

Pembroke Primary School

Reception Class Dosbarth Bloreng



Dear Parents

In this booklet you will find lots of useful information about our Reception class. This is an unusual year in that we haven't had the opportunity to allow for visits to the Reception class. All Reception classes in the country are in the same position and you can rest assured that your children will settle in and be reception pros in no time!

Starting dates and times will be sent out to you as soon as we have them. We can't wait to have your children in school with us.

If you have any questions or would like to speak to me, Miss Tonks, please contact the school. (Tel. number 622310) and I will get back to you as soon as I can. We look forward to a happy and successful year.

Meet the team



Miss Tonks- Class teacher
and ALNCo



Miss Paterson- Teaching assistant

The aim of Reception

We aim to provide your child with a broad and exciting curriculum nurturing independence and an excitement for learning right from the start. We want the children to be enthusiastic, independent, active learners. The children will be a big part of the school taking part in assemblies and other whole school activities.

The curriculum

We follow the Foundation Phase Framework for children's learning. This is a rich and exciting curriculum with seven areas. These areas are:

- Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity
- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills
- Mathematical Skills
- Welsh Language Development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development

The Foundation Phase recognises the importance of early experiences such as communication, personal, emotional and social development. It also promotes starting with what the children know, and what their interests are to develop further learning.

Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity

This is at the heart of the Foundation Phase. While the children work they will be learning to work together and to value themselves and others. The aim is for the children to become confident, competent and independent thinkers and learners. We will also explore the cultural diversity in Wales through stories and first-hand experiences.

Language, Literacy and Communication Skills

We communicate in many different ways in Reception so everyone has a chance to express themselves and take part. We work on our speaking and listening skills first, then we learn to read and write. We use Read Write Inc for reading and we are using the Twinkl pre-cursive handwriting scheme because research has shown that the sooner the children can write in cursive writing the better their spelling will be.

Mathematical Skills

We make learning in Maths as practical as possible using as many real life experiences as we can. For example, when we are learning about money the role-play area is turned into a shop where children can go and buy things with real money.

Welsh Language Development

Our school is in Wales; therefore it is important that the children gain a sense of belonging to Wales. In Reception we listen and begin to communicate in Welsh by singing songs and playing games together. We use incidental Welsh throughout the day and we will be listening to stories and writing sentences in Welsh in no time.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Children learn about the world around them through first-hand experiences. In Reception they will explore, question and experiment. They will also learn how to look after our world.

Physical Development

It is important that physical activity is fun, whether it is indoors or outdoors. The children will take part in structured physical activities inside and outside and will have the choice to play outside in the garden every day. They will be developing their strength, control and balance by using large and small equipment. We have beautiful grounds at Pembroke Primary School and make the most of them all year round taking part in outside physical development sessions and Maths on the Move with the other Foundation Phase classes. Physical development also includes developing the skills and strength the children need to hold and control writing instruments.

Creative Development

We provide a range of activities which allow the children to explore and develop their creativity. This could be building things, exploring our creative area, imaginative play, music, dance and sensory experiences.

Exciting times ahead!

We are at a very exciting time in our curriculum journey with the new curriculum on its way. We are already integrating the four purposes into the children's learning experiences.

The four purposes aim that all children and young people will be:

- Ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work.
- Ethical informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.
- Healthy, confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

To ensure full coverage of all these purposes the curriculum will be split into six areas.

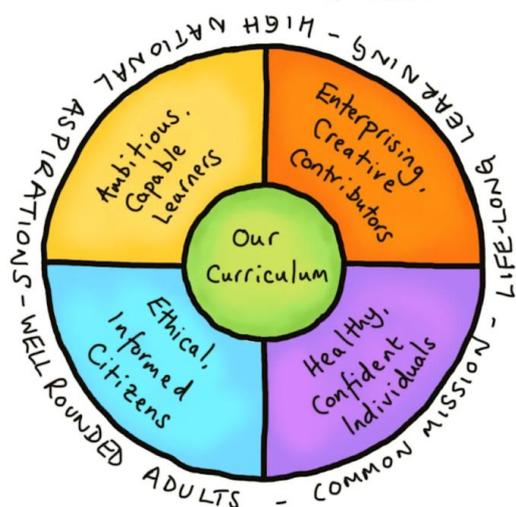
- Expressive Arts
- Health and Well-being
- Humanities
- Language, Literacy and Communication
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Science and technology

For bespoke support to create learning driven by the 4 Purposes contact us enquiries@impact.wales

THE 4 PURPOSES of Curriculum for Wales

@ImpactWales

Copyright © 2018



- * Why do we need the 4 Purposes for Curriculum for Wales?
 - * to set a common mission for all teachers & leaders.
 - * to support teachers & leaders to make appropriate choices about curriculum content & pedagogy
- * How should schools be using the 4 Purposes statements?
 - * as a set of guiding principles to aid planning decisions.
 - * as an evaluation tool to identify pupils' greatest needs.
- * Create a curriculum driven by the 4 Purposes:-
 - * know which of the 4 Purposes pupils need the most
 - * create teaching & learning that addresses those needs
 - * support pupils to **progress** in those areas

The 4 Purposes of Curriculum for Wales are underpinned by:

Principles enshrined by UNITED NATIONS Convention on the Rights of the Child	Welsh Language and Culture	Principles of inclusive education	Community & civic role of schools	Health & well-being of pupils
--	----------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------

Useful Information

School times

Morning: 9.00 a.m. - 11.55 a.m.

Afternoon: 1 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.

From 8.50 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. the exterior classroom door will be open for your child to enter school. Children should be brought to the side door for the reception classroom, where a member of staff will greet them and help them to put their things on their pegs and in their trays. Through experience we have found that leaving your child at the door with the staff member is the best way to leave them. The children really struggle if their parents come into the classroom and they don't want them to leave.

Late arrivals

We request that children arrive at school on time. However, if your child arrives after the school session has begun, please take them to the school office to sign them in.

Home time

The children will be let out of the same door they entered at the end of the day. At the start of the year we ask you to let us know, in writing, who is allowed to collect your child and children will not be allowed to leave with an adult not on the form, unless you have told us beforehand. If an unknown adult comes to the school to pick up your child we will phone you.

Absence from School

Please telephone the school if your child is absent for any reason. If the school is not informed of a reason, we operate a first day response system where families are telephoned enquiring regarding a pupil absence. If no reason is obtained an *unauthorised absence* will be recorded for your child and will appear on their report at the end of the year. If your child has been sick then you are advised to keep them from school for 48 hours, from the last bout of sickness, in line with Welsh Assembly Government Guidelines.

School Meals Arrangements

The school offers an exciting new school menu based on flexibility and quality, offering a variety of healthy food. We run a cashless system. Please ask for further details. Copies of the school menus are posted in every classroom. You may send in a healthy packed lunch but no glass containers or cans of fizzy drinks are permitted.

Additional Services

If you are in receipt of income support, you could be eligible for free meals.

Contact the office if you would like more information; all enquiries will be treated in confidence.

Snack Money

We ask for a contribution to cover the cost of snacks we can provide for the children every day. You can supply your child with a snack from home every day if you wish. Unfortunately we cannot supply a snack to children who haven't paid. Snack is 20p per day and you have the option of paying daily, weekly, monthly, termly or for the whole year at once. We will let you know how much each half term on the whiteboard outside the classroom. There will regularly be information on this board as well as on Seesaw so keep your checking.

Book bag

Please provide your child with a book bag to bring home their artwork, reading books, letters and homework.

Water

You must supply a water bottle for your child. It **must** only have water in it. We do not allow squash as we are part of the Healthy Schools scheme and we have had a problem with ants on bottles in the past! Please be aware that if a bottle is sent in containing squash or juice we cannot allow the children to use them and they will be provided with a cup to drink water from. Bottles are sent home regularly for washing.

School Uniform

- ✓ Grey skirt
- ✓ Grey trousers
- ✓ White or Navy polo shirt
- ✓ Navy sweatshirt
- ✓ Blue and white checked dress
- ✓ Grey shorts
- ✓ Black shoes

For health and safety reasons we discourage open-toed sandals or backless shoes.

Kit for PE and Games

- PE (indoor): white t-shirt, blue shorts
- Games (outdoor): as above with trainers.
- In the winter months tracksuit trousers and a sweatshirt are recommended.

All uniform is available from myclothing.com online.

It would be helpful if a PE bag is provided clearly marked with the child's name.

Please note that guidelines set out by the county are that trainers are worn for outside games and bare feet for apparatus work to enable a secure grip on the frames.

Please ensure that all clothing and footwear are labelled clearly.

Jewellery must be removed for all PE lessons. If earrings are unable to be removed for any reason, they must be covered; *please supply plasters for your child.*

Jewellery

Jewellery should be limited to one stud earring in each ear and a watch.

Lost Property

Any mislaid items will be left in our lost property box. Small or valuable items are handed into the office.

Toileting

Please ensure your child is toilet trained before they attend Reception. If this is a concern, please approach the class teacher at your earliest convenience for support and advice.

Medicines

If your child requires any form of medication during school hours you may come into school to administer it yourself. Tummy bugs require the children to stay away from school for 48 hours from the last time they were poorly. The school is not able to administer medication in any form unless an appropriate care plan has been put in place. Please see a member of staff for advice on asthma, allergy and long term medication.

Educational Visits and Activities

To enhance the curriculum children may be taken on day visits, locally or further afield. You will always be notified in advance. The school may ask for a voluntary contribution to help cover some of the costs.

Appointments during school hours

It is often the case that dental and medical appointments for children occur during school hours. Please give prior notice by letter of the appointment and collect your child from the office. Similarly, on return to school please call at the office to register arrival.

Home details

Please ensure that we have home address and daytime contact numbers for your child. It is vital that we have this information and that it is kept up to date. Please notify the office with any changes to the information.

If a change of address also involves a change of school please let us have the details so that we can forward important information.

Holidays in term time and attendance

At the discretion of the Head teacher, up to 10 days holidays can be authorised during term time. Holidays can only be authorised if your child's attendance is at or above the LA target. Please contact the school office in advance and complete a holiday request form. Please note that any time taken off in term time can have an adverse effect on your child's progress. Regular and excellent attendance is rewarded.

Parents in School

Parents are welcome at Pembroke Primary. We value your cooperation and assistance. You may have time and skills that will be useful to the development of the children. Please contact the Deputy Head or a class teacher if you would like to help and call in to the office to collect a DBS form.

Newsletters

In addition to letters from your child's teacher regarding trips, visits etc., newsletters are written when necessary to keep you informed about school life. These are all published on the class seesaw app which you will be given access to once your child has started school.

Breakfast Club

Every morning the school has a Breakfast Club (8am - 8.50am) for all pupils from Reception to Year 6 (cereal, toast and orange juice). From September there will be a charge of £1 for the childcare element of the club. All pupils who would like to attend, need to prepay and pre-register and written consent from parents is necessary.

After School Club

This is run by a private company and is on the school grounds. Children are collected from the school and taken to the after school club. The sessions run Monday to Friday, 3.15 - 6pm. Please enquire with the school office in the first instance.

Finally, please remember that we are always available for you to talk to and share any worries however big or small.