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Cyngor sir ddinbych denbighshire County Council

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

YSGOL Y PARC



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ysgolyparc

Ysgol y Parc

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YSGOL Y PARC

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR SCHOOL

Headteacher / Pennaeth: Ms Liz Croft BEd NPQH

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: Miss Lisa Cannon BEd

Chair of the Governing Body /
Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr: Mrs Eva Edwards

Ysgol Y Parc is an Infant only Primary School maintained by Denbighshire County Council. Our pupils are aged 3 to 7. On site there is also a pre-school provision called Ffrindiau Bach CIC who provide wrap around care from 2 years old. They also run our after school club (up to 11 years old).

In the mornings we run a Breakfast Club from 7:30am (at a small cost, free from 8:10am) until 8:40am.

Our school is central to the wonderful community of Denbigh and surrounding areas. Here at Ysgol y Parc we nurture strong foundations for learning encompassing the Curriculum for Wales, ensuring that all children have the best possible start in life and care in Wales.

We welcome applications for all children as per our Admissions Policy. Full copies of our Admissions Policy are available on our school website and from our school office.



For more up to date information you can visit the school website.
Scan the QR code with the camera on your smartphone or tablet to open the link direclty.

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WELCOME TO YSGOL Y PARC

MS CROFT-HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome to Ysgol y Parc Infant school right in the heart of Denbigh Town. Our nurturing and caring environment provides the perfect start to your child's education journey.

Choosing the right school is one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make and I believe that our setting offers all the right factors to allow your child to feel happy, safe and loved whilst navigating the Curriculum for Wales . I hope that the information provided within this pack allows you to gain more insight into the curriculum and experiences we have to offer each and every child at Ysgol y Parc.

Something that always shines through here is the warm welcome visitors receive coupled with the care and support given to our pupils. Our school ethos is simply:

We delight in you

In our school Relationships are the key to learning and building these positive relationships means that children come to school happy and ready to learn. Children's well being is paramount and is at the heart of everything we do.

Ysgol y Parc in an English Medium Infant school with Welsh taught as a second language to pupils in Nursery to Year 2.

Our Curriculum at Ysgol y Parc uses Foundation Learning approaches drawing on Enabling learning, Enabling Environments and Enabling Adults. There is a strong focus on outdoor learning and our beautiful grounds provide the perfect environment to support this. Whether your child is taking part in forest school sessions, helping at the farm or enjoying playing in the mud this all forms a very important part of the learning journey.

You are very welcome to visit our school to see first-hand our wonderful school, staff and pupils. Please contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time to visit us. Thank you for your interest in our school.

Ms L Croft
Headteacher/Pennaeth



WELCOME TO YSGOL Y PARC

MRS EDWARDS CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Families,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Ysgol y Parc Infant School on behalf of the Governing Body.

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make, and we are proud that Ysgol y Parc offers a warm, inclusive, and nurturing environment where every child is encouraged to thrive from their very first day.

As governors, our role is to work in close partnership with the Headteacher and staff to ensure that the school delivers high-quality education, supports pupil wellbeing, and remains at the heart of our local community. We are committed to maintaining high standards and helping every child develop a love of learning that will stay with them for life.

Ysgol y Parc is a place where children feel safe, valued, and inspired. Our dedicated staff provide a broad, engaging curriculum that supports children's development academically, socially, and emotionally during these important early years.

We are proud of what the school has achieved and excited about its future. Whether you are a prospective parent or considering joining our school community in another capacity, we warmly invite you to visit us and experience the Ysgol y Parc ethos for yourself.

With best wishes,

Eva Edwards
Chair of Governors

YSGOL Y PARC

SCHOOL STAFF

Headteacher-Ms Liz Croft BSc, NPQH, Diploma TIS (SLT)

Teachers

Miss Lisa Cannon B.Ed. Diploma TIS Deputy Head and Year 1 and 2 Teacher (SLT)
Mrs Cathy Price B.Ed Diploma TIS Reception Teacher and ALNCo (SLT)
Mrs Fiona McCloskey-Jones BA Diploma TIS Reception Teacher
Miss Ffion Hughes B.Ed Year 1 and 2 Teacher-Forest School Leader
Mrs Abbie Perry B.Ed Year 1 and 2 Teacher
Mrs Laura Humphreys B.Ed Nursery Teacher

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Karen Morgan - Time to Talk Interventions
Ms Lucy Schloegl
Mrs Kimberley Bulman - HLTA and Seasons for Growth Interventions
Mrs Kath Snaith
Mrs Bethan BcBride
Miss Chloe Roberts - Forest School Lead and Drawing & Talking Therapy
Miss Kristie Jones
Mrs Ayesha MaCoombe
Mrs Gill Wilkinson
Miss Caroline Horton

Secretary

Mrs Paula Hassall

Kitchen/ Breakfast Club Staff

Miss Kayleigh Davies, Cook
Mrs Lian Jones, Kitchen Assistant / Breakfast Club Supervisor
Miss Lynn Johnson, Breakfast Club

Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs Sharon Griffiths
Miss Lynn Johnson
Mrs Jill Jones
Mrs Pauline Roberts

Caretaker

Mr Brian Jones

Cleaners

Mrs Sandra Jones

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YSGOL Y PARC

School Governors

The role of the governing body is support the headteacher in the strategic running of the school.

Governors hold a shared vision for the school which is clear, understood and well communicated to staff, parents and pupils.

The governing body sets the strategic direction of the school and has a central role in the leadership of the school. Here at Ysgol y Parc we have a very active governing body that support the school community on a daily basis.

Mrs Eva Edwards-Chair of Governors

Mr Neil Roberts-Vice Chair

Mrs Joyce Jones-LEA Governors

Mrs Leah Roberts-LEA Governor

Mr Gwyn Evans-Community Governor

Mrs Abbie Perry-Community Governor

Mrs Kim Homer-Parent Governor

Mrs Sian Rees-Morris-Parent Governor

Ms Liz Croft-Headteacher

Miss Lisa Cannon-Staff Governor

Mrs Kim Bulman-Staff Governor

Mrs Cathy Price-Co-opted

Mrs Ruth Griffiths- Local Council Governor



BASIC INFORMATION

At Ysgol Y Parc we are very lucky to have our school building in an open setting with a wonderful outdoor space. The school was built in 1973 and as the school grew an extension was built in 1996. We are a community school with facilities for educating children between the ages of 3 to 7.
The school has a hard play area with a large grassed area for play times, and an adventure playground on the main playing field.
All classrooms have their own designated outdoor areas for outdoor learning.
There is a school farm which currently houses a sheep, chickens and ducks. The school has an excellent Forest School site which has its own outdoor classroom, called 'Caban Coed'.

The classes are divided as follows

- Nursery age children 0.5 sessions a week Age 3 - 4
- Reception age children: Full time Age 4 - 5
- Year 1 children: Full time Age 5 - 6
- Year 2 children: Full time Age 6 - 7

THE SCHOOL DAY

School opens at 8.40 in the morning for children to enter their classrooms. Children will be greeted at the door by a member of staff and taken into the classroom.
The School day finishes at 3pm.

The school day is as follows

- Nursery 8.45 - 11:15
- Reception, Year 1 and 2 8:40 - 3.00

Year 1 and 2 children have a play time in the morning. All pupils have an hour for dinner time. There will be a member of the Teaching Staff on duty during all play times. There are four lunchtime supervisors on duty during the dinner break.



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CLASS ORGANISATION

It is the decision of the headteacher, with the support of the class teachers, as to how classes are organised. When organising classes, the there are several factors to take into account. The number of pupils in each class must be evenly distributed and staffing levels must be considered. Pupils are given the opportunity to state their friendship groups and twins, cousins and other relatives are encouraged where possible to be placed into separate classes to encourage their individuality and develop their personal and social skills further.

LEARNING PHASES

Learning phases mean that Ysgol y Parc and Ysgol Frongoch overlap. We welcome this, as it creates a sense of continuity and familiarity that will help with transition and learning. Working collaboratively with Ysgol Frongoch has led to professional dialogue about skills coverage and how best to support out pupils.

- It was decided that the first Learning Phase would be Nursery and Reception, and this will be known as the Little Acorns. This is where the seeds of learning and growth are sown and strong foundations are laid.
- Years 1, 2 and 3, which is the physical and educational transition phase will be known as the Mighty Oaks. This phase is where the strength and confidence grow resilience and curiosity, to branch out and learn more.
- Years 4, 5 and 6 will be known as the Red Robins. This fits well with the ethos of becoming prepared to fly the nest, from the 'Mighty Oak'.

We currently have...
Nursery and Reception Unit called Little Acorns which comprises of three classes
Three Year 1 and 2 mixed classes called The Mighty Oaks



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EXTRA CURRICULAR

We offer a wide range of After School Clubs that run at various times throughout the year, such as...

- Art
- Singing
- Yoga
- Cookery
- Forest School
- Running
- Urdd
- Book Club
- Eco Club
- Walk and Talk

These clubs take place after school until 4pm. They are led by Teachers. Letters are sent out at the beginning of the term detailing which clubs will be available and at which times of the year. The school Senedd listen to pupil voice and make suggestions to staff with regards to the type of clubs that are of interest.

Clubs usually begin after the first half term break in Autumn term when all children have settled back into school life here at Ysgol y Parc.





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LITTLE ACORNS

Nursery and Reception







The Early Years Unit is led by Mrs McCloskey-Jones and Mrs Price who have a vast knowledge and experience in early education. Mrs Humphreys is the newest Teacher to add to our wonderful team who teaches the Nursery children. Our Teaching Assistants for Reception are Miss Chloe and Mrs MaCbride, and Nursery Teaching Assistants are Mrs Bulman and Mrs Macoombe.

"Together with our team of Teaching Assistants we provide an Early Years Unit which centres on learning through play where imagination thrives. Our Early Years Unit is an engaging environment where children are confident to explore and grow.

We believe that the early years are a magical time and we are privileged to play a part in helping little people take their first steps on a lifelong journey of learning."

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THE OAKS

Year One and Two







The Oaks is led by ...

Oaks 1, 2 and 3 are mixed Year 1 and 2 classes run by Ms Cannon (our Deputy Headteacher), Miss Hughes and Mrs Perry. Our teaching assistants are Miss Caroline and Mrs Morgan. Our HLTA to cover PPA is Mrs Bulman. We are fortunate enough have volunteers that help us through the week; Mrs Eva Edwards (our chair of governors) and Mrs Joyce Jones.

We aim to provide a varied, engaging and exciting curriculum which challenges and motivates our learners. We are committed to providing a range of learning experiences both in the classroom and outdoors, with opportunities to develop their skills in our outdoor provision and in Forest School.

Our teaching is delivered through a topic based approach which is heavily influenced by the ideas of the learners and takes their interests into consideration. Our Senedd in year 2 help us to link pupil voice with teacher planning and we work as a team to provide the best learning experiences possible for the children in our care.

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OUR SCHOOL - WHAT MAKES IT SO SPECIAL?

The teachers, teaching assistants and all other staff at Ysgol y Parc are passionate about the privilege to work with children. They understand that they are part of a team who are able to inspire and encourage the next generation and they all take their responsibility very seriously.

The Governing Body works closely with the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team to ensure the appropriate level of guidance and accountability to help the school provide successful teaching and learning for all pupils. The Governors pride themselves on being supportive, and there is a diverse range of experience on the Governing Body which enhances how they are able to support school improvement. The Governing Body is also visible in school as well as being on hand to assist where appropriate.

There are strong links to the local community, and the school utilises many community places and organisations to enhance the children's learning experiences. We work with Denbigh Library, Denbigh Castle, Theatr Twm o'r Nant, Dolwen Care Home, Llys Meddyg Care Home, Royal British Legion, Dementia Friends Denbigh, Denbigh Police Service, Denbigh Fire Service, local shops and supermarkets, local farms and many more.

The school is actively involved in the Denbigh schools' cluster - working together to improve outcomes for learners.

Outdoor learning is very important at Ysgol y Parc and we have developed our outdoor spaces to include our own Forest School site and our own Farm. At Ysgol y Parc we champion a love of nature and Biophilia. We know that time in natural spaces supports physical, emotional, and cognitive development, helping children grow into balanced, resilient, and environmentally conscious individuals.

We have staff who have completed the Trauma Informed Schools Diploma and these strategies form the basis for our Positive Behaviour and Relationships Policy.





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THE SCHOOL'S VISION, VALUES AND ETHOS

At Ysgol y Parc the School's Vision, Values and Ethos form the basis of the Curriculum. The inspiration for our mission statement came from our beautiful school oak tree and the proverb

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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Our Vision for the chidlren at Ysgol y Parc is that they are...

- ENGAGED to develop a love of learning
- MOTIVATED to think and solve problems
- CELEBRATED for their diversity as individuals
- NURTURED to grow empathy and understanding
- ENCOURAGED to explore their creativity
- SUPPORTED to reach their full potential
- TREATED WITH KINDNESS AND RESPECT
- TAUGHT to embrace mistakes to help them grow
- LOVED

Our Values align with Our School Promises

- We promise to be kind and helpful.
- We promise to be honest.
- We promise to be gentle.
- We promise to listen.
- We promise to try our best.
- We promise to look after our school.





OUR CURRICULUM

OUR SCHOOL CURRICULUM AT YSGOL Y PARC

A school curriculum is everything a learner experiences in school. When designing our curriculum the needs of our learners are at the heart. We work as a team to carefully consider why, what and how we teach. We aim to inspire all our children to have a love of learning. Enabling the development of skills which will provide them with the foundations to build their future in an ever-changing world.



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OUR CURRICULUM

The Curriculum for Wales is taught through the six Areas of Learning and Experience (the WHAT). They are as follows:

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

The four purposes are the starting point and aspiration for our schools' curriculum. Ultimately, the aim is to support our little learners 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





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OUR CURRICULUM

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a mandatory element of the new curriculum and will be included through the cross-cutting elements of the curriculum, focusing on the three strands:

- Relationships and identity
- Sexual health and well-being
- Empowerment, safety and respect

The mandatory cross-curricular skills of Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence are essential to all learning and the ability to unlock knowledge. They enable our learners to:

- develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills
- be able to use numbers and solve problems in real-life situations
- be confident users of a range of technologies to help them function and communicate effectively and make sense of the world.



Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) is a mandatory subject for all learners aged 3 to 16, part of the Curriculum for Wales. RVE is not just about religious studies, but also includes ethics, values, and philosophical perspectives. It aims to help our children to develop critical thinking skills, understand different viewpoints, and make informed decisions.



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OUR CURRICULUM
FOUNDATION LEARNING

Foundation Learning forms part of the 3 to 16 Curriculum for Wales and is designed to reflect the specific learning and development needs of children up to the age of 8 or learners who have additional developmental needs. Foundation learning focuses on the pedagogical teaching and learning approaches which scaffold the learning and development for all children in the early years.

At Ysgol Y Parc we ensure that we reflect on practice and provision when delivering our curriculum with a focus on...

- authentic and purposeful learning
- child development
- observation
- outdoor learning
- play and play-based learning









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RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION

The Governing Body believes that RSE should be taught with care and that the teaching should match the maturity of the pupils involved. Staff and Governors welcome discussions with parents should they have concerns regarding this area of the Curriculum.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RE is taught through the RVE (Religion, Values and Ethics) Lense and through the HUMANITIES AOLE. Understanding and empathy for others' beliefs are promoted through assemblies and through the Dragons - Ethical Elin and Healthy Hari.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

According to the Education Reform act we are required to ensure that pupils take part in an act of collective worship every day which may be whole school, or in other groups (except in religious groups). The majority of acts of collective worship in any school term shall be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' and which 'reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination'. Collective worship is expected to foster a sense of community and provide the opportunity to celebrate the value of the school community. It enriches the lives of all present, enables the sharing of common emotions and contributes towards spiritual and moral development. Visitors from church and chapel, and possibly other religious communities, are invited to lead acts of collective worship. In accordance with the legal requirements, parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of collective worship. Those who may wish to do so are asked to discuss their concerns with the Headteacher.

OUR CURRICULUM

<u>The Teaching at Ysgol Y Parc follows the Twelve Pedagogical Principles:</u>

The 12 Pedagogical Principles (The HOW)

1. Focus on the FOUR PURPOSES of the Curriculum
2. High Expectations - GROWTH MINDSET
3. BLENDED TEACHING AND LEARNING - including direct teaching
4. Promote PROBLEM SOLVING, CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING
5. Build on PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE and ENGAGE LEARNERS
6. Create authentic contexts for learning - MAKE IT REAL AND MEANINGFUL
7. ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING - Effective feedback
8. MAKE CONNECTIONS - Across Areas of Learning and Experience
9. CROSS-CURRICULUM RESPONSIBILITIES - Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence, and provide opportunities to practise them
10. LEARNING TO LEARN (VISIBLE LEARNING) - encourages children and young people to take increasing responsibility for their own learning
11. POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS and WELLBEING (Pedagogy that supports social and emotional aspects of learning is important across every aspect of the curriculum)
12. Encourage COLLABORATION





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OUR CURRICULUM

SPORT

Physical Education is taught regularly to all pupils from Nursery to Year 2, under the HEALTH AND WELLBEING AOLE. All children take part in a range of sports and other physical activities, such as movement, gymnastics and athletics. We have excellent space and facilities. Being active and physically healthy is promoted through our HEALTH AND WELLBEING and through our Dragon, Healthy Hari.

LANGUAGE

Our language of communication is English. Welsh is taught as a second language to all classes through the Language, Literacy and Communication AOLE of the Curriculum for Wales and the Welsh Language Policy for schools in Denbighshire. We have a Welsh ethos and use incidental Welsh throughout everything we do and teach. All staff promote talking to and responding to learners through the use of Welsh. Welsh is used as a second language throughout school in daily activities and routine. As part of our work on the Curriculum for Wales all children are encouraged to explore and learn about the Welsh culture through many activities throughout the school year. We are part of the Cymraeg Campus initiative, we currently hold the Bonze Award.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

At Ysgol Y Parc, outdoor learning is an integral part of our curriculum and teaching approach. We believe that meaningful experiences in the natural environment play a vital role in supporting children's physical, cognitive, emotional and social development.

Through regular outdoor learning opportunities, children develop confidence, curiosity, resilience and independence while strengthening important communication, problem-solving and teamwork skills. Time spent outdoors also promotes wellbeing, encourages creativity and helps children build a lifelong appreciation and respect for the natural world.

Outdoor learning supports academic progress by providing engaging, hands-on experiences that bring learning to life and deepen children's understanding across the curriculum.

To ensure high-quality outdoor provision, each unit has two Forest School-trained practitioners who deliver Forest School sessions alongside class teachers. In addition, every classroom benefits from its own dedicated outdoor learning area, providing continuous access throughout the school day. These outdoor environments are carefully planned and adapted to meet the developmental stage, interests and needs of our learners, creating rich opportunities for exploration, discovery and learning every day.





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OUR CURRICULUM

PUPIL VOICE

We encourage pupils to play an active part in the life of the school and offer various opportunities for their voices to be heard.

We have combined our previous comittees which were historically School Council, Eco Committee, E-Cadets and Criw Cymraeg to create Y SENEDD.

Y Senedd Children meet regularly to give children a voice within our school. They promote responsibility, respect and challenge along with the principles of democracy. The group meets regularly and their input is fed back into school improvement plans and to the Governing Body. They play an active part in the life of our school, and in the local community.



COMMUNITY AND EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Parental and community involvement is actively encouraged.

- Liaison exists with other local primary schools to extend and enhance the curriculum with benefit to all.
- Transition activities with the receiver Junior school
- Activities arranged at Denbigh High School.
- Invitations are extended to the community when celebratory events are held
- Community trips; visiting places within our local area to enhance learning.
- Christmas Carol singing for the residents of our local Care Homes.
- Enrichment activities arranged through Arts Council and Denbighshire's Enrichfest, etc.
- We take part in intergenerational work with Dolwen and Cysgodfa.

PERMISSIONS

All pupils will be given a form of consent to be filled in by parents when they start at Ysgol Y Parc. By completing this form the parent is agreeing to their child participating in school activities off site in the local area and in County. If the activity is out of the County, parents will be asked to complete another form before the activity is to take place - details of arrangements are set out on the form. The school uses the Evolve system which is supported by Denbighshire County Council to record their trips.

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WELLBEING AND DISCIPLINE

The school takes a Trauma Informed Schools approach to behaviour and well being. Our School Promises are our school Values and are kept simple in child appropriate language to help our children remember and understand them. As a Trauma Informed School we ensure that each child's needs are met by establishing good connections with our children by...

- Listening to them
- Empathising
- Attunement
- Making sense of their feelings
- Validating their feelings

Mrs Croft (Headteacher), Ms Cannon (Deputy Headteacher) and Mrs Price (ALNCo) all hold the TIS Diploma. Mrs McCloskey is currently working towards her diploma. All staff have undertaken TIS training and our ongoing vision for the school is for all Teaching Staff to have gained the diploma.
Ms Croft also holds an accreditation as a Mental Health first aider for children and staff.

We have a Behaviour Policy, which is available for parents/carers, on request. This policy includes corrective procedures and more in-depth information.
Parents are always informed if we are experiencing difficulties with a child's behaviour and we value parent input and feedback. We believe that working together is best for the children. As a school following a Trauma Informed Approach, we are 'firm on the behaviour but gentle on the child'. Children are reminded of and taught about Our School Promises, and these are shared with parents;

- I promise to be kind and helpful.
- I promise to be honest.
- I promise to be gentle.
- I promise to listen.
- I promise to try our best.
- I promise to look after our school.

<u>Rewards</u>

Ysgol Y Parc are a school who believe that rewards should be non tangible and come from feeling of achievement and pride. Children are not motivated by a tangible award, e.g. stickers or points. Instead, our learners are motivated by a celebration of their achievements and progression, through sharing and acknowledging what they have achieved. In order for children to receive praise they will have used their 'learning powers' as part of the learning process. A Celebration WOW Assembly is held every Friday with the Headteacher where we celebrate learning, resilience and perseverance across all six AOLE's. This is a whole school assembly.

PARENTS

PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS/CARERS -

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CHILDREN

Having positive relationships with our families matters to us, and here is how we communicate and engage with families.

- Parents/carers are invited to a Transition Meeting every year to prepare them and their children for their next steps.
- We arrange for parents/carers to visit the school for an introduction into the way that reading and writing is taught and how they can help.
- We encourage parents/carers to help in school during special events
- Home-School Agreements: this agreement establishes a foundation for learning within the caring and purposeful ethos at school. You receive a copy on enrolling your child at Ysgol y Parc.
- Newsletters: We send out an electronic copy of the Newsletter every week with details of everything going on at school. This is sent on Seesaw and the Website.
- Our website is available for up-to-date information.
- Seesaw is an app to communicate with parents/carers and to involve them in their child's education.
- Friends of Ysgol y Parc Every year we encourage parents/carers to join our fundraising team.
- We provide two parents meetings with the class teachers- once in the first Autumn term and again in the first Summer term.
- Parents/carers are given a detailed and individualised report about their child's progress.





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ATTENDANCE

Parents have a statutory responsibility for ensuring that their compulsory school-age children receive an appropriate education appropriate to their age. This is through regular attendance at school. We recognise that for some children good attendance at school presents challenges which parents may need support with. This is why we work together with our families to ensure that parents receive the support they need to ensure their children achieve the best attendance they can.

The Governing Body has adopted Denbighshire's Policy for Attendance at School. Regular attendance is important. If your child is absent, please let us know the reason as soon as possible by a written letter, telephone call or email. Attendance that is below 90% Iis a cause for concern and will need to be investigated. Our Attendance Policy can be viewed on our website or copies can be obtained from the School Office by request. The main points, in brief are as follows:

- Family Holidays, taken during School Term Time, are not permitted and will be recorded as 'unauthorised'.
- A Fixed Term Penalty Notice may be awarded for ten unauthorised absences in any one Academic Year.
- Medical Appointments should be taken out of school hours where possible.
- Evidence of the appointment should be presented to the school in order for the absence to be authorised
- Pupils should maintain an average attendance of 95%+ to ensure that they make good progress in their learning

ADMISSIONS

Admissions to Nursery

An initial application for admission to the Nursery class of a school must be made to Denbighshire County Council. The Authority will admit a child to a maintained infant school at the beginning of the school year if the child has achieved its 3rd birthday on or before August 31st of that calendar year.

If the Authority is unable to allocate the child to the school for which the parent has expressed a preference, the parent will be offered a place for the child at an alternative school. The parent may then accept the alternative placement, or make representations to the Authority and, if still dissatisfied, may appeal. The appeal (which shall be sent to the Director of Lifelong Learning) must be in writing giving the reasons for the appeal. In the case of an appeal, the Authority will initiate the appeal procedure of the Education Act 1980. The parent will be given an opportunity to appear before an independent Appeal Committee. The decision of the Appeal committee will be final. There is no procedure of appeal to a Nursery Class.

Admissions to Reception

An application for admission to the Reception class must be made to Denbighshire County Council whilst your child is in Nursery. You will need to apply for Reception even if your child is in Nursery with us already.

Induction Day and Transition

Every year during the Summer Term we hold a Transition Day for all children to go up to their new classrooms and meet their new class teacher. On this day we also provide an 'open morning' for Nursery children and parents/carers to come and visit our Early Years unit.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

The school has been adapted to enable pupils with disabilities to be admitted. There are some external ramps and we have an accessible toilet. All admissions are the responsibility of the Local Education Authority. When a child with a physical disability or a learning disability is accepted to Ysgol y Parc, the staff work in close conjunction with all external agencies involved with the child to ensure a smooth transition. All pupils are treated equally at Ysgol y Parc.

We ensure that we:

- Promote equality of opportunity between disabled persons and other persons.
- Eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act (2005).
- Eliminate harassment of disabled persons that is related to their disabilities.
- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons.
- Encourage participation by disabled persons

SCHOOL MEALS

Morning Snack

We are a 'Healthy School' and we encourage the children to eat healthily. We provide a healthy snack every Morning Break Time. The children are able to choose from a varied range of fruit and vegetables. We respectfully ask for a £1 contribution each week (20p per day) to help us to pay for the produce. We provide a drink of milk or water during break times. The children are also encouraged to bring in their own water bottles that can be refilled throughout the school day at the school's water cooler (which is regularly cleaned, checked, tested and serviced).

Free School Meals

In Wales, all primary school children are now entitled to universal free school meals. We have a variety of lunch options including hot meals, sandwiches, fruits and a dessert. Children can also bring in their own healthy lunch box. We cater for all dietary requirements. If your child has any dietary requirements please let the office know before your child begins school.

Healthy Schools

We are a 'Healthy School' and we have received the National Quality Award which we are extremely proud of. We pride ourselves in the work that we do with the children around Health and Wellbeing.

SITE SAFETY AND SECURITY

The safety of the staff and pupils is extremely important. We have a Health and Safety Policy, along with other policies and risk assessments, to ensure that all health and safety procedures are followed. Several members of staff supervise the children during playtimes and we ensure that safety rules are observed.

Parents are not permitted to enter the classrooms when bringing their children to school each morning. Children should be taken to their entrance gate, where the staff will be ready to lead them to their classrooms. If parents would like to speak to the teacher, you can see them at the school gate in the morning or alternatively, teachers are available after school from 3pm. Parents can also email the school make contact with the class teacher. We lock the school gates between 7:30am and 3.15pm. Parents/Guardians/Relatives are not permitted to bring their vehicles onto the school premises. If you are collecting your child by car, then you must park your car at an alternative location and walk across to the school yard. It is not safe to park on the narrow 'slip road' leading down to the school gates either. This is the school's driveway and is owned by the school. The police monitor the situation regularly.

The school gates and doors are locked after 9.00am and all visitors are requested to ring the bell outside the gate outside the main office.

- Fire drills are held every half term. The fire alarms are tested on a regular programme of checks.
- Risk Assessments are carried out and are up to date.
- Invacuation Drills (school lockdown) are held every half term.

SAFEGUARDING

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

The Department for Education and Employment and the Welsh Office guidance make it clear that schools and colleges have an important role to play in the protection of children against abuse. The All-Wales Child Protection Procedures are followed by all staff within the school and the school has a Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy which follows the Policy set by Denbighshire LA. The school has named staff who are responsible for Child Protection and a named Governor. All staff are trained in Child Protection procedures and all staff, volunteers, students and governors are DBS checked regularly. Ysgol y Parc has a duty to refer any concerns about the wellbeing of pupils to Denbighshire Social Services for investigation.

Mrs Liz Croft is the Designated Safeguard Lead for the school.
Ms Cannon and Mrs Price are the Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads.
Mrs Eva Edwards is the schools Safeguarding Governor
Wayne Wheatly is the Safeguarding Lead for Denbighshire (01824 708169)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

The school has a Complaints Policy which is reviewed annually by the Governing Body. This outlines the procedures for making a complaint. The Policy can be found on the school's website. Paper copies are available from the school office.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL

Parents may request copies of school documents or policies from the School Office at any time.

POLICIES

The school's policies are available at any time, should any parent wish to see them. They can also be viewed on the school's website - www.ysgolyparc.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHS

As a way of monitoring progress and keep a record of activities we take lots of photographs of the children completing learning tasks, in areas of provision and on educational visits. They may appear the newsletter, website and social media.

You will be asked for consent regarding the use of your child's photographs. Please complete the consent form.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Uniform...

- Winter: Dark grey or black trousers/shorts/skirt/dress
- Summer: Dark grey or black shorts/skirt, or red gingham dress
- Grey, black, red or white socks
- Black shoes or suitable black trainers
- Red sweatshirt or cardigan with logo
- White polo or cotton shirt.

SPORTS KIT

- White polo shirt and black shorts or leggings
- Trainers or pumps

Waterproof coats must be sent to school every day.
Sun hats must be sent in on sunny days.
Warm hats, gloves and scarves are needed in the colder months as children spend equal amounts of time in the outdoors to indoors.
All children should have a pair of wellies in school.
Wetsuits are provided by the school with a small contribution towards the cost of purchasing new sets made via Parentpay.

Please label all items.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Statement of intent

We operate under the ALN Code in Wales. Under the code, pupils identified as having Additional Learning Needs are given extra support where required. The curriculum is differentiated to meet their needs but all pupils are given the opportunity to participate fully in all school activities. Parents are informed if their child has been identified as having additional learning needs and in some instances an IDP (Individual Development Plan) will be formed, in conjunction with parents and other agencies who may be involved. Parents are invited to review meetings to discuss in detail the progress being made by individual pupils. This meeting includes the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator and Class Teacher. A member of the Governing Body has responsibility for Additional Learning Needs.

We also identify our more able and talented pupils in all areas of the curriculum. Parents will be informed if their child has been identified as more able and talented and these pupils will be given opportunities to extend their learning.

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

The Disability Discrimination Act (2005) requires that all schools should plan to increase access to school for disabled pupils. At Ysgol y Parc we will endeavour to ensure that the school becomes readily accessible to all pupils, parents, teachers and visitors who have disabilities. We have completed an accessibility action plan to attempt to achieve our aims. The school works closely with Denbighshire County Council in order to ensure that all the requirements are carried out within given timescales.

Looked After Children

The school works with Denbighshire's Education Liaison Officer for Looked After Children, to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all our LAC Pupils. We also work with other Local Authorities where LAC Pupils may attend our school from outside the County. We provide regular reviews and progress reports for these pupils. Every LAC pupil has a PEP (Personal Education Plan) which monitors the progress of the pupil against current targets and National Expectations. We have a Governor with responsibility for Looked After Children.

To enable all learners to be included and part of our school family at Ysgol Y Parc we ensure we have...

- a sense of belonging
- policies on learning, behaviour and bullying
- 'open door' policy for children and parents
- a whole school TIS approach to promoting good mental health
- good relationships between learners and staff
- positive learning behaviour management
- positive peer influences and friendships
- safeguarding and child protection policies
- active multi-agency communication
- effective staff training

PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

School Nurse

The school nurses play a crucial role in supporting the health and wellbeing of our young children. Their role is a mix of health promotion, safeguarding, early intervention, and liaison with families and other professionals. They coordinate routine health checks in Reception such as hearing, vision, height, weight and refer on when needed. They support the school with monitoring and supporting children with ongoing medical conditions. School Nurses might also be a part of safeguarding processes and work closely with designated safeguarding leads in school which might include attending multi-agency meetings. If a child has medical needs the school nurse will create an individual healthcare plan with the school.

Family Link Officer

Our Family Link Officers helps support families to improve wellbeing, readiness for school, and overall family functioning. Our Family Link Officer attends the school at least one day per week to see children, liaise with teachers and meet parents. They can offer support and advice, early intervention, direct parents towards workshops/programmes, Language and Play Sessions and support for practical issues for the family.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

The PCSO works with the school to prevent problems, build good relationships, and support safety and wellbeing with our children. They build relationships with pupils & staff, provide preventitve education, support school behaviour, support our events at school, provide visits to enhance topics and provide a role model for our children.



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2026-27

Autumn term 1

- Starts: Tuesday 1 September 2026
- Ends: Friday 23 October 2026
- Autumn half term holiday: Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026

Autumn term 2

- Starts: Monday 2 November 2026
- Ends: Friday 18 December 2026
- Christmas holiday: Monday 21 December 2026 to Friday 1 January 2027

Spring term 1

- Starts: Monday 4 January 2027
- Ends: Friday 5 February 2027
- Spring half term: Monday 8 February 2027 to Friday 12 February 2027

Spring term 2

- Starts: Monday 15 February 2027
- Ends: Friday 19 March 2027
- Easter holiday: Monday 22 March 2027 to Friday 2 April 2027

Summer term 1

- Starts: Monday 5 April 2027
- Ends: Friday 28 May 2027
- Early May bank holiday: Monday 3 May 2027
- Summer half term: Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027

Summer term 2

- Starts: Monday 7 June 2027
- Ends: Tuesday 20 July 2027

Discover. Nurture. Inspire