes below across the curriculum*					
Relationships and sexuality education	Human Rights education and the united Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC	Diversity	Careers and work-related experience	Local,National and International Context	

Click to add text

The **What Matters Statements** for each Area will be the basis of our planning for progression, depth and breadth of skills and knowledge and for learner progress.

Our Model for Curriculum Design

The PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES, HABITS OF MIND and GROWTH MINDSET underpin our whole school curriculum.

DIRECT TEACHING is used to teach specific cross curricular skills, for example literacy and numeracy and digital competency. These specific skills are then practised within inquiries and thematic learning. Excellent standards of professional knowledge will be ensured through high quality professional learning.

To support breath and progression in learning and experiences we have produced models and roadmaps to show how each AoLE is integrated into the life of the school. Thematic learning sessions, which comprise of sessions, days or weeks with a specific focus, support this whole school integration.

We use an INTEGRATED MODEL for teaching and learning throughout the school. Pupil agency is a key feature in developing the 'Big Questions' which are answered through an topic inquiry based approach.

More about the curriculum and our journey to implement the Curriculum for Wales at Ysgol Y Faenol can be found by visiting our website:
Preparing for the New Curriculum preparing-for-the-2022-curriculum-at-ysgol-y-faenol.pdf (primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com)
Our Curriculum Design curriculum-design.pdf (primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com)

School Sporting Aims & the Development of Physical Skills

The main aim of our physical programme is to enrich every pupils' experience of physical activity and promote positive development of:

- Skills and confidence
- An awareness and understanding of the body
- An appreciation of sensitivity and quality in movement
- Initiative, self-reliance and self discipline
- Enjoyment and satisfaction through a sense of achievement
- Lifelong awareness of how to keep healthy and fit

As part of our physical development and wellbeing we aim to provide pupils with a variety of experiences, such as sporting activities, dance, as well as bike riding, walking, gardening, orienteering, outdoor adventure. Competitive games and after-school activities are arranged on site and, on occasion, in conjunction with our feeder secondary school.

Swimming

During their time at Ysgol Y Faenol pupils are taken to the local swimming pool in Rhyl for swimming lessons. In order to facilitate this, we ask that parents contribute towards the cost of transport. The aim of our swimming programme is to promote confidence in the water and to develop personal survival skills, while at the same time instilling a healthy attitude towards keeping fit.



Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)

Religion, Values and Ethics is a mandatory part of our Humanities curriculum and is built upon a series of concepts and big ideas. Our curriculum provides a range of disciplinary approaches to support learners to engage critically with a broad range of religious and non-religious philosophical convictions. Religion, Values and Ethics in our school has been designed having due regard to the Agreed Syllabus.

Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE)

RSE will be developed in line with the broad and interlinked learning strands as identified in the RSE mandatory code:

• relationships and identity
• sexual health and well-being
• empowerment, safety and respect

https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-01/curriculum-for-wales-relationships-sexuality-education-code.pdf

We will provide RSE which will be developmentally appropriate, taking into account factors including the learner's age; knowledge and maturity; any additional learning needs and their physiological and emotional development.

RSE will be introduced to pupils through:

- Circle time activities
- 'Growing Up' resources developed by Gwynedd Healthy Schools
- Sense CD 'Growing Up and Keeping Safe'
- Story books
- Curriculum subjects
- Personal and Social Education programmes
- Informally as opportunities arise in the classroom

Questions asked by a pupil will be discussed sensitively and as openly as is considered appropriate to the context, the circumstances and the age and maturity of the pupil.

Homework

Homework may consist of reading, learning sound patterns/high frequency word spellings, rapid mathematical recall and /or other work to reinforce class work and promote learning. The amount of homework depends on their age. One of the aims of setting any homework is to develop a positive attitude to independent learning. The school encourages parents to support and monitor the children's completion of assignments. If there are any difficulties, teachers are happy to help.



Extra Curricular Learning

We value highly the role that extra-curricular activities can play in enriching the school curriculum and providing children with new and varied experiences. As part of the learning we take the children on visits to local areas of interest. These visits tie-in with aspects of work the children are studying in class. The older juniors are given the opportunity to stay at a field study centre at Nant Bwlch-yr-Hearn near Llanrwst. At Nant B.H. They stay for a number of days and get the chance to enjoy activities such as orienteering, climbing, canoeing and mountain walking.

Throughout the year, we invite many visiting speakers to school to address the children on a variety of subjects such as:

- the work of charities
- fire safety
- work of the police
- personal safety etc.

We find that providing such experiences gives the children useful, relevant and important information.
Opportunities are provided for older pupils to sing as part of a choir. Instrumental tuition (guitar, piano, drums) tutors visit school weekly to provide tuition to those pupils interested in learning to play an instrument. There is a charge to parents for these lessons.
Extra-curricular school clubs held during the year include games, cooking, craft, football, dance, eco and gardening.

Careers and Work Related Education

To enhance our work focused experiences we work effectively with outside agencies, such as the police and health services as well as with some local businesses. We have a World of Work (WOW) pupil led committee, who work together to enhance pupils' awareness of further education, career opportunities and entrepreneurialism.



Learner Groups

Arrangements for Pupils with Additional Learning Needs

The aim is to make suitable and relevant educational provision for all children with Additional Learning Needs so that they are able to develop to their full potential.
Pre-school children with Additional Learning Needs are often identified by an outside agency. Children of school age with Additional Learning Needs will be identified in the first instance by school staff. Following a period of specific intervention and depending on the level of need, children with identified Additional Learning Needs may be assessed by a team of professionals, which could include Educational Psychologists, teachers with specific skills and specialists in community medicine. Arrangements may then be made to review the educational provision.

Arrangements for More Able & Talented Pupils

We believe in providing the best possible provision for pupils of all abilities. We plan our teaching and learning so that each child can aspire to the highest level of personal achievement.

We use a range of strategies to identify gifted and talented children. The identification process is ongoing, and begins when the child joins our school. Each child's pre-school record gives details of achievements and interests in particular areas. Discussions with parents and carers enable us to add further details to these records. More Able and Talented Pupils are also identified by class teachers as a result of assessments and observations. The learning opportunities that we provide for More Able and Talented Pupils' aim to enrich and extend the curriculum in order to further challenge and develop pupil abilities in one or more areas.

Pupils with Disabilities

Our accessibility plan aims to:

- Reduce and eliminate barriers to access the curriculum and to allow full participation in the school curriculum and community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.
- The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
- The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
    - setting suitable learning challenges
    - responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
    - overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils
- All areas of the school building and grounds are accessible by wheelchair.

Further information is available in the Denbighshire School Admissions Information Page:
School admissions | Denbighshire County Council

Looked After Children

We aim to ensure that all Looked After Children have full access to appropriate education. We aim to maximise the educational attainments and enhance life opportunities of such children. We ensure there is effective liaison between ourselves, Denbighshire's Education Department and Social Services in planning, developing and providing education for Looked After Children. Good quality Personal Education Plans are produced for all Looked After Children who attend our school. The head teacher is the designated member of staff, who has responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of Looked After Children.

Equal Opportunities

We are fortunate that our school community includes people from a wide range of cultures and backgrounds, and we are committed to valuing all members of the school community equally.
Our aim is to:

- Create an atmosphere where everyone is valued equally
- Have high expectations of all members of our school community
- Provide a learning environment which raises self-esteem and develops tolerance
- Ensure that every child receives their entitlement to the whole curriculum

We do not discriminate against anyone, be they staff or pupil, on the ground of their sex, race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnic or national origins.
We promote the principles of fairness and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school. We ensure that all pupils have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school. We constantly strive to remove and form of indirect discrimination that may form barriers to learning. We ensure that all recruitment, employment, promotion and training systems are fair to all and provide opportunities for everyone to achieve.
We are proud of our Welsh Culture and we give the opportunity for others of different races to be a part of it without any prejudice. We promote positive educational experiences, as well as encouraging respect for oneself and others.

Anti-Racism

We do not tolerate any forms of racism or racist behaviour. Should a racist incident occur, we will act immediately to prevent any repetition of the incident. We endeavour to make our school welcoming to all minority groups. Through our curriculum, we discuss and respect the culture and religion of others.

Charging and Remissions

The Governing Body have drawn up a policy in respect of charges and remission arrangements. The policy makes it clear that:

- Education including visits should be free of charge if it takes place wholly or mainly during the school day. However, the school may seek contributions in support of any school visit, so that many varied activities can be organised and financially viable.
- Charges may be made for optional extras that take place out of school hours and for musical tuition.
- The Governing Body reserves the right to ask parents to pay for damage to school property or equipment where this is the result of pupils' behaviour.

Our Ethos & Pastoral Care

We strive to create a happy, secure and well organised environment in which our children feel valued, and in which they can grow personally, socially, spiritually and intellectually. We believe that our school ethos reflects the values, attitudes, beliefs and practices of our school community. Pastoral care permeates all aspects of our school life and each member of staff has responsibility for children's wellbeing, happiness and safety.

We liase with children, parents and outside agencies as appropriate to support pupils' pastoral needs. We have weekly assemblies and regular PSE (Personal, Social Education) lessons which promote amongst others the values of respect, friendship, generosity, kindness, perseverance, commitment, justice and fairness.

All members of staff have a responsibility to promote positive behaviour throughout the school. We aim to help children behave responsibly, co-operatively and with concern for others so that they can work together productively.

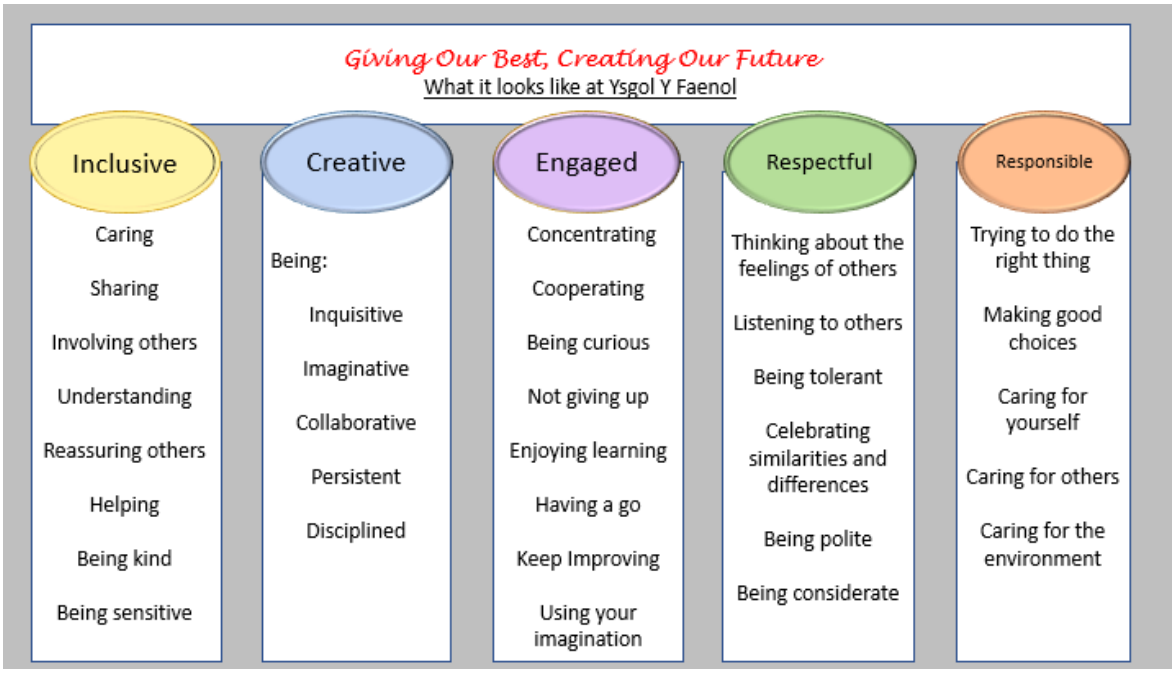
Please let us know any helpful medical information about your child, e.g. disabilities, allergies, and also any situation or circumstances at home or in the family which might affect your child's behaviour or work in school.






Behaviour & Discipline

At Ysgol Y Faenol, we are extremely proud of the excellent behaviour and discipline of the children in school. Children know what are expectations are and understand the steps which will be taken should they break our school rules. Children are expected at all times to be courteous, well behaved and to work to the best of their ability. The school use a positive behaviour system called 'Golden Time.' The pupils have agreed a list of Golden Rules based on the following principles:



At the start of the week every child in school is eligible for Golden Time, a time on Friday afternoon with fun activities. If a child breaks a golden rule during the course of the week, they will receive a yellow card and they will miss out on 5 minutes of their golden time. If a child receives three yellow cards in one week, they will miss out on all of their golden time and a letter will be sent home explaining why.

If a child's behaviour is causing particular concern, the class teacher or head teacher will contact parents and invite them in to discuss the situation. We believe in fostering within the children a keen attitude towards self- discipline, self-control and personal responsibility. We trust that parents will give us their support and work with us to ensure a positive and secure environment, in which all the children can live and learn harmoniously.

If you ever feel there is anything which is causing your child anxiety, please do not hesitate to contact us, however small the worry.

Anti-bullying

We adhere to key principles in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Welsh Government and Denbighshire guidance and have anti-bullying policies and procedures in order to deal with any incidents which may occur. Bullying is a form of unacceptable behaviour, but not all unacceptable behaviour is bullying. Bullying usually has three key elements, and can take place face-to-face or online.

- It is intentional or deliberate hurtful behaviour.
- It is repeated behaviour that usually happens over a period of time.
- The person or people being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

If parents have any concerns about this issue they should contact the school.

- All bullying is unacceptable, regardless of how it is delivered or what excuses are given to justify it;
- All children/young people deserve to receive their education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse.
- Every person who is a part of a school has a responsibility to take action to care for each other;
- We recognise the detrimental effect on pupils who may be subjected to bullying and will work actively to minimise the risks;
- School recognises that steps must be taken to tackle sexual, racial, homophobic bullying and any bullying based on difference;
- Victims of bullying will be treated in a supportive manner and after care must be made available.

This policy applies to all children and young people.



Safeguarding

Ysgol Y Faenol has a duty to adhere to the All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2016 and the Social Services and Well-bring (Wales) Act 2016.

Our pastoral work plays an important role in the prevention of abuse and neglect through creating and maintaining a safe environment for children by teaching them about staying safe from harm, and how to share any worries or concerns.

We have a safeguarding policy and a designated safeguarding lead person who acts as a source of expertise and advice. The designated safeguarding lead is responsible for ensuring that all staff, including new and temporary staff know the procedures and where to obtain advice, and are encouraged to share their concerns. We have a designated safeguarding governor. The Authority has an officer with designated responsibility for safeguarding, who is able to give advice to schools and governing bodies, including advice when allegations are made against staff.

Safeguarding concerns about a child must be shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. It is important that parents and carers understand that all schools have a legal duty to safeguard and promote the well-being of children. The child's safety must come first. Schools must not carry out their own investigations into safeguarding concerns, but must refer them to the appropriate services. When everyone works together and responds to concerns in the right way, it makes a big difference to children's lives.

Ysgol Y Faenol:

- Aims to be a safe place for children to talk about things that affect them. Staff encourage children to speak out about concerns.
- Shares clear information about helplines and peer support schemes with learners.
- builds relationships with other services and works with the local authority, the police, health services and other services where appropriate
- has clear procedures for making referrals and sharing information
- makes referrals quickly so children and families get the support they need when they need it.

Health & Safety

We take the health and safety of all the children at Ysgol Y Faenol very seriously. In addition to termly safety inspections and fire drills we have detailed policies and risk assessments for school events and activities.

Fire Drill/Reverse Drill

A fire drill is held regularly and the children are trained to evacuate the building quickly and calmly and line up at the designated assembly points. Should the fire alarm bell sound when parents or visitors are in the building, they too should evacuate the building. In addition reverse drills are held, where pupils who are outside respond to a warning and quickly and calmly enter the building.

Parking

Please park and travel responsibly if dropping or picking up pupils in a vehicle. Parking on the zigzag lines is not allowed. Parking on kerbs is now illegal in Wales. Parents are not permitted to drive into the school grounds.

Animals

In the interest and safety of the children, parents/carers should not bring animals (except guide dogs) on to the school grounds at any time.

Smoking

Parents are reminded that Denbighshire County Council have a "No Smoking Policy" on school property, both inside the building and in the school grounds.

Pupil Illness/Medical Needs

Illness

If a decision is taken to send a child home due to illness, then the parents will be contacted by telephone and asked to collect the child from school.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

In line with Public Health Wales guidelines, children with these conditions will not be accepted back into school until 48 hours after the last symptom elapsed.

Infectious diseases

If a child has an infectious disease, they will need to stay off school for a prescribed period of time –further details available from school.

Medicines

- It is policy that staff do not give medicines to children, except:
  - in emergency situations
  - in the case of long-term medical need
  - when a written request form has been completed by parents to administer prescribed medication.
- Children should never be sent to school with medicine in their bags. The consequences of another child taking medicine which is not intended for them could be extremely serious.
- We have a Managing Health Care Needs Policy.

Accidents/Injuries

Minor injuries that require first aid treatment are dealt with by trained first aiders. A text is sent for all children who have received treatment from a first aider.

In the case of need for non-urgent hospital treatment, parents will be contacted and arrangements made for the child to be collected. If a child has an accident that requires urgent hospital treatment, the school will immediately call an ambulance and parents will be informed. A member of staff will accompany the child until the

parent arrives.
It is important that we are able to contact parents in case of emergency. If you have an information regarding change of address/phone number/place of work, please notify us immediately.

School Security

Our aim is to make Ysgol Y Faenol a safe, happy and welcoming place for everyone. School staff are vigilant in order to ensure the safety of all of our pupils. We ask and encourage children, staff, parents/carers and other visitors to think carefully about their own safety. The school entrance doors are kept locked and the gates on to the school yard are locked at the start of the morning session. If you need to visit the school please report to main reception. All visitors during school working hours are asked to 'sign in' and out of the premises and are given a visitor's badge. If children need to leave during the school day, parents/carer should sign them out at main reception. Please remember that security and safety arrangements are introduced for your child's well being – we want all our children to feel happy and safe.

Complaints

Ysgol Y Faenol is committed to dealing effectively with any issues. We have Complaints Policy document which is available from school and is on the school's website. This policy identifies how both informal and formal complaints can be made and how they will be dealt with. Hopefully most complaints can be dealt with quickly and efficiently by informal discussion with the members of staff or the Head Teacher. Please contact the school secretary if you wish to make an appointment to discuss any issues of concern or dissatisfaction.

Access to Documents

Many of our policies and documents are available from the parental information section of our school's website. Please contact school if you require access to any other documents and policies.

Working Together

We encourage close liaison between parents and school staff. Throughout your child's school life your interest and concern is vital. It is important that your child sees home and school working together for his/her benefit. We hold 'coffee and chat sessions' at the beginning and end of each year to gather your thoughts and ideas. We also send out questionnaires to help us identify areas in which we can further improve our school. We hold workshops, learning together sessions and curricular information meetings for parents. We update the school website www.ysgolyfaenol.co.uk with information and send out reminders about events/activities by text.
If parents wish to discuss any matters with teachers or the head teacher please do not hesitate to contact us in person, by telephone (01745 583370) or e-mail (ysgol.yfaenol@denbighshire.gov.uk).

Parental Meetings & Reporting Arrangements
If you need to discuss any aspect of school life, your child's academic progress or wellbeing please make an appointment with your child's teacher or the head teacher. This can be done by contacting the school secretary on 01745 583370 or by email ysgol.yfaenol@denbighshire.gov.uk
Formal parental meetings are arranged twice a year. These give you an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with members of staff. It is hoped that all parents will take advantage of meeting with the class teachers. Annual Reports are sent out during the Summer Term. These reports provide information about the progress your child has made and provide information about targets for the future in core areas.
Welsh National Test Data is shared with parents of all pupils in Years 2 to 6.

At Y Faenol we believe that talents and abilities can be developed through:

- curiosity, passion and perseverance
- trying our best and by learning from mistakes
- being surrounded by people who enjoy learning and challenging themselves
- setting high expectations
- a commitment to giving our best

We hope your child will be very happy at Ysgol Y Faenol

