

Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel

Dwyfor, Llwynhendy, Llanelli, Sir Gaerfyrddin.
SA14 9HD

Headteacher: Mrs. Zoë Jermin-Jones
Acting Assistant Headteacher: Mrs. Sara Saunders
Chair of Governors : Mr Dafydd Jenkins

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website : <https://www.ysgolgymraegbrynsierfel.co.uk/>



Prospectus



Welcome

As Headteacher at Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel, I feel extremely proud to lead a team, indeed a family of dedicated and enthusiastic staff who put the needs of our children first. We aim to create a home-from-home environment for our learners, in which they may be nurtured to thrive and grow. We aim to succeed in creating a caring and inclusive culture that celebrates our identity, as the "heart of the Cefncaeau community." Being a rights-respecting school, we highly regard the opinions of our pupils. We always appreciate the input from our community, so please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with us.



The school motto is '*Bach yw hedyn pob mawredd*'. It can be translated as: "Small is the seed of all greatness" which corresponds to "Great oaks from little acorns grow". This old proverb was chosen as the school's motto to help nurture in the pupils the conviction that they can grow into excellent citizens and very special individuals. Trying to convey the innate greatness of the human personality is part of our purpose.

Mrs Zoe Jermin-Jones

Headteacher



Meet the team

Senior Management Team

Mrs. Zoë Jermin-Jones
(Headteacher)

Mrs. Sara Saunders
(Acting Assistant Headteacher)

Miss. Sophie Harding
(Senior Teacher)

Classroom teachers

Progression Step 1		Progression Step 2			Progression Step 3		
Dosbarth Penbwl (Nursery)	Dosbarth Broga (Reception)	Dosbarth Pysgodyn (Year 1)	Dosbarth Hwytaden (Year 2)	Dosbarth Malwen (Year 3)	Dosbarth Dyfrgi (Year 4)	Dosbarth Alarch (Year 5)	Dosbarth Glas y Dorlan (Year 6)
Miss Sarah Williams	Mr Tom Bennett	Miss Mererid Evans	Mrs Megan Phillips	Mrs Heledd Evans	Mrs Lowri Ireland	Mrs Nicola Davies-Chare	Miss Sophie Harding

ALNCO – Mrs. Sara Saunders

Classroom Assistants: Miss Andrea Howells,
Miss Catherine Fry, Miss Mariah Hughes,
Mrs Chloe Morgan, Mrs. Sara Jenkins,
Miss Holly Bowen-Elliott, Miss Siwan James.

Administrative Officer: Mrs. Marilyn Davies

Caretaker: Mr. Marc Richards

Chair of Governing Body: Mr. Dafydd Jenkins

Background



Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel is a designated Welsh-medium primary school situated in Llwynhendy, Llanelli. The original building was officially opened on Thursday, October 15th, 1953 - by the Right Honourable James Griffiths - with the learners arriving on December 1st. The original school was built on the site of a farm where the 'sierfel' (cherfil) grew. The 'sierfel' gave its name to the farm and later to the school itself.

The new school building was opened in June 2011 and cost £6.5 million. The ultra-modern school is on two levels with excellent facilities for ICT, PE and the development of cross-curricular skills.

Our Vision

At Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel our aim is to provide an innovative and dynamic approach to learning, enabling all learners to develop the skills needed to thrive in a digital world that is continually changing.

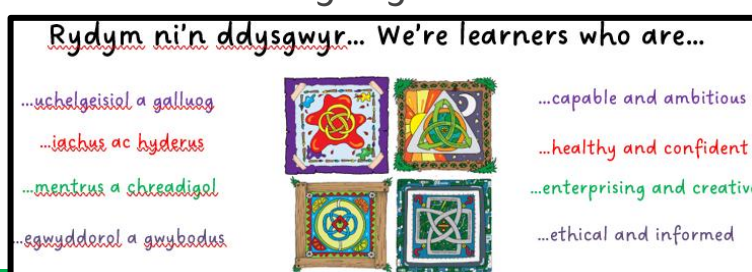
We promote an ethos of high expectations, academic achievement, positive values and continuous improvement within a caring, orderly, supportive and fully inclusive community.

All learners are of equal value, and we are committed to the pursuit of individual excellence, achievement and success for everyone.

Our School Vision for Curriculum for Wales

Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel is a happy, caring family that prides itself on nurturing independent, confident and enterprising learners. We encourage a community of principled, empathic and peaceful citizens.

We believe that every individual should have rich opportunities to reach their full potential and to appreciate their heritage and language.



Our Values

Kindness
Friendship
Concentration



Communication
Collaboration
Responsibility

Home school agreement



Teachers and Parents work together in partnership

A close partnership between parents and the school is encouraged.

Parents are expected to sign and comply with a home / school agreement to cooperate with the school for the benefit of pupils. Parents are always welcome to discuss matters with the Headteacher and/or Class teacher.

If you would like an extended meeting, for a longer discussion, please make an appointment and a mutually convenient time will be arranged.

Progress

Parents are welcome at the school to discuss their child's progress.

Please make an appointment, if you wish for a longer discussion, in order to prevent disruption when a class is in progress. Parents are kept fully informed of their child's progress and may be asked to come to the school to discuss any important matters. Pupils progress evenings are held termly, and all parents will be invited to attend. Parents receive an annual written report at the end of the Summer term

Homework

Homework is provided to enable parents to gain an insight into their child's learning. The school aims to provide every child with the opportunity to express themselves in various ways through their homework. Homework is given every Friday and should be returned the following Tuesday.

Information Evenings

Information Evenings are held annually, to enable parents to discover how best to support their child in number work, reading, writing and skills development.

Parent Teacher Friends Association

An active P.T.F.A supports the work of the school, and the children have benefited considerably from the resources and activities funded by the P.T.F.A. For further information on how to join our P.T.F.A, please contact the school.

Sporting Activities

Physical Education includes team and competitive games and sports activities as well as gymnastics and dance. Pupils, according to ability, take part in area Sports and Cross-country competitions. Pupils learn the basic skills of rugby, football, netball, rounders and Welsh folk dancing. Some year groups are given the opportunity to develop their swimming competence during a two-week block of intensive swimming sessions which are held at the local swimming pool. An annual Sports Day is held to which parents and carers are invited.



Health and Safety

As a school we are committed to ensuring the health and safety of all pupils and staff. All entrances are locked and to gain access there is a key code entry system. Any visitor that accesses the building is met by a key member of staff and is escorted to the appropriate place. The school holds a visitors log to keep a record of all visits to the school. The school has a designated first aid officer. All staff are trained in First Aid. If an accident occurs at school, the school will contact parents if this is deemed necessary, or accident reports are sent home to with the child, at the end of the school day. An accident log is maintained. The school complies with all LEA procedures regarding reporting incidents on the school premises. In the interest of safety, only staff cars are permitted to enter the school site



Communication

Parents are given advance notice of key dates and events via My School App, e.g celebrations, sporting events and concerts. These are also available on the school website in our newsletter.

<https://www.ysgolgymraegbrynsierfel.co.uk> .

Parents and carers can view daily school activities on the schools' Instagram page. (ysgolgybraegbrynsierfel) We encourage all our parents and carers to give us a follow!



What are the school times?



There is a Breakfast Club provision for all learners. Doors open at 8:00am every morning. Please note that final entry is at 8:30am prompt.

The classroom doors open at 8:40am and the school day starts at 9:00am. All external gates are locked at 8:50am. The day ends at 3:10pm.

All learners will have a 20 minute morning break, with our Foundation Learning pupils having one hour and 10 minutes for lunch, whilst the Junior pupils are given 40 minutes.

The teaching time, excluding morning worship, breaks, registration and dinner sessions in a normal week is 21 hours and 30 minutes for Foundation Learning pupils.

Junior pupils' teaching time is 23 hours and 30 minutes. This can be compared with the minimum that is recommended by the National Assembly Circular 43/90 "Managing the School Day", which is 21 hours for Year 1 and 2 learners and 23.5 hours for learners in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Please visit Carmarthenshire County Council's website for school term dates

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/council-services/education-schools/school-term-dates/>

What if my child is ill?

Parents/Guardians must inform the school of the reason for their children's absences. This can be done in several ways:

- The Headteacher or class-teacher could be informed in person when a parent is bringing another child to school;
- The school could be informed by telephone: 01554 758582
- A note explaining the reason for the absence.
- Sending a message via 'mySchoolApp'.

Medication

In accordance with the Education Department's Policy, a request must be made to the class teacher to administer any type of medication, including inhalers, to a learner. Application forms are available from class teachers. Learners with specific medical needs, for example, nut allergies, asthma and diabetes are provided for.



Illness at school

The school keeps a record of address and contact phone numbers. It is the parents' responsibility to inform the school immediately of any changes. If a child is ill or has an accident, every effort is made to contact the "Emergency Contact" but if this fails, we will take whatever action is necessary, with the child's best interest in mind. Health care plans are in operation for any child with a serious medical condition.

Minor accidents are dealt with in school but in the case of a more serious incident, parents will be phoned to accompany the child to the surgery or hospital.

Headlice

Headlice is unfortunately one problem that occurs in all schools from time to time and we would like to stress that inspection of hair is not the school's responsibility. We would appreciate it if parents/carers would comb your child's hair thoroughly and regularly, check your child's head frequently and treat promptly if any lice are found.

Attendance

100%

The school works closely with families to promote good attendance. If your child is absent for any reason, please notify the school office via.

Phone call or My School app with a reason for the absence. We encourage parents to make routine medical appointments out of school hours.

How do I put my child's name down for admission?

Parents can register their child online at <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/council-services/education-schools/school-admissions-and-changing-schools/>

Admission to all other year groups can only be assured where the number of learners already in that year group does not exceed the school's standard admission number. At present, the School's Admission Number is 30. Parents are asked to put the names of their children on the waiting list as soon as possible to avoid possible disappointment. This helps to ensure that there is a place available, and it enables the school to plan the human and material resources for each school year.

After School Clubs

We provide after school club provision from 3:10pm – 4:00pm Tuesday to Thursday at a cost of £1 per session. These clubs change termly. The clubs include Yr Urdd, gardening, netball, rugby, digital, arts and crafts and dance. These clubs are available for learners from years 2-6.

Bydis Brynsierfel

Bydis Brynsierfel is an after-school care provision managed by Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli. This is available for all full time learners on a Wednesday and Thursday from 3:10pm until 5:10pm at a cost of £7.50.

Booking is essential via the following link:

<https://www.ycwtsh.com/service-page/clwb-bydis-brynsierfel>



Safeguarding Statement

Safeguarding is a key priority for everybody at Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel. We see it as our core business. Our school is committed to ensuring the safety and protection of every one of our children. We acknowledge that all children have a right to protection and will take action to safeguard their wellbeing.

The persons nominated with responsibility for child protection in the school are:



Mrs Zoe Jermin-Jones
Senior Child Protection
Officer



Mrs Sara Saunders
Deputy Child Protection Officer

Child Protection Policy

The school has a Child Protection Policy based on the All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008. The designated members of staff for child protection are Mrs. Zoe Jermin-Jones and Mrs. Sara Saunders . A designated member of the governing body, Mrs. Denise Bennett, also has responsibility for overseeing the safety of all pupils. All members of staff are aware of Guidelines on Child Protection. They are required to act according to these guidelines. The procedures recognise four categories of abuse – Neglect, Physical Injury, Sexual Abuse and Emotional Abuse. If a child discloses that he or she has suffered abuse or a member of staff is concerned about a child for any of the four reasons above, those concerns must be reported to the Child Care Assessment Team. The school must not investigate and does not judge the circumstances. We are legally bound to share information with other agencies where required. A copy of the school's Child Protection Policy is available to download from the school website.

Additional Learning Needs

The school's Policy on The Education of Children with Additional Learning Needs shows that we adhere to the Inclusion Handbook which has been published by the county to care for the requirements of those most and least able learners. National tests in Literacy and Numeracy are set each May. Hereby, together with the regular careful assessments made by teachers throughout the year and the professional discussions that ensue the development of learners, the school identifies those in need of special support. Where necessary, special arrangements are made to ensure that the teaching is geared to their needs. If they are included on the Additional Learning Needs register, parents/guardians are informed of this.

The work prepared for the learners is differentiated within the planning of each teacher, taking into consideration the various abilities of the learners in their class.

Each learner on the Additional Learning Needs register has an Individual Development Plan and One Page Profile. Person Centered Reviews are held annually with parents for learners on the ALN Register. It is the school's duty to review and evaluate the Statements and all the provision made for learners with Additional Learning Needs at regular intervals. The school has an excellent partnership with external agencies and depends on them for expert advice, support and leadership as required.

- Mrs. Sara Saunders is the school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO).
- Mrs. Zoë Jermin-Jones and Mrs. Sara Saunders are responsible for Looked After Children.
- Mrs. Zoë Jermin-Jones is the school's Senior Safeguarding Officer.



Educational Visits

Educational visits are linked to the term's theme and are a valuable aid to a child's motivation and learning. Visits may be a walk in the locality or further afield. All visits are well supervised by staff and comply with statutory adult to child ratios. Safety is always the paramount consideration. Prior notification is always given for all occasions when your child will leave the school premises and consent slips will need to be completed in order to provide permission.

Pupil Voice

At Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsiefel we believe that Pupil Voice is extremely important. We have active school committees including a School Council and Eco School committee. We also have Digital Leaders, School Ambassadors and Criw Cymraeg.

Relationships

Our Relationships Policy at Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel aims to develop and promote positive and nurturing relationships. Pupils, parents, teachers and support staff all take collective responsibility for building relationships and the promoting of positive behaviour in Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel. Our policy is underpinned by Restorative Practise, Trauma Informed Practise and awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). We believe that children should be encouraged and rewarded for demonstrating our school values. We use the following positive rewards, amongst others: verbal praise, positive phone calls, J2Stars, Seren yr Wythnos.



Our uniform



Our new school jumper.
Available to pre order from:
<https://toppers-wales.com/education/>



We can wear yellow or white polo shirt.



On occasions, we wear our formal school uniform, which is a white shirt/blouse and official school tie which is available to buy from the school office.



Our official stockists are Picton Sport and Toppers. Both are located in Dafen.

<https://toppers-wales.com/>
<https://www.pictonsports.co.uk/>

We wear grey skirts and trousers

Collective Worship

Religious Education and Collective Worship is presented in a balanced way as part of the integrated learning experience we offer to children. Children and staff join together for a daily act of worship. This is broadly Christian in content with an emphasis on morals and good behaviour based on the Golden Rules. Under the Education Reform Act of 1988, parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education and Collective Worship. These pupils will attend non-denominational sessions with a member of staff based on the Values Education Policy.

Complaints Procedure

In accordance with Section 29 of the Education Act 2002, the school follows the complaints procedure suggested by the County's Education Authority. If a parent has a complaint about anything, the normal procedure is to speak with the class teacher first, then followed by the Head teacher. Should the matter not be addressed satisfactorily, then the matter can be referred to the Governing Body. A copy of the full Complaints procedure is available on request from the Head teacher or from the website

We look forward to welcoming you to our school community.

We would like to thank our learners for providing the photography for this prospectus.

