

Ysgol Fabanod Cwmaber Infants School



PROSPECTUS



General information
Cwmaber Infants School
Bryngelli Terrace,
Abertridwr,
Caerphilly
CF83 4FF

Tel : 02920 830248

Email :

CwmaberInfant@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Website:

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



Welcome

Dear Parents / Carers,
I am delighted to welcome you to Cwmaber Infants School.

Choosing the right school for your child is of paramount importance. Every parent expects an outstanding education for their child/ren, but they want their child/ren to be happy and to feel safe whilst in school, we believe we can offer all of these things and more. At Cwmaber Infants School we take great pride in the vast, balanced and full education we provide. The staff work tirelessly to ensure that every pupil in our school reaches and exceeds his / her full potential in a happy and challenging environment. We take pride in the friendly and co-operative atmosphere that is always apparent.

Many visitors that enter the school have acknowledged the warm welcome they receive and the politeness and maturity that our pupils display. The school was inspected in June 2017 and the overall judgement was Good. They noted that "The pupils' behaviour and their attitudes towards learning are good" and "parents value the nurturing and happy setting".

We appreciate our pupils and believe their time at the school should be valuable and pleasurable. I look forward to meeting and working with you through your child's education at Cwmaber Infants School. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school.

B. Davies (Mrs)
Executive Headteacher of Cwmaber Infants and Junior
Schools



About the School

Cwmaber Infants' School is a small school situated in the village of Abertridwr, about 3 miles from the town of Caerphilly. It caters for children from the ages of 3 to 7 years of age and has its own Nursery unit. There are approximately 100 children on roll in the main school. Most of the children who attend our school live in the village of Abertridwr, but some live further afield.

Our children benefit from large, airy classrooms with plenty of room to be curious and creative.

Should any parent / carer wish to visit the school, arrangements can easily be made. Parents / carers are always welcome at the school but it is better to make an appointment beforehand.



Our Staff

Executive Headteacher : Mrs B. Davies
Chair of Governors : Cllr. J Taylor

Type of school : Co-educational, English Medium
Infants (3 -7 years old)

School organisation:
Rising 3s / Nursery
Reception
Year 1
Year 2

The school is within the catchment of St Cenydd Comprehensive.

Senior Management Team

Executive Headteacher : Mrs B. Davies

Deputy Headteacher : Mrs L. Evans

Staffing

Teaching Staff: Mrs L. Evans
Mrs S. Cribb
Miss A. Boanas
Miss M. Harris

HLTAs: Mrs H. Davies
Mrs N. Davies
Miss B. Brace
Mrs L. Hughes

Teaching Assistants: Mrs S. Smith
Miss B Parker
Miss L Williams
Miss L. Lewis

Admin: Mrs J. Ralph
Miss C. Jones

Catering Staff: Mrs K. Williams
Mrs L. Ball

Mid-day Supervisors: Ms S. Mead
Miss R. Graves
Miss R. Thomas

Caretaker: Mr. P Radzimierski



School Uniform

Black or grey trousers, pinafore or skirt. Red and white checked dresses and black or grey shorts may be worn in the summer

Red or white polo shirts or t-shirts and a red cardigan, jumper or fleece, Sensible shoes with easy fastening e.g. Velcro

Uniform with the school logo on can be bought from TSS Sports in Bartlett Street

<https://www.tssprintandembroidery.com/>

We support Caerphilly Uniform Exchange
<https://caerphillyuniformexchange.co.uk/>

Please label all clothes clearly with the child's name, particularly cardigans and jumpers.



Times & Dates

Term dates:

School term dates are listed on the Caerphilly Council and school website

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/Schools,-term-dates-and-closures.aspx>. All schools are allocated six INSET days throughout the year and you will be able to access these dates either through newsletters or on the Caerphilly Council and school website.

School Calendar:

You can find events on the school calendar at:

<https://cwmaber-infant-junior-schools.secure-primarysite.net/diary/>

There is also an option to add the school calendar to your phone.

Times of the school day:

Rising Threes:

Nursery: 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Reception - Year Two: 9:00 am* - 3:15 pm with lunch from 12:00 noon to 1pm

*The school bell will ring at 8:50 am to enable children to be in the class by 9:00 am. The school staff will take responsibility for the pupils from 8:50 am to 3:20 pm

Due to health and safety reasons parents are not allowed to bring vehicles on the school grounds without prior authorisation

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8:10-8:50 in the canteen building. Last admissions 8:25.

Wraparound Care, Flying Start and After School Club

We are hoping that these provisions will be available soon :-)

Our Vision

"Learn, Care and Share Together "

Learning Together, Working Together and Growing Together to create curious, caring and confident learners.

Cwmaber is a collaboration of two small nurturing schools with big ambitions to create curious, caring and confident learners for the future of our community



Admissions

Pupils may be admitted to our part-time Nursery (mornings) in the September following their third birthday. "Rising Threes" pupils may be admitted to our part time Nursery in the term following their third birthday if we have the capacity. Pupils may be admitted to full time school (Reception Class) in the September of the academic year in which they are five. The Local Education Authority would like to inform parents that a Nursery placement at a school does not guarantee a full time Reception placement at the same school.

Admission is now carried out online at <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

The Local Education Authority is responsible for admissions within the county. The school adheres to the County's Admissions policy and where numbers exceed the standard number the school's local catchment defined by the Local Education Authority will be adhered to. Parents of statutory school age pupils have the right to appeal. The full policy is available on request or alternatively, please see "Starting School" booklet available at <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/caerphillydocs/schools/starting-school-booklet.aspx>

Parents seeking admission for pupils with additional needs should contact the Local Authority admissions department. Access arrangements are discussed at the point of application and managed through necessary procedures including risk assessment; the special educational needs register and appropriate agencies.

At the end of Year 2, children move to cwmaber Juniors. Parents need to apply for a place as this doesn't happen automatically.

Pupils

Pupil Wellbeing

Pupil wellbeing is paramount at Cwmaber Infants School and our questionnaires indicate that pupils have a very positive attitude to school. Pupil Voice is valued and integrated into the curriculum.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality is vital and given a high priority at Cwmaber Infants. Research shows that the more regularly a child attends school, the more they are likely to learn and achieve. The attendance register is taken, electronically, at the beginning of each morning and afternoon session and follows the attendance codes from Caerphilly Council.

Absences

If your child is unable to attend school please contact the school before 9:15am. We request that parents do not book holidays during term time, but if it is unavoidable, please ask in advance for a holiday form.



Medical

The school has a number of staff qualified in First Aid and also has a medical room, so that first aid for minor injuries can be dealt with in school. If a pupil becomes ill, parents will be contacted with a view to the child returning home as soon as possible. Please make sure the school has up to date emergency contact details. Occasionally, medical and dental screenings are arranged by the School Health Service. Parents will be informed of this and treatment would not be administered without parental knowledge or consent.

School Meals

Full, balanced meals are available every day at no cost. The menu is available on the school website. Facilities are also available for pupils wishing to bring a packed lunch. All pupils remain on site at lunchtime. Pupils on low incomes can apply for free school meal status, which entitles them to a uniform grant. Application forms are available online at <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>



School Security

Pupils and staff are secure on our school site. This is ensured by security fencing and the necessity for all visitors to sign in and out at the main school office. The grounds and buildings are monitored with CCTV. The school has a robust safeguarding policy in regards to visitors on site

Child Protection and Safeguarding

The policy is available on our website

Policy for charging and remissions

The policy is available on the school website.

Behaviour and Anti-Bullying

The policy is available on our website

Parental access to documents

In accordance with the Education Reform Act of 1988, copies of the local education authority's Curriculum Policy Statement, Estyn reports on the school, a full copy of the arrangements made by the local education authority for the consideration of complaints about the school, circulars and administrative memoranda relating to powers and duties under Chapter 1 of E.R.A. (The Curriculum) which are sent to schools by the DfES, the local education authority's agreed syllabus for Religious Education are available for inspection at the school.

Complaints Procedure

Stage A : If you have a concern, you can often resolve it quickly by talking to a teacher or a member of the office staff.

Stage B : In most cases, we would expect that your concern is resolved informally. If you feel that your initial concern has not been dealt with appropriately you should put your complaint in writing to the headteacher.

Stage C : It is rare that a complaint will progress any further. However, if you still feel that your complaint has not been dealt with fairly, you should write, to the chair of governors (at the school address)



Curriculum for Wales

In line with the implementation of The Curriculum for Wales in 2022 for all pupils from 3 to 16, the staff at Cwmaber Infants ensure that The Four Purposes are at the heart of everything that we do. We plan learning experiences that help our children to become:

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.

Our curriculum is made up of six
interconnecting areas of learning and
experiences (AoLE):



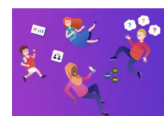
Health and Well-being- The fundamental components of this Area are physical health and development, mental health, and emotional and social well-being.

Mathematics and Numeracy- 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.

Languages, Literacy and 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.



Expressive Arts



Health and Well-being



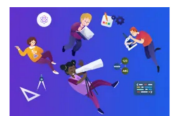
Humanities



Languages, Literacy and Communication



Mathematics and Numeracy



Science and Technology

Expressive Arts- This covers the areas of art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music

Humanities- This encompasses geography; history; religion, values and ethics; business studies and social studies.

Science and Technology- 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.

Curriculum

Curriculum Statement

This can be found on the school website

Structure

Teaching time is at least 21 hours per week, in line with government recommendations.

Differentiation

Lessons and activities are carefully planned to ensure all learners are supported yet challenged through differentiated work.

Equal Opportunities

Equal opportunity will be given, regardless of sex, race, disability, religion or belief. In accordance with the statutory requirements the school aims to make the curriculum accessible to all pupils as far as is reasonably practicable.

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)

Religious Education is provided for all pupils and is inclusive and broadminded. There is now no parental right to withdraw from RVE as the new Curriculum for Wales is implemented in their year group.

Collective Worship

All pupils are expected to take part in collective worship. The Collective worship sits outside the curriculum and has its own legal standing and requirements. Parents may still request that their children are withdrawn from collective worship if they wish



Cynefin

All pupils will be helped to understand and celebrate the distinctive quality of living and learning in Wales - what we call Cynefin. This is integrated into our themes and topics and linked to the local area wherever possible.

Learning Logs

Learning logs are sent home weekly with homework tasks related to the work done in school that week. These logs have been enthusiastically welcomed by pupils and parents. The tasks are as open ended as possible to give scope to children's and adults' imaginations.

Awards and Accreditations

We have gained a number of accreditations - We are a National Nurture School and have been awarded the national Quality Award for Healthy Schools. We have recently achieved the Gold award for Rights Respecting Schools as well as the Platinum award for Eco Schools. We achieved the Silver award for Campus Cymraeg and are currently working towards the Gold award.

Use of Welsh Language

All pupils are taught through the medium of English, but Welsh is an integral part of our teaching. Welsh is taught discretely as well as incidentally during the day. We have weekly Welsh assemblies where Criw Cymraeg help to lead the assembly.



Curriculum

Relationships & Sexuality Education

We teach RSE through Jigsaw at an age-appropriate level. For more information, please see our policy is on the school website.

Physical Development

The school promotes a healthy lifestyle, and all pupils are encouraged to take part in physical activities, such as dance, gymnastics and games. Parents are invited to our annual sports day.

Extra-Curricular activities

The school has a wide and varied programme of activities that take place outside the formal curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to take part, and places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Clubs over recent years have included Cookery, Dance, Minecraft and Games.

Cross Curricular

Links between topics and Areas of Learning are planned carefully to ensure a deeper understanding of concepts and application of skills through a range of contexts.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Each child is treated as an individual and the progress they make is celebrated. The school has a policy in place for all pupils who are placed on the Additional Learning Needs register. The school will determine appropriate courses of action for each pupil in consultation with parents/carers and with appropriate professionals.

Looked After Children

The progress of Looked After Children will be monitored by both the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team.

Performance Opportunities

Pupils all take part in assemblies, concerts and plays, progressing from whole class singing, to small group and individual "moments to shine".

Diversity

We celebrate diversity through assemblies, topics and themes, displays, stories, music and dance.



