

Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog

Prospectus



Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes



Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru



Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog Primary School
Llangadog
Carmarthenshire
SA19 9HP
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E-Mail: admin@llangadog.ysgolccc.cymru

Acting Headteacher: Miss Donna Parry

donna.parry@llangadog.ysgolccc.cymru

Chairperson of Governors: Mr D Morgan

MorganD426@hwbcymru.net

Headteacher's foreword

It is a pleasure to introduce our prospectus to you. Our aim is to provide relevant information to allow you to learn more about the life and work of Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog. If your child is to join us we welcome you as a parent and look forward to building positive, successful communication with you over the coming years.

Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog is a happy school where an increasing range of successful activities take place. I consider myself exceptionally fortunate to lead such a dedicated and committed team of staff that work hard to reach the highest of standards. It is our priority to ensure your child's success by working closely with you as parents and guardians, the local community and other schools in the cluster. We firmly believe that your child's education is a partnership between home and school. We value your support at all times, a strong home/school link is essential.

The children are the heart of every decision we make here at the school, as to ensure they are happy, confident and successful individuals. Our aim is to ensure an engaging curriculum for our pupils so that they develop a passion for learning and high aspirations and success for their future in the ever-changing world we live in.

At our school we aim to create a safe and happy environment for your child, providing the best possible learning environment and opportunities. We have realistic, yet challenging expectations, and seek to foster every child's academic, sporting, creative and artistic talents.

Most visitors to the school comment on the warm welcome they receive and the courtesy and maturity of our pupils. The relationship between staff, adults and pupils is good and is based on mutual respect. Pupils show care and consideration for each other.

We are very proud of the work that goes on in this school, and we are keen to share it with you. If after reading this prospectus you require any further information please contact the school. If you would like to visit the school, you are more than welcome to make an appointment. We look forward to meeting you and your child.

Donna Parry

Headteacher.

Our mission statement:



Preparing together today for tomorrow's future



Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog is a community primary school located in the village of Llangadog, in the Tywi valley, midway between Llandeilo and Llandovery. On the west side of the Brecon Beacons National Park you will find Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog.

Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog is a traditional village school, the main Victorian school building dates back to 1874. Most of our pupils come from the local catchment area which now includes the schools of the nearby villages of Gwynfe, Myddfai, Bethlehem, Llanddeusant, Llansadwrn and Llanwrda.

Concern about the suitability of the building for teaching in the 21st century led to exciting plans by the county to develop the school site. As part of Carmarthenshire County Council's Modernizing Education Program, plans were secured to refurbish the existing buildings with the Victorian building in place from the outside and the addition of a new two storey building at the rear of the site. The plan was to extend, remodel and refurbish Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog to provide 120 primary school places for the school and also 30 places for an external provider for nursery aged children. The scheme was structured in two stages to allow the school to remain active throughout the work.

With the start of the new year in January 2018, we saw a breakthrough and the start of over £4 million investment for the new building and remodeling and refurbishment of the original school building alongside landscaping. A 52 space car park was also built opposite the school site. The work as a whole is expected to be completed in the Autumn Term of 2020. This project is jointly funded by the Local Authority and the National Assembly. By the end of the development, the county promises a site with world-class facilities for our children and the wider community. March 2021 brought the completion of the redevelopment works, it's a time of great excitement as we look forward together to our successful future at Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog.

We extend a warm welcome to the village 'Ysgol Feithrin' who have joined us on the school site.



The school is designated as a Welsh-medium school in accordance with the Education Authority's language policy. This means that Welsh is the main medium of the life and work of the school and seeks to ensure that pupils are fully bilingual by the time they transfer to the secondary sector.

Our School

2021



Welcome to our School

Every child is unique. They are different according to appearance, behaviour and development. Children learn in different ways and at different times. No child should be compared with others.

We are delighted to have your children with us. We hope they will be happy at our school.



Aims and Objectives

To ensure that each pupil is received into a welcoming and secure atmosphere, where he or she will be given an equal opportunity to fulfil his or her true potential, academically, physically, aesthetically, socially, psychologically and spiritually.

Inclusive

We will be an inclusive school by:

- Providing equal opportunities for everyone regardless of religion, race, ability, culture, gender and age.
- Establishing a good working relationship with all pupils, parents, staff, Governors and the community.
- Be respectful and respected.
- Celebrate, embrace, and value diversity.
- Adopting an open door policy.
- Valuing each person as an individual.

Challenge to succeed

We will challenge to succeed by:

- Creating a learning and teaching environment that promotes and motivates all.
- Setting aspirational targets.
- Strive to achieve full potential.
- To focus on excellence.
- Enjoy challenge, celebrate and share success.

Inspire

Create an inspiring Child Centered environment that is/ encourages children to be:

- Happy
- Confident and independent
- Respected
- Stimulated
- Share opinions / experiences
- Positive
- Continually developing
- Safe and secure
- Friendly
- Meeting individual needs
- Working towards their potential
- Working together
- Trust- pupils and staff

Welsh culture

We will celebrate and promote our language and culture by:

- Igniting enthusiasm and encouraging respect
- Creating awareness of the country's history, its development, housing, food, clothing
- Promoting recognition of our country- traditional tunes, folk, choral singing, hymns and dance
- Respecting and promoting its traditions through the eisteddfod, concerts and celebrations
- Taking part in Urdd activities
- Enjoying and creating art. Inviting artists, actors and poets to be part of school life
- Participating in annual celebrations and competitions

Our Staff -

Headteacher

Miss Donna Parry

Teachers:

Mrs Caryl Gravell

Miss Shirrie Williams

Miss K Morgan

Mrs Anita Price

Permanent Classroom Assistants:

Mrs Elin Roberts

Mrs Debbie Davies

Mrs Llinos Rowlands

Administrative Assistant: Mrs Helen Thomas

Caretaker and Cleaner: Mrs Kelly Kimber, Mrs Janet Rees

Cook: Mrs Eiry Griffiths

Assistant Cook: Mrs Louise McQueen

Mid Day Supervisors:

Mrs Elaine Blofield

Mrs Mari Jones

Mrs Kelly Kimber

Mrs Janet Rees

School Governors

The full list of Governors is as follows:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Status</i>
Miss D Parry	Headteacher
Mr D Morgan	Vice Chairman/ Local Minor Authority
Mrs M Haines-Evans	LEA
Mrs H Booth	LEA
Cllr A Davies	LEA
Mrs N Page	Parent
Mr J Fretwell	Parent
Mrs L Morgan	Parent
Mr D Mills	Parent
Mr E Davies	Community
Mrs L Cummings	Community
Mrs S Evans	Community
Mrs K Kimber	Non-Teaching Staff Rep
Mrs A Price	Teacher Rep

Peripatetic Music Teachers:

Violin: Mrs Angharad Morgan
Woodwind: Mrs Gayle Davies
Drums: Mr Alex McGee

Brass: Mr Chris Potter
Guitar: Mrs Gayle Davies
Singing:



The School Day

Breakfast Club:

8:00am - 8:45am

Doors open:

8:45am

Foundation Phase:

Morning: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Afternoon: 1:10pm - 3:20 pm

Key Stage 2:

Morning: 9:00 am - 12:15 pm

Afternoon: 1:10 pm - 3:30 pm

Morning Break: 10:30 - 10:45am

Afternoon Break: 2:15 - 2:30pm

It is important to note that for legal reasons our responsibility for your child does not begin until a quarter of an hour before the morning session (unless he/she attends the Breakfast Club) and ends a quarter of an hour after the school day.

The school's main entrance opens at 8.45am. A member of staff is on duty to greet children and parents as they arrive.

Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated.

Starting School

Carmarthenshire County Council manages admissions to the school. Children will be accepted at the beginning of the term in which they celebrate their fourth birthday. Parents need to apply for a place at the school using the authority's website www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales following the relevant links. New pupils are encouraged to attend a full day taster session at the end of the term before they are due to join us, in order to ease their transition to school.

Furthermore, children attending Nursery provision make short, frequent visits during the last months prior to joining us. Parents are also invited to meet the staff. A pack of useful information is distributed to all new parents during a pre-school meeting with the Headteacher and class teacher. The school operates an "open door" policy and parents are welcome to contact the school at a mutually convenient time to discuss any problems or to make an appointment with the relevant member of staff.

All parents are expected to sign a school-home partnership agreement, which outlines the expectations for the educational development of the child. A copy of this agreement is available in the school office. Schools are now required to request documented evidence e.g. birth certificate or passport etc. to verify the dates offered on the admissions form.

Pupils will be accepted:

1. if they live in the school catchment area.
2. if they have older brothers or sisters who are on the school register.
3. if it is the recommended school for other reasons (by the agreement of LA).

Priority is given to pupils who live closest to the school, as measured on the public highway. No priority is given to the date of the application or of date of birth.

Headteachers, acting on rules dictated by the County Council, are required to make it clear to parents that when an out-of-catchment child is admitted to any school there may be implications when the child transfers to secondary education. It does not follow that admission to a primary school automatically allows admission to the catchment secondary; it is the home address of the pupil that is the determining factor. Parental feedback during the Admission Appeals process suggests that there are cases where this information is not made clear at the outset.

Estyn

Llangadog School was inspected in the spring term of 2023. The report is available from the school office, it is a positive report that judges standards in all three inspection areas as good.

School Structure and Organisation.

In March 2019 we occupied the new two storey school building which consists of four classrooms with integrated toilets, one additional teaching room, a temporary office, staff room, wet room and disabled toilet facilities. We have a temporary cabin which is a multi-purpose room, used for morning assembly, as a dining area at lunchtimes, for physical education and for many other activities.

There is an enclosed Foundation Phase outdoor area and purpose built MUGA playing area that is marked for various playtime games.

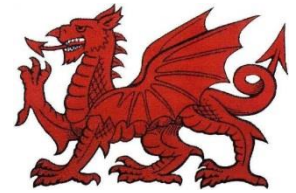
The new development includes a new car park, situated opposite the main entrance to the school. The project is jointly funded by the Local Authority and the National Assembly.

No private vehicles are allowed on to the school yard for safety reasons.

The village playing field is adjacent and available for use.

The pupils are organised by age into mixed ability classes. They are taught collaboratively as a whole class, in smaller groups and individually, depending on the activity introduced and on the needs of the children. Generally, classes consist of age groups spanning one or two years in each class.

Language Policy



Welsh is the main medium of the life and work of the school.

The school asserts its belief in the educational value of acquiring two languages.

The aim of our bilingual policy is to teach children to be totally bilingual in the use of Welsh and English by the time they leave primary school to enable them to participate fully in the bilingual community of which they are a part. The provision at the school should ensure that each child is able to communicate confidently in both languages and be aware of Welsh cultural heritage.

Being bilingual has a number of advantages:

- The school is situated in an area where Welsh is spoken and used widely. It is therefore important that the school's pupils develop the ability to use both languages confidently and fluently, so that they can choose to take part fully in all aspects of life in the area.
- Some of our children will move on to learn other languages in the future, and research shows that children who are bilingual learn other languages more quickly than those who speak only one language.
- Also, in the long term, the ability to use both languages is an important advantage in the workplace in Wales. Therefore, ensuring that children can develop the ability to speak both languages means wider work and development opportunities either locally or internationally.

The children start school at the beginning of the term following their fourth birthday, some from homes where Welsh is the first language, others where one parent speaks Welsh and others from English speaking homes.

A number of activities are organised to promote a Welsh identity and the Welsh language, encouraging pupils to appreciate the culture and traditions of their homeland and country. Our 'Clwb Clonc' initiative has proven to be very popular, it supports and encourages the pupils to use their Welsh in all aspects of school life.



Welsh is the main teaching language during the Foundation Phase (3+ to 7 years old). English is formally introduced in Year 3. Throughout Key Stage 2 (7+ to 11+) the children are educated through the medium of English and Welsh.

For children who start school and have no understanding of the Welsh language the following steps are taken:

Years Reception, 1 and 2 - The children are encouraged to settle and feel comfortable in school. General conversation and commands/instructions are provided in English, if necessary.

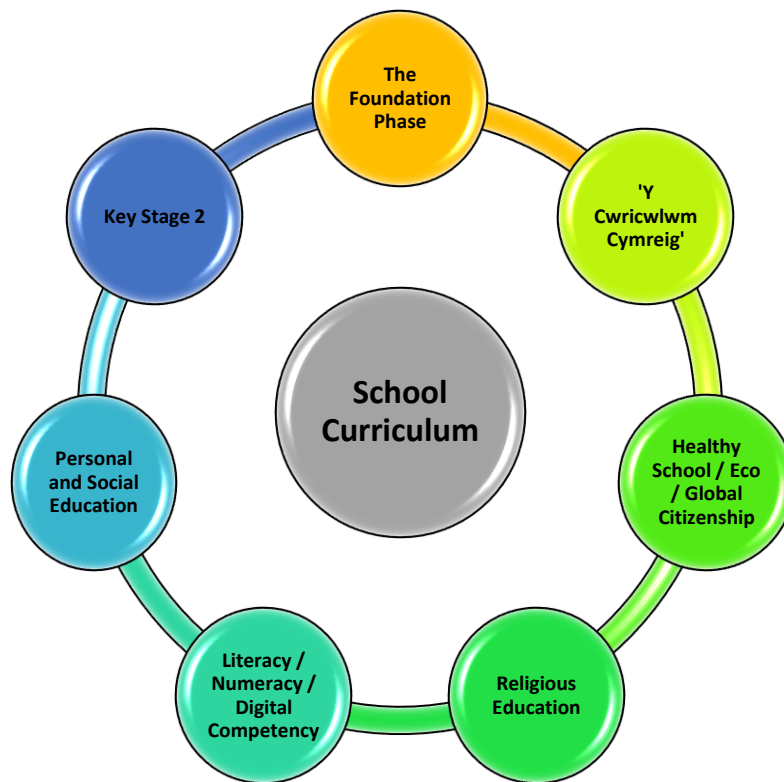
After the initial settling in period, the Welsh language is introduced gradually through practical activities, which include structured oral work.

Reading, writing and speaking in Welsh are then introduced. The class teacher is aware of the child's use of the English language during this period.

For children who start school without any knowledge of the Welsh Language in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 there is an initial settling in period. Initially the child is taught through the medium of English and Welsh is introduced as soon as possible, through practical and oral activities. Key Stage 2 pupils are supported by the Welsh Peripatetic teacher.

Objectives:

- To provide a caring environment in which pupils are introduced to experiences, opportunities, activities and challenges which will help them achieve their full potential in terms of academic, social, physical and emotional development.
- To provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which all our children can feel confident and enthusiastic.
- To provide a broad and flexible curriculum that is relevant to the needs of our children and develops skills to enable independent life-long learning.
- To provide relevant life experiences which include forming strong links with the wider community and good communication and co-operation with parents.
- To offer equal opportunities and experiences irrespective of ability, race, religious belief, gender or social background.
- To encourage children to be aware of and appreciate their rich Welsh heritage, develop bilingualism and to foster respect for other cultures and languages.
- To provide a caring atmosphere in which all children and adults respect each other.



The diagram above shows how the school implements the curriculum. Our curriculum ensures that all learners in our school are engaged as full members of the school community, accessing the wider curriculum and all school activities. It is a balanced, broad curriculum that seeks to provide the cultural, moral, social and emotional, physical and mental development of pupils and prepare them for opportunities and responsibilities in adult life. All these aspects are inter linked very much like a jigsaw puzzle where pupils are given a variety of opportunities and experiences to promote lifelong learning.



The Foundation Phase

In our school, the Foundation Phase is about enhancing the learning experiences which enable children to be creative, imaginative and to have fun whilst learning. Children have opportunities to explore the world around them and to understand how things work through engaging in relevant practical activities which are fun and enjoyable and relevant to their developmental ages.

Six areas of Learning

- Creative Development
- Language, literacy and communication skills
- Mathematical development
- Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity
- Physical development
- Knowledge and understanding of the world



The Foundation Phase has six Areas of Learning, where stimulating structured play activities are woven into the learning experiences. The curriculum is built around these six areas to support and encourage every child's personal, social, emotional, physical and intellectual well-being and development. Emphasis is placed on developing children's skills across the Areas of Learning, to provide a suitable and Integrated approach to young children's learning. Indoor and outdoor environments that are fun, exciting, stimulating and safe promote children's development and natural curiosity to explore and learn through first-hand, real-life experiences.

Key Stage 2 (7 to 11 years old - Years 3 to 6)

In key stage 2 pupils are given opportunities to build on the experiences gained during the Foundation Phase, and to promote their knowledge and understanding of Wales, their personal and social development and well-being;

The National Curriculum is taught through thematic studies or as individual subjects, ensuring that the skills and knowledge are developed in the most effective way.

The thematic studies and individual subjects are taught within a structured timetable, thus ensuring that adequate time / attention is given to develop all areas of the National Curriculum.

The aim of the school is to ensure that the education provided enhances the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of each pupil and that the nature of the curriculum is varied, broad and balanced. The organisation within the classroom therefore needs to be flexible. The children learn together as a class unit in the care of a designated teacher.

The teachers give consideration to each child's ability as work prepared is differentiated thus ensuring individual development.

In order to ensure an understanding of the work a variety of teaching methods are used such as individual teaching, pair or group work and class teaching.

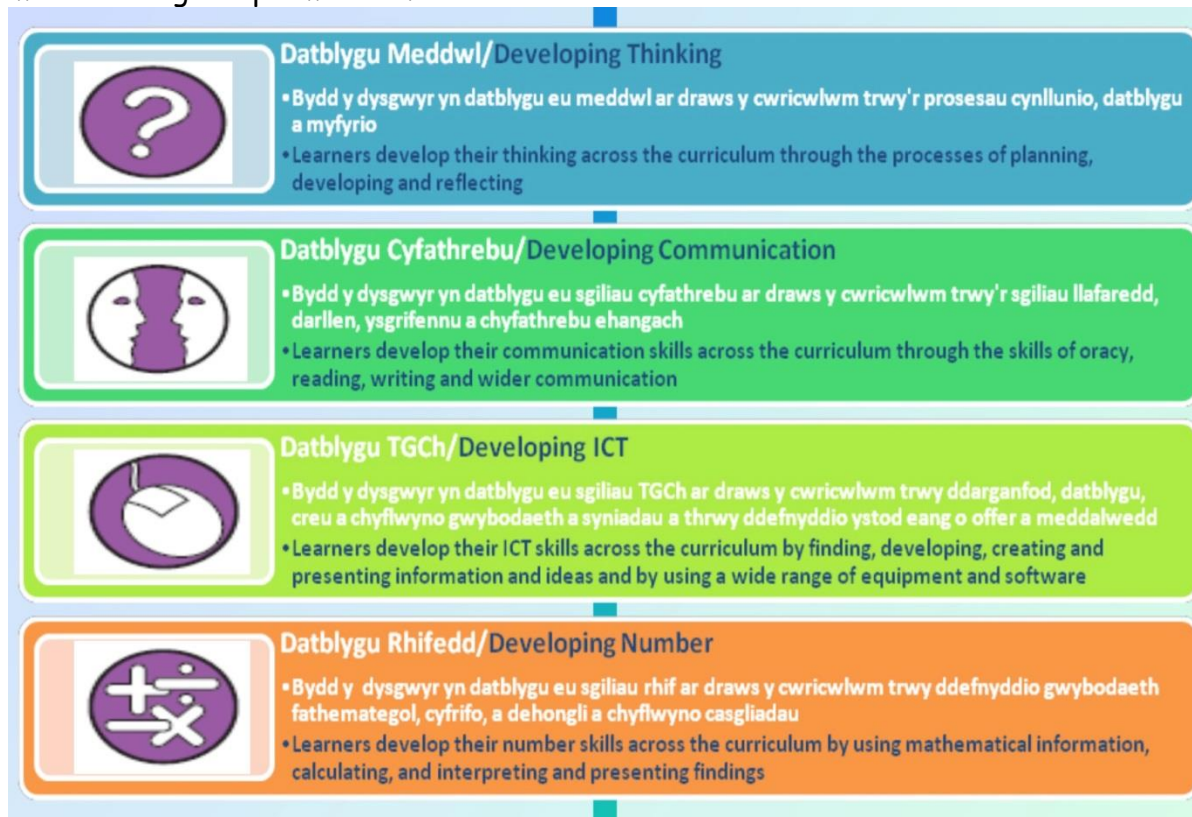
The work in the classroom is often reinforced with direct experiences such as visits to historical sites, theatre visits or visits to the school by 'theatre in education' companies and guest speakers.

The following subjects are included in the National Curriculum in Key Stage 2:

Welsh, English, mathematics, science, design and technology, information and communication technology, history, geography, art and design, music and physical education.

Skills across the curriculum

All aspects of the curriculum are carefully planned to ensure that the following key skills from the Skills Framework are given prominence.



Assessment For Learning:

We focus on the pupil's achievement and on ways in which they can move forward:

Where they are in the learning continuum

Where they need to go

How best to get there

Teachers plan to provide opportunities for assessment for learning in order to gain knowledge of learner's strengths and of areas that require further development.

Collective Worship/Religious Education

The Religious Education provided is based on the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

The school has no direct or formal religious affiliation, although worship in the school is of a broadly Christian nature. Emphasis is placed on respect for other faiths and belief systems.

Daily worship has an important place in the life of the school. During these periods the staff and pupils come together to worship and share experiences. Pupils are given the opportunity to take part in the service, as individuals, groups or classes and as/when appropriate parents/carers are invited to special class/school assemblies. Opportunities are given to praise and congratulate pupils and to highlight their good deeds and successes. Worship can take place either as Foundation Phase/Key Stage 2, or as a whole school, and children are expected to respect and appreciate these occasions.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child/children wholly or in part from Religious Education and Collective Worship.

Breakfast Club

A Breakfast Club runs daily from 8am – 8:45am, (last orders for breakfast at 8:35a.m.) in the school hall/temporary cabin. The breakfast comprises of cereal, toast, fruit and a glass of juice. There is no charge for pupils to attend. All pupils must be registered with the Breakfast Club in order to attend.

After School Club

The onsite 'Clwb Gofal Llangadog' provide after school childcare between 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Monday to Friday for our pupils. Children need to be registered with the Club to attend. The cost per session is £7.50 per child. Children should be booked in by using the form sent out to parents or telephoning the school

Parental Involvement/Information for parents

The school provides regular letters for parents to inform them about various aspects of the curriculum and school life. A Governors Annual Report is presented to parents during the Autumn Term.

Information for parents is also posted on the noticeboard outside the main door and on the school Facebook page.

The 'open door' policy at Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog encourages parents to be involved in their child's education and school life. We hope to see our pupils become happy and successful members of the school community. Should your child have any problems in school, or should you wish to discuss any matter relating to school, please contact the class teacher/headteacher.

Parents/carers are invited to numerous events that are held during the year.

There is an active Parent Teacher Association in school, we welcome parents, staff and members of the local community. During the year, a range of social and fund raising events are held. Funds raised are vital to the running of the school. The P.T.A. warmly welcomes all new parents.

We welcome help from parents, governors and other volunteers in the classroom.

There are many ways you can become involved, for example: listening to readers, cooking, craft and design work and preparing resources. You might have a skill or craft or experience of travel, which could be shared as part of our topic work. Please speak to the Headteacher if you would like to help in school.



It must be noted that adults who have contact with children in school and on trips etc. are asked to complete a Disclosure & Barring Check (DBS check). This is of course only for the safety of pupils. We have a policy for helpers in school - please ask in the school office.

Pastoral Care

We aim to create a warm, friendly environment within which the pupils feel safe and secure. We have all necessary Safeguarding policies and procedures in place. We have a nominated member of staff and a nominated governor who are responsible for this area. Staff and Governors receive awareness training and have completed a Disclosure and Barring check (DBS).

The class teacher, under the instruction of the headteacher, is responsible for the care and educational development of children in their class. Members of staff are on duty during playtime and supervisors are employed during lunch time.

The Governors and staff at Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog are fully committed to adhering to section 175 of the Education Act, 2002. This particular section requires Local Authorities and Governing Bodies of maintained schools to make arrangements to ensure the safeguarding and wellbeing of children in their care. The Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog responds to the objective of keeping children and young people safe by:-

- Creating and maintaining a safe learning environment for children and young people;
- Identifying where there are child welfare concerns and taking action to address them, where appropriate, in partnership with other agencies;
- Ensuring that children are listened to if they are expressing concerns; and
- The development of children's understanding, awareness and resilience through the curriculum

If a child becomes ill the parents are informed, so that arrangements can be made to collect the child and take him/her home.

No child will be allowed to leave the school until notification is given that there is a responsible adult at home. If both parents work, arrangements should be made with a neighbour/relative/friend to meet the child if the need arises. The school should be informed of any relevant information.

Parents are asked to inform the school, preferably by phone, if their child is absent for any reason.

It is also the parents' responsibility to inform the school if their child needs to leave school early. May we stress that every school day is important whatever the age of the child and that every absence has some effect on progression and development as well as an effect on the flow and organisation in the classes. We ask kindly that parents take these issues into consideration before making decisions on taking family holidays and days out during school time.

All members of staff have a "First Aid Certificate" and it is school policy to renew it every two years. The school keeps a record of the telephone numbers of parents and in case of accidents, should a child require medical treatment, every effort is made to contact parents first, depending on the seriousness of the case. Minor accidents will be dealt with by members of staff, but in the case of the more serious accident, the pupils will be taken to a doctor. In all cases where serious accidents occur full details will be forwarded to the Risk Assessment unit of the Local Education Authority. The Head teacher has the specific responsibility for the pastoral care of looked-after children.

School Council

We have an active School Council at Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog which ensures that the pupils at the school have a voice and are able to contribute to the constant process of improving our school. Each class has representatives on the committee, governors are also represented. Regular meetings are held.

Pupil Voice

Pupils are given opportunities to voice their ideas and opinions on a regular basis and in a variety of ways. This encourages them to take responsibility for their own learning.

Eco-School Green Flag Award

Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog encourages pupils to engage with environmental and sustainable development issues. Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog is a Healthy School and we promote this whenever possible in school life. We hold the Third Healthy Schools' Leaf and our Eco Schools work is confirmed at Platinum Level which is the highest possible award level. We celebrate Fair Trade fortnight and Healthy Eating Week with a range of activities across the school.

Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes



Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru

Healthy Schools

We are part of the Healthy Schools initiative, whose aim is to encourage a healthy lifestyle through healthy eating and regular exercise. Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog was one of the first six schools in Wales in 1995 to become a 'Healthy School'. As a Healthy School and we promote this whenever possible in school life. We hold the Third Healthy Schools' Leaf.

Pupils are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to school. No other drinks are allowed.



Foundation phase pupils brush their teeth daily as part of the 'Cynllun Gwên' project. All related staff have received training.



Music

Music, especially singing or learning to play an instrument, is regarded as a great advantage to enhance pupil learning. A number of opportunities are provided for pupils to perform, either individually or collaboratively. Pupils are encouraged to nurture and develop their abilities and talents and to enjoy all aspects of Music.

We believe that this helps to develop self confidence by providing opportunities for pupils to experience and celebrate success. Peripatetic Music Teachers visit the school, providing singing, violin, guitar, brass, drums and woodwind lessons. A fee is charged to parents for singing or instrumental tuition.

Generally, the pupils are expected to purchase their own instruments, but there are some instruments available on a short term loan basis through the county, for pupils who are starting to learn. When pupils are more proficient they are encouraged to invest in their own instruments. An annual County Orchestra is held, and also the Three Counties Orchestra is open to pupils as they become more musically proficient. A number of Llangadog pupils have represented the county at a national level at the Urdd Eisteddfod on many occasions.

Physical Education/Sporting Activities

Weekly timetabled PE lessons are provided for all pupils. All pupils also receive weekly 'Multi Skills' sessions.

The pupils participate in a number of activities during the year, representing the school in events such as the Urdd, gymnastics and P.E., rugby, football and netball games, cross country running, school and inter school athletics as well as swimming competitions.



It is an honour to represent the school and this is regarded as important as any academic and artistic fulfilment. It also encourages co-operation and develops skills. We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities participate in a variety of competitions. We celebrate the pupil's efforts and achievements in and out of school.

Pupils receive a block of swimming lessons arranged by class/year group at Llandoverly Swimming Pool.

Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog were DYFED Athletics competition champions in 2019 - an EXCELLENT result! For the first time in history, Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog won the overall event, with the most points, competing against numerous very large schools. Well done to all involved!



PSE

Personal and Social Education is a statutory part of the curriculum and draws on the best of existing practice and places an emphasis on providing young children with the skills they will need to become active citizens and to meet the challenges and opportunities of life. In the Foundation Phase Personal and Social Education is developed across all areas of Learning through experiential learning activities indoors and outdoors.

Sex Education

It is one of the aims of the school that every pupil shall be given the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to equip them for adult life. The school has a policy of providing a greater scope of sex education than required by the National Curriculum. These lessons are taught in Years 5 & 6. The main emphasis is on relationships. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child/children, should they wish, from sex education. The school nurse assists with the delivery of this programme.

Further Information

School policies and the school prospectus are regularly reviewed as part of a rolling programme. The School Prospectus is available to view on our school website

<https://ysgol-llangadog.weebly.com>

Risk assessments are reviewed and are written as needed.

YSGOL CYNBADD LLANGADOG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Croeso i ein hysgol
Welcome to our school

Assessment and Reporting

An Open Evening and a Parents' Evening where parents/carers are invited to discuss their child's progress with the teacher are held during the school year. During Parent's Evening parents may see the child's work and discuss his/her development with the teacher. A written progress report on each child is sent out to parents at the end of the Summer term where specific targets are set for each child to move their learning forward. Pupils are statutorily assessed (Foundation Phase Profile) to establish their starting point when they first enter school in the Reception year. All pupils in Years 2 and 6 are assessed by their teachers during the Summer Term and their results reported to the Local Authority. Welsh Government National Numeracy and Literacy Tests are undertaken by pupils in Years 2-6. Reports are provided to parents on their child's level of attainment at the end of Foundation Phase and KS2.

Parents are also welcome to visit the school at any time convenient to the teacher and parents to discuss their child's progress on any problems that might arise. Parents with anxieties about their children's educational, behavioural, or physical developments are invited to discuss the problem with the Head teacher. Often the above problems can be dealt with successfully at school.

Homework

Homework is seen as a tool which can enhance the development of the activities which are taught in the classroom. Pupils are expected to read regularly in their own time in order to develop their reading skills. However this is not defined as 'homework' in order for pupils to develop a sense of freedom and enjoyment towards the activity rather than to view it as an obligation.

Parents are expected to contribute to the teaching of the curriculum by taking their children shopping, (hence giving them monetary experience) and on trips of geographical or historical interest (in order to reinforce what has been introduced and taught in the classroom).

Involvement in cooking and other household tasks help young children develop co-ordination, motor control and general life skills.

Also, we encourage families to enjoy learning together by working on jigsaws and playing games to enhance communication and numeracy skills. A regular nightly routine of reading together and discussing the contents of books can develop a child's reading skills and enjoyment immensely.

Parental encouragement can make an enormous difference in the first few months of learning to play a new instrument. It is important to encourage your child to practise (by agreeing a set practice period daily and reminding your child of this) and to be positive in your praise, as it can be a difficult time to persevere.

The norm is for homework tasks to be set which are part of specific project/topic work.

Transition to Secondary School

During the Autumn term parents/carers of Year Six pupils will receive, from the high school and the LEA, information regarding secondary education choices. Transfer arrangements to high school take place at the end of the Summer Term. All pupils who are eleven years old by August 31st will normally be transferred.

Transitional visits to Ysgol Bro Dinefwr and Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth are organised and at least one visit to the school for parents/carers is made available.

Pupils undertake projects with the high school throughout their final year and spend two days at their chosen high school in July.

Additional Learning Needs

We believe in encouraging all pupils to fulfil their potential during their time at school. All children have individual needs. Carmarthenshire schools follow the guidelines of Section 7 of the Education Act 1996, which are enshrined in the Code of Practice for Wales 2002. Within Carmarthenshire, a new SEN strategy, developed by a multi-agency group, has been developed with the aim of reducing bureaucracy, of improving provision and efficiency. The strategy includes:

- Working closely with the Speech and Language Therapy Department in providing for children with significant speech and language difficulties,
- Support for children and young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties,
- Children and young people can access additional support without a statutory assessment of their needs.

Children's difficulties are identified in line with the Code of Practice for Wales 2002 e.g. such as cognition and learning difficulties, sensory difficulties or communication and interaction difficulties.

The school supports and promotes the educational achievement of Looked After Children. The Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator is Miss S Williams.

Inclusion

As a school we aim to ensure that every pupil with additional needs receives a high standard of educational provision and has access to a curriculum that has breadth, balance and relevance. We try to identify children who are having difficulties as early as possible and target support. When a teacher believes that a pupil requires additional support he/she will note difficulties

and discuss the matter with the Headteacher/ALNCo. Parental permission will always be sought before placing a child on the special educational needs register and, where appropriate, the child's view will also be taken into account.

For all learners in our school we:

- provide a meaningful, relevant and motivating curriculum
- meet the specific needs of learners and further their all-round development

We aim to keep parents well informed and invite them to discuss progress and their child's Individual Education Plan. Every teacher is aware of the importance of differentiation in order to provide a full and relevant education to his or her pupils. Depending on the nature of the task, differentiation will focus on the level of the work, marking and praise, expectations and class management, i.e. working in pairs, groups or individually.

Ethos and Values of the School

Pupils have very positive attitudes to learning. They enjoy the activities on offer, work hard, and take pride in their work. They have a good understanding of the importance of being healthy and active. They feel safe and secure in school. Pupils' personal and social skills are well developed.

Home/School Agreement

The aim of the Home School Agreement is to ensure a successful partnership between the child, parent and school. In signing the agreement all parties involved consent to work successfully for the welfare and education of the child. The home school agreement is presented to all pupils when they begin at school. The principles promoted by the agreement are the welfare, happiness, education, discipline, and health of the pupils as noted in the school's aims and objectives.

School Uniform

The school has a recognised uniform, which was chosen by the parents.

It includes a green sweatshirt and polo shirt which display the school logo. These items can be purchased at 'Igarn-Ogarn' or 'Realm' in Llandeilo. Green/white check summer dresses or school shorts may be worn during the summer months instead of black school trousers/skirts/pinafore dresses and black footwear. We request that all clothing be clearly labelled with your child's name.

During P.E. lessons/activities, pupils are expected to bring a change of clothing – dark coloured shorts, plain t-shirt, trainers and a sweatshirt for outdoor lessons if possible, please.



Attendance and Punctuality

The Governing Body continues to strive for the highest possible attendance, recognising its huge importance for a pupil's education, whilst acknowledging that achieving an improvement in attendance involves a partnership between the school, the pupils and their parents or carers.

We ask you not to take your child out of school on holiday during term time. Headteachers do have the discretionary power to grant leave for the purpose of a family holiday or trips. However, the Partnership Consortium is strongly advising that any holidays or day trips in term time should be unauthorised.

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that their children arrive punctually. Parents should not send children to school before 8:45am unless they are attending Breakfast Club.

Parents/carers are asked to leave the school premises by 9am so that the school day can begin promptly.

Late Arrivals must be signed in by a parent/carer for children arriving after 9am.

Pupils leaving/returning to school during the school day are signed in/out. Due to fire regulations there must be no prams/buggies in school, as they may cause an obstruction.

Absences

Parents/carers are requested to notify the school on the first day that their child is absent from school. They will be contacted by the school after morning registration if no notification relating to absence is received. If no information is provided, the child will be recorded as being absent without authorisation.

Inclement weather/School Closure:

The decision to close the school rests with the Head teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors. If the decision is taken to close before the beginning of the school day then the school will broadcast this information on BBC Radio Cymru and BBC Radio Wales. It will also be posted on the School and Carmarthenshire County Council website. We will also endeavour to post a message via our School website or Facebook page.

When inclement weather necessitates the early closure of school, steps will be taken to invite parents to collect pupils. If this is impossible, we shall ensure that your children are in a safe place until parents arrive home e.g. grandparents house or near neighbours.

Charging for school activities

The Governing Body of the School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including trips, sport and residential experiences can make towards pupils' education. All children have the opportunity to participate in educational visits. These visits may be residential or non-residential, and parents are usually asked to contribute towards the cost of these trips/transport.

Following the Education Reform Act 1988, the School's policy is: To request voluntary contributions from parents for School activities which can only be provided if there is sufficient voluntary funding.

School Meals

There is a set meal of the day. ParentPay is used to order and pay for dinner. Currently pupils up to Year 4 are covered by the Welsh Government universal primary free school meals (UPFSM) For all other pupils meals cost £2.80 per day.

If you are eligible for free school meals, you can apply on-line via the Carmarthenshire County Council website.

Water is available for children to drink throughout the day and is provided at lunchtime. Parents are given copies of menus provided by the County Council. Free school meals are available at the school. For more information relating to eligibility and how to make an online application please make an online application on the Carmarthenshire County Council website or contact the Local Authority - Education Department at Parc Myrddin, Carmarthen.

Children can bring packed lunches (healthy food please) if preferred. It is school policy that no sweets are brought to school. Parents/carers who provide a packed lunch are asked to respect this ruling. The children are in the care of the mid-day supervisors during the lunch break. All school meals and packed lunches are eaten in the school hall.

Foundation Phase classes receive a free carton of milk daily.

Behaviour

Overall responsibility for the school discipline rests with the Headteacher, but it is a matter for everyone connected with the school, including parents. Children are expected to conform to certain standards of behaviour. Good behaviour is essential for effective learning. Pupils play a vital role in the process of creating whole school rules at the beginning of each school year.

Pupils are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and orderly manner at all times and are encouraged to consider others and to respect their rights and property.

When a pupil behaves in an adverse way he/she is disciplined in a reasonable manner. Usually the sanction amounts to the loss of opportunity and personal privileges.

If a child continues to misbehave the parents will be informed and invited to school to discuss the pupil's behaviour.

In specific circumstances the school may need to consider fixed term or permanent exclusion. The parents, Chairperson of Governors and the L.E.A. will be informed of such a decision. No pupil has been excluded from Llangadog School in the last 25 years.

Bullying is not tolerated and should it occur we need to know about it. Any known incidences of anti-social or threatening behaviour in school will be investigated immediately by the head and/or staff and parents will be informed.

The use of physical intervention is viewed as very much the final option. It is important to ensure that all possible preventative steps have been taken so that physical intervention becomes unnecessary. However, reasonable force might be used to control or restrain a pupil when appropriate (Section 550A - Welsh Office Circular 37/98).

Our full school behaviour and discipline policy is available in school.

We hold a 'Star of the Week' assembly where we praise the achievement of pupils who have performed exceptionally well in various aspects of school life.

Toys

Children should be discouraged from bringing in toys into school because the school cannot take responsibility for any damage/loss.



Illness or injury

It is the duty of parents to make arrangements for pupils who become unwell at school, by collecting them to take them home or to the doctor or hospital. If parents or relatives are not available when a pupil becomes unwell or injured, medical advice will be sought and, if necessary, the assistance of the emergency services. In exceptional circumstances, it may be necessary for the school to arrange for the pupil to be conveyed to the home or the hospital.

We ask that parents/guardians keep their children at home for at least 48 hours following a period of sickness.

Health and wellbeing

The school is visited by the school nurse and speech therapist that make periodic visits to see children. Parents are informed of these visits, and can, if they wish, attend examinations of their children.

Administering Medicine

Sometimes, children attending school have to take a course of medicine.

The Authority's view is that it is preferable for parents to administer medication to their children, by visiting school at break/lunchtime.



If possible medicine should be administered before coming to school. However, we do realise that this is not always practical and that circumstances do vary. If parents discuss problems with the class teacher then every effort will be made to be of assistance. However, this is an individual arrangement and it is not a pre-requisite for teachers to administer medicines.

All medication must be handed into the school office by the child's parent/carer who must fill in the required permission forms. The medicine must be in its original container and bear the prescription label or be accompanied by a note from the child's doctor. Under no circumstances should children bring pills or medicines into school.

If your child suffers from asthma or any other recurring illness please advise the school and ensure that details of treatment are written down so that these are easily accessible during school hours. If an inhaler is used, please ensure there is a labelled spare inhaler which can be kept in school and that the required permission forms have been completed.

If your child has an allergy please discuss this with the school.

Accidents

Minor accidents within the school will be dealt with by one of the members of staff who hold a current First Aid qualification. Head injuries will be reported to parents who will be given the

opportunity to collect their child and arrange further treatment if necessary. Should an injury be very serious the child will be taken to hospital immediately to save delaying treatment; parents will be notified as quickly as possible.

Headlice in School

If a head lice problem is brought to our attention we will notify parents/carers and ask them to check their child's hair at home.

Equal Opportunities

It is vital that no child is denied access to any educational activity on the grounds of ethnicity, gender, economic circumstances, age, religious belief, disability or any other discriminatory factor. At Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog we recognise the equality of opportunity for all individuals, staff and pupils.

We are committed to providing the highest possible standards of education for our pupils and will endeavor to meet the needs of all without unfair discrimination of any kind.

We will:

- Oppose all forms of unfair discrimination, whether individual or institutional, direct or indirect, on the grounds of gender, colour, ethnicity or national origin, religion, disability, financial resources, social background,
- HIV status, age, appearance, ability, language, political view, size, marital status or sexual orientation.
- Challenge prejudice or unreasonable beliefs about groups in society and endeavor to instill tolerance and acceptance of differences.
- Promote and celebrate diversity within our community and beyond.
- Seek to become an inclusive community, in the widest sense of the word.
- Prepare pupils for adult life in a multi-cultural society.



Pupils with Disabilities

Every effort is made to welcome pupils - and adults (employees, parents or visitors) with any disability - mental or physical or learning disabilities to the school. All school members are encouraged to help and support each other and respect differences whatever their needs. Specific training for all staff can/will be arranged to raise awareness/skills as the need arises.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

The school has clear policies that ensure everyone understands the role they play in relation to safeguarding children and protecting them from harm. The policy states that if/when a child makes an allegation against a family member or someone at the household, then, parental consent to make a referral to Carmarthenshire Social Services will NOT be sought by the

school. The Social Services Department and the Police will need to speak to the child as soon as possible if it is believed that a crime has been committed.

Mrs A. Price is the school's designated child protection/safeguarding officer.

In her absence Mrs A. Moore (Headteacher) takes responsibility.

Operation Encompass

The school is a part of Operation Encompass jointly between schools and Dyfed-Powys Police. It is a county wide initiative across all schools in Carmarthenshire. The aim of the operation is to report to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Looked after children

The headteacher is responsible for promoting the educational achievement of looked after children. This is done in conjunction with the class teachers, ALNCo, the education department and the relevant social services.

Safety

The safety of our pupils is of paramount importance within the school. In the interest of safety the main door is locked during the school day. All visitors must report to the office and sign the visitor's book. All doors accessing the school yard are also kept locked apart from at playtimes when the children are outside playing. We have a close working relationship with our Police Liaison Officer and he regularly visits the school and works with the pupils.

In the interest of the safety of pupils we request that no child should ride a bicycle/scooter in the school grounds and that no dogs should be brought into the school grounds. The school grounds are a no smoking area.

The school has a Sun Protection Policy which recommends that children wear sun hats and sun protection in hot weather.

The Headteacher and Governor with responsibility for Health and Safety carry out regular health and safety checks throughout the year.

The school has a comprehensive health and safety policy that promotes the safety of all stakeholders.

The school carries out numerous risk assessments that cover all parts of school life e.g. educational off-site visits. Copies are kept in the school office. Key policies and documents can be found on the school website.

Safety in School

We kindly request that parents/carers:

- use the school car park situated opposite the main entrance
- do not park on the yellow lines near the main entrance when bringing and collecting their children from school
- wait for their child/children outside the building, inside the school gates when collecting their children
- securely close school gates/doors when accessing/leaving the school grounds

Arrangements for Transport and Collecting Children from School

School transport must be applied for through the Local Authority. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide/arrange transport for children to and from school.



All buses are provided with seat belts and children are expected to wear them and behave well at all times.

Pupils who use school transport will be accompanied to and from their school buses.

Parents/Carers collecting their children from the school should do so promptly at 3:30pm.

If there is to be any change in picking up arrangements (time or person) we NEED to know in advance either by a written note or personal contact from the parent/carer.

Fire Drills

A fire drill is held at least once every term. Should the alarm be activated any parent/carer on the school premises must go to the nearest class and follow the instructions of the class teacher. Fire exit plans are displayed around the school and in all classrooms. The alarm system is checked regularly. A detailed Fire Risk Assessment is available to view in the school office.

Bullying policy

The school has a firm policy on bullying that states that every pupil has the right to receive his/her education in a safe, caring and happy environment. Our aim is to ensure that no form of bullying occurs. We work towards eliminating bullying in all its forms with the help of fellow pupils, staff, parents and governors. If you suspect that your child is being bullied then you should contact the school immediately - please do not raise this matter with individual pupils or parents.

Playground safety and Playground Supervision

At all break times members of staff are on duty to ensure the safety of all pupils.

The following activities are forbidden:

- bullying
- fighting
- throwing sticks and stones
- piggyback activities
- climbing fences/gates/seats/trees



Social Media

Our School Facebook page continues to be an effective way of sharing activities and celebrating successes. It's important that it isn't used as means of raising complaints - the school has a policy that should be adhered to if such a need arises. It would be a shame to have to close the page because of misuse. Please note - no individuals are to be named on our social media sites. We would be grateful of your support with this.

It's also worth noting that the age guide for using social media pages such as Facebook, Snapchat etc. is 13 years old. The children are aware of this through our e-safety lessons and input by PC Trystan therefore, there is no reason for pupils to use these sites in the primary sector.

Links with Parents

Strong links exist between the home and the school. As a school, we welcome parental support and contributions. The partnership between child, teacher and parent can make a big difference in promoting the child's progress in school.

Parents and teachers meet informally when parents bring/collect their children from the school. This support is crucial for success e.g. when a child needs to establish a regular routine for homework and daily instrumental practice sessions. Parents are invited to share expertise and skills with the school relating to the topics being studied at the time.

	<p>Datblygu sgiliau rhifedd a llythrennedd Develop numeracy and literacy skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darllen gyda'ch plentyn • Darllen storiâu i'ch plentyn • Gwranddo ar eich plentyn yn darllen • Datblygu gwaith rhif adre • Cefnogi eich plentyn 	<p>Reading with your child Reading a story to your child Hearing them read to you Developing understanding of number Supporting your child</p>
	<p>A oes gennych unrhyw sgiliau, talentau neu arbenigedd i'w gynnig? e.e. Have you got any skills, talent and expertise to offer? e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garddio • Celf a Chrefft • Cerddoriaeth • Gwaith coed • Peintio 	<p>Gardening Art and Craft Music Carpentry Painting and decorating</p>
	<p>A fedrwn chi helpu gyda gweithgareddau allgyrsiol? e.e. Can you help with extra-curricular activities? e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cynllun 'Kerbcraft' • Helpu ar dripiâu ysgol neu mabolgampau • Codi Arian • Kerbcraft Scheme (Road Safety) • To supervise on trips or sports days etc. • To help with fundraising 	

Links with the Community

The Governors and staff of Llangadog School believe strongly in creating close links with the community it serves. Groups of children frequently participate at village events. We are proud of our links with the local community. We invite the community into school for a variety of functions, such as Fairtrade Tea, Assemblies/Services, Harvest Festival, Coffee Mornings,

Open Evenings and Christmas Plays. In 2019 we took our Thanksgiving Service to Providence Chapel, our Christingle Service to St Cadog's Church as well as entertaining the local elderly. We also welcome the Police and Fire Brigade to school to lead sessions in order to help protect the pupils and prepare them to be part of the community. PC Steve supported staff and pupils during our recent Sports day, presenting the medals and trophies.

School Visits

During the year the school organises a number of educational trips, which are relevant to ongoing class themes. Pupils enjoy visiting areas and places of interest and learn from personal experiences. Similarly, visits from theatre companies or business related visitors e.g. WRW talk with Year 6 pupils are welcomed both in school or in the locality.

Pupils participate in a wide range of school visits - Welsh Folk Museum at Sain Ffagan, local castles, Art Galleries - Oriel Myrddin, Dinefwr Park and residential trips to the Urdd Camp at Llangrannog, and for year 6 pupils London/Rhyd Ddu Centre at the Snowdonia National Park.



At such times we aim to inform parents as much in advance as possible of details and the cost of the visits. Parental consent is required and a voluntary contribution is requested to meet the cost of transport, admission fees etc. We also try to subsidise more expensive yet worthwhile trips by using PTA funds.



We judge these experiences as having a good impact on their personal development. Pupils from the school participate in local, regional and national Eisteddfods and produce exhibits for the

Llandovery Rotary Competition and Llangadog/Llansadwrn and the Meithrin Summer Show. Pupils have represented the school in the Football/Tag Rugby tournaments, cross country, swimming galas, athletics and many took part in the Llangadog Fun run community event. We have strong links with WRW, local farms and other small local businesses.

International Links

From time to time the school has been involved in projects designed to engender an appreciation of the traditions and cultures of other nations, and also in sharing knowledge with pupils from other countries.

Standards of teaching & learning at Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog

At Ysgol Gynradd Llangadog, staff, parents and governors are continually working to improve the standard of education for pupils. We strive to keep abreast of curriculum changes and Welsh Government initiatives. Our expectations are high and our pupils achieve high standards.

In a small school results can vary widely from year to year, according to the particular children in a year group. Other factors can also have an effect such as previous attainment, special needs or whether the child has been in the school for the whole of the key stage. Thus it is important to look at more than one year's results for a more accurate picture of standards in school.

The following table shows the expected development to be reached by the majority of pupils at the end of the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2.

<u>Foundation Phase/Key Stage</u>	<u>Expected Range of Outcomes/Levels</u>	<u>Typical (hoped for) Achievement at end of Key Stage (Average)</u>
FP	Outcome 4 - 6	Outcome 5
KS2	Level 2 - 5	Level 4

Attendance:

We closely monitor attendance and appreciate parents' support in making every effort, where possible not to take family holidays or make appointments during term time.

2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
96.21%	96.16%	94.62%	94.57%	95.34%	>20/3/20 94.29% (COVID)

Carmarthenshire Primary School Menu:

To view the school menu visit

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools>

Complaints

Complaints should be directed to the Head teacher. If it is not possible to resolve the complaint within the establishment then the Head teacher will follow the procedures arranged by the Governing Body of the school and Carmarthenshire County Council.



Appendix 1

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Term	Term begins	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn 2022	Monday 5th September	Monday 31st October - Friday 4th November	Friday 23rd December
Spring 2023	Monday 9th January	Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February	Friday 31st March
Summer 2023	Monday 17th April	Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June	Friday 21st July
Autumn 2023	Monday 4th September	Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November	Friday 22nd December
Spring 2024	Monday 8th January	Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February	Friday 22nd March
Summer 2024	Monday 8th April	Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May	Friday 19th July
Autumn 2024	Tuesday 3rd September	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November	Friday 20th December
Spring 2025	Monday 6th January	Monday 24th February – Friday 28th February	Friday 11th April
Summer 2025	Monday 28th April	Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May	Monday 21st July

Designated INSET Days

- Friday 1st September 2023
- Monday, 2nd September 2024

For school specific INSET days, please contact the relevant school. Usually, schools have 5 INSET days during the academic year (including the designated days).

Good Friday

- 7th April 2023
- 29th March 2024
- 18th April 2025

May Day

- 1st May 2023
- 6th May 2024
- 5th May 2025

Please note that this calendar is subject to any changes that may arise as a result of government policy decisions. We do not accept liability for any losses incurred in respect of altered holiday arrangements following such changes.