



# School Prospectus

2025/2026

*"Your future is in your hands"*

**LEARN, ENJOY, ACHIEVE**

# Croeso I Ysgol Gynradd Nant Celyn

## Welcome to Nant Celyn Primary

*Annwyl ffrindiau a theuluoedd*  
*Dear friends and families,*

What a brilliant start to my time here at Nant Celyn! I am utterly delighted to represent such a wonderful school and community. As most of you will know, I joined the team in January 2024 and we have hardly stopped for breath since!

One of our biggest achievements of the last year of course, was our very successful Estyn visit. We were pleased the inspector recognised our vision to for Nant Celyn which is focused on pupil well-being, inclusion and ensuring high standards of teaching and learning. Staff were thrilled to be highlighted for our effective management of the very few instances of challenging behaviour and the support and inclusion for all those with additional needs.

We made made great progress in teaching and learning last year; particularly in relation to literacy, numeracy and Welsh. This year our challenge is to develop that good practice more widely into creative and outdoor learning and our School Development Plan reflects this. We are also working on developing leadership at every level across the school so that every adult and every child, in every role, feel empowered to get involved and lead from the front!

One of the most important things that I have learned as a Headteacher is that the key to building on the school's success is developing good relationships. For me, this has been a fantastic year of getting to know our young people, their families, staff, Governors and the wider community. We all know that a well-supported Mum, Dad, Carer or Grandparent can have as important a role in a child's learning as any teacher! I would really like to hear your ideas about how we can maintain this role going forward.

You will always be welcome at Nant Celyn Primary and I am very much looking forward to continuing to organise lots of lovely open mornings, concerts, plays, assemblies, workshops and drop ins in the new year. By working together, we can really make a difference to the lives of our young people and the wider community. We are all key members of Team Nant Celyn; laying the foundations for Hollybush and St Dials, Cwmbran and Wales of the future.

Cofion gorau/ Best regards

*Keri Smith*

**Keri Smith**  
Headteacher



## *Dear Parents and Carers*

As we look back on another successful year at our school. I want to take a moment for thanks. Firstly, the previous Chair, Claire Watkins, who stepped down in March 2024. I want to thank her for her amazing work over the past few years – she left some big shoes to fill. Thank you to the Governors for your continued support and patience as I step into the role and make it my own.

Next, our incredible teachers and staff – you shone so brightly during the ESTYN inspection, and I am very glad they saw what we see – excellent staff who are dedicated, passionate, hardworking caring and diligent. We are proud to have you on board and we appreciate your efforts.

I would especially like to express gratitude to our new Headteacher. Since joining us, she has brought fresh ideas and energy that has already made a huge difference. Ms Smith's leadership has inspired our staff and created a welcoming environment for our students. We appreciate her vision for the school and her guidance during the challenge of Nant Celyn's first school inspection in over a decade.

Most importantly, I thank you, our parents and carers, for your cooperation with all school requests. As a parent myself, I know it can be a bit much at times, but your support is very much appreciated.

We made some great progress last year in some key areas of the curriculum, including maths, the Welsh language and language and literacy. Looking ahead, we will continue to work on the single recommendation and advice from the Estyn Inspection. The Governing Body is committed to our School Development Plan, which highlights the areas where we want to make improvements.

Thank you for your hard work and teamwork. Together, let's continue to make our school an inclusive and nurturing place for every child.

Sincerely

*Kim Andrews*

**Kim Andrews**

Chair of Governors





# School Aims

At Nant Celyn Primary School we aim to...

- Provide the best possible education for all pupils in our school.
- Demonstrate, promote and instil to the pupils that they can always achieve.
- Encourage children to participate in all areas of the curriculum and wider school life.
- Provide a positive environment and a happy school, where pupils are sensitively cared for in all aspects.
- Provide an environment that ensures the safety and security of all pupils and staff.
- Help to develop and instil a sense of justice and fairness, diversity and inclusion and teach codes of human behaviour which are embraced by staff, parents and pupils.
- Welcome all parents into the school and to encourage and urge them to work in partnership and harmony with the staff and Governors.
- Ensure that all pupils reach their full potential in all aspects of their lives.
- Help children to understand the world in which they live.

# Safeguarding

The Staff at Nant Celyn Primary School are committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. All Torfaen schools, including Nant Celyn Primary School, follow the South East Wales Safeguarding Board procedures.

The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their children. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school's child protection policy is available on request and can be viewed on our school website.

The senior Designated Safeguarding Persons for Nant Celyn Primary School are the Headteacher, Ms Keri Smith and our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Dean Davies. There are also two Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers who are Mrs Sam Evans and Mrs Jessica Davis-Thomas.

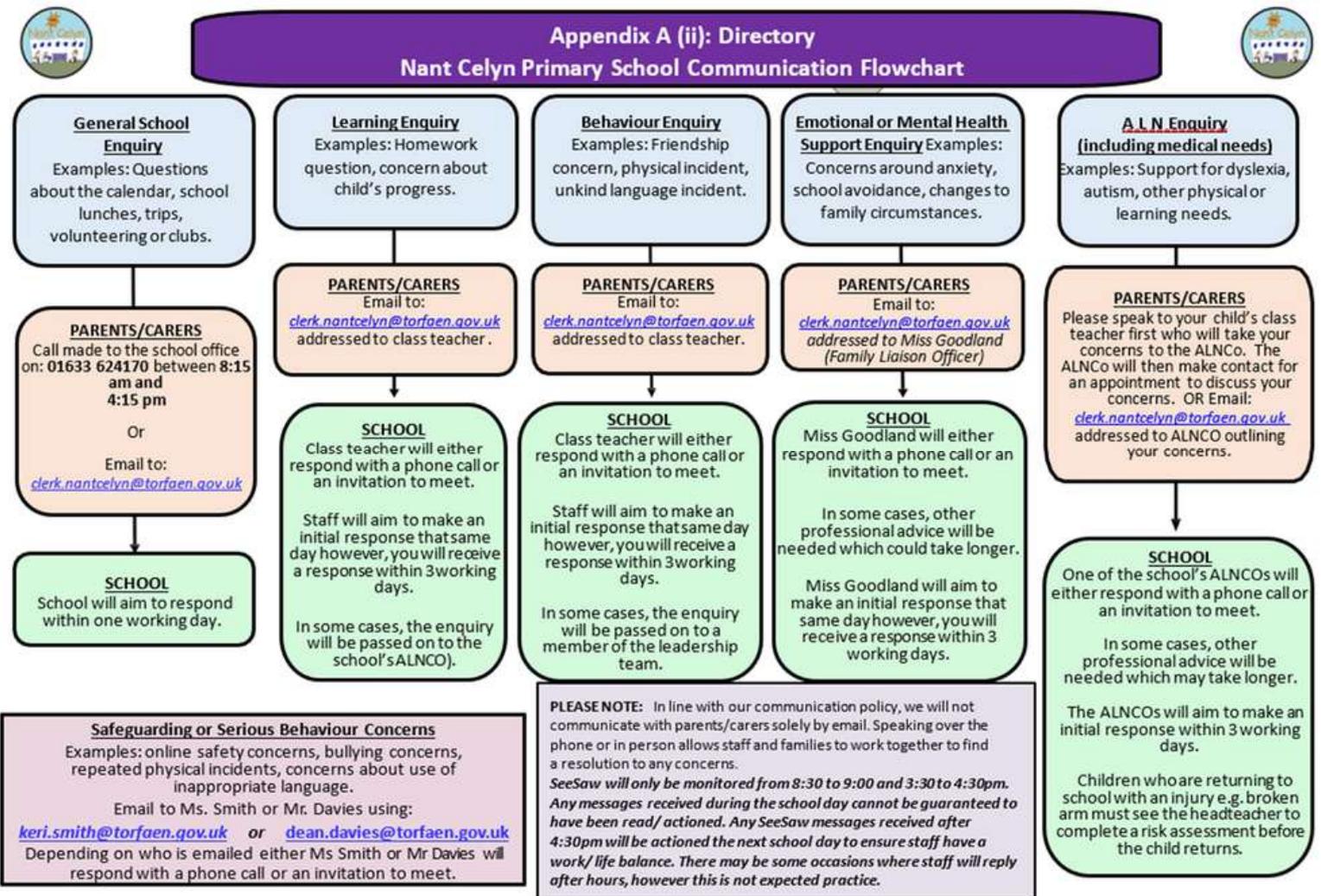
The governor with responsibility for safeguarding is, Mrs Kim Andrews (Chair of Governors). However, parents can contact any member of staff or any of our governors if they have any concerns regarding the safety of a child.

From time to time some children feel unsettled or worried for a variety of different reasons. Therefore, we would strongly encourage you to let school staff know about anything that might be unsettling your child. Similarly, if your child is presenting as unhappy or unsettled in school, we will let you know so that we can hopefully resolve the situation quickly.

When children are settled and happy, they learn best! Please refer to the schools Communication Policy for further information or see the flow diagram overleaf.



# Communication Flowchart



# School Site

Nant Celyn Primary School shares the same site as the Integrated Children's Centre (I.C.C) next door to the school. As a driveway runs through the site, there is a steady flow of slow moving traffic through the site during the day. This is largely due to the users of the I.C.C building and visitors to school. There is a **5 mph** speed limit across the site.

To keep the site as traffic free as possible and as safe as possible for the children, the flow of traffic is restricted at the beginning and end of the school day.

Only disabled badge holders are permitted to use the lower car park (if there is room) and the main car park is closed when full between the following times;

**8.45 am until 9.10 am and 3.15 pm until 3.25 pm.**

As the majority of our children live in the surrounding area, we would hope that as many parents and carers as possible will be able to walk their children to school. Nant Celyn is proud to work with the local authority with the 'Active Travel Plan' supporting safe ways for children to get to school through walking, biking or scootering. If you do bring your child to school by car, please try to leave as soon as you have dropped your child off or when you have collected them. This will help to free up spaces for other motorists.

**To help reduce traffic on-site, school operates a walking bus which operates from 3.15pm - 3.40pm daily.**

Children must have been registered with school to use the Walking Bus and a Google Form will be sent out to parents to complete if they wish to access the Walking Bus, but this is on a first come, first served basis as numbers are restricted.

During the school day parking is available in the 'Visitors' spaces on the top car park. Parking in the lower car park by the school is restricted to staff, visitors and those with disabled badges only in the designated bays. Crossing patrols enable children to cross the roads leading to school safely. School has also worked with local road safety officers, parents, governors, children and residents to produce a School Travel Plan. This plan will suggest safe routes to school from all locations within the school's catchment area. Copies are available on request.



**A reminder that no smoking is allowed anywhere on school site, this includes e - cigarettes.**

# School Site

## Access to the School

There are two access points for pedestrians, the first at the main entrance to the site and the second via the incline at the rear of the site. The rear access gates are locked during the school day but can be used for access and entry at both ends of the school day.

Vehicle access is from the FRONT of the site with delegated VISITOR spaces on the right-hand side after the turning circle.



KEY	
	Incline Entrance from Henllys Way, Bottom of Ton Road and Coed Eva Mill
	Vehicle entrance to Nant Celyn Nursery, ICC and Nant Celyn Primary School via Henllys Way and Ton Road
	(1) Entrances to Foundation Phase (Reception Year 1 and Year 2) classrooms, Dosbarth Celyn, HQ1, and HQ2 classrooms. (2) Entrances to Key Stage 2 (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6) classrooms.



# Teaching and Learning

The new Curriculum for Wales has been developed to fulfil four key purposes. It aims to produce children who are, or will become:

- Ambitious, capable learners
- Healthy, confident individuals
- Enterprising, creative contributors
- Ethical, informed citizens

The Curriculum for Wales will have six areas of learning:

1. **Expressive arts** incorporating art, dance, drama, film and digital media, and music. It will encourage creativity and critical thinking, and include performance.
2. **Humanities** incorporating geography, history, RE, business studies and social studies. It will be based on human experiences and will also cover Welsh culture.
3. **Health and wellbeing** covers the physical, psychological, emotional and social aspects of life, helping students make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing and learn how to manage social influences. It will include PE.
4. **Science and technology** incorporating biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, and design and technology.
5. **Mathematics and numeracy** in the early years, will involve learning through play. In later stages, it will include working both independently and collaboratively with others.
6. **Languages, literacy and communication** will include Welsh and English, literature and international languages. Welsh language teaching will still be compulsory (as an additional language for children who don't use Welsh as their first language).

## Relationships and Sexual Education, RSE

Nant Celyn Primary School is fully inclusive which means that we use a whole school, strategic approach to fully include and respond to the needs of all our learners and families.

RSE has a positive and empowering role in learners' education and is vital in supporting them to realise the Four purposes as part of a whole-school approach.

Our RSE curriculum enables learners to form and maintain a range of relationships, based on mutual trust and respect, this is the foundation of RSE at our school.

RSE is mandatory, please see the school website for the RSE Policy and leaflets on our school website for further guidance.

# Home/School Communication

On the school website you will be able to access school newsletters, letters from teachers/ SLT as well as information about your child's class e.g. dates for PE, information on different Areas of Learning (AoLEs), Home Learning and much more.

Alongside the Curriculum Overview, parents have the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss pupil progress on the following occasions;

- AUTUMN Term - Parent Consultation Evening
- SPRING term - Parent Consultation Evening
- SUMMER term - Parents/ carers will have an opportunity to come into school and work with their children in class as well as receiving a comprehensive written report for all areas of learning.

If at any time you want to know more about your child's progress in school, please do not hesitate to see the class teacher who will be more than happy to meet with you.

The school uses GroupEd to send messages to parents, we require an email saved on our system for this messaging service to work.

Our school website contains information about our aims, policies and procedures, governing body, newsletters etc along with important dates for your diaries and term dates.



We use two social media platforms, Twitter/X - **@nancelynschool** and Facebook - **Nant Celyn Primary**– both pages are updated with key information about school events.



Seesaw enables children to upload photographs, videos, voice recordings, and written work. These posts are visible to school staff and, where appropriate, to families within your child's class. Staff have practised using Seesaw in recent months and we are now ready to share with you!

# Children with Additional Learning Needs

The Welsh Government reviewed the processes and systems around Additional Learning Needs (ALN). New legislation was introduced in September 2021, which has now been fully implemented in all schools from September 2024.

We use the term 'Additional Learning Needs' rather than 'Special Educational Needs'.

Children or Young People have an Additional Learning Need when:

- They have a significant difficulty or disability that means they need targeted and sustained support i.e. Additional Learning Provision.
- They find it much harder to learn than children or young people of the same age nationally;
- They have a disability that means they cannot use their local school or college.

Children and young people who have ALN, as defined by the ALN Act, will have an Individual Development Plan (an IDP). An IDP notice means a school or local authority has decided your child has ALN and would benefit from an IDP to support his/her learning as needed.

An Individual Development Plan will be produced by the school, after careful discussion with yourselves as parents, your child and support from other agencies involved with your child (Speech and Language, Families First, Physiotherapy, Local Authority etc.). We will continually monitor your child's progress and meet with you throughout the Year to discuss this, as we seek to meet the needs of all learners.

The Additional Learning Needs Team at Nant Celyn are available to discuss any concerns you may have regarding your child's needs and progress in school. If you would like an appointment with a member of the Team please contact the school office on [clerk.nantcelyn@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.nantcelyn@torfaen.gov.uk) or your child's class teacher and request a meeting.

## Equal Opportunities

The staff at Nant Celyn Primary are committed to providing equal opportunities for all its children. The School has a Strategic Equality Plan which is reviewed and reported upon annually. Both the plan and most recent report can be found on our website.

## Special Needs Resource Bases

We have two Special Needs Resource Bases at the school, one for children with a hearing impairment and one for children with autism. These are specialist resource bases and the local authority makes the decision as to who attends them through a specialist placement panel which meets termly.

Further information about places within each SNRB is available from Torfaen Local Authority.

# School Information

## School Uniform

Uniform cannot be made compulsory for primary age children, but it is strongly preferred. Uniform can help children feel part of the school community and we ask parents to make every effort to send their child in the uniform listed below:

### Winter Uniform:

Black or grey skirt/ trousers

Yellow polo shirt, with/without school logo. Purple Sweatshirt or Cardigan with logo.

Black shoes/ trainers with black laces.

### Summer Uniform

Yellow or Lilac Gingham dress

Black shorts + usual yellow polo shirt black shoes or black trainers

### Indoor PE Kit

Black shorts white T-Shirt, plimsoles/ trainers

### Outdoor PE Kit

Black Jogging bottoms white T-Shirt, black Sweatshirt or Jogging top, Trainers

Uniform can be purchased from Pretty Miss in Cwmbran – 01633 484408 or alternatively, we have iron on badges in school that can be purchased, these are priced at £2.00 each or three for £5.00.

## School Session Times

8.50am – Doors open

9.00am – The school day starts

12.00pm – 1.00pm Foundation Phase Lunch

12.15pm – 1.00pm Key Stage Two Lunch

3.15pm – End of school day

**Deaf Resource Base** - End of school day 3.00pm

### ASD Resource Base commence school:

9.20am - School starts

3.00pm - School finishes

### Nursery Sessions

Morning Session - 9.00am - 11.30am

Afternoon Session - 12.30pm - 3pm



# School Information

## Bringing & Collecting Children from School or After School Events.

All children must be brought to and collected from School by an adult, **siblings under the age of 16 are not permitted to drop off or pick up.**

Children in Years Five and Year Six are permitted walk to and from school once written permission is provided.

**All children must be collected by an adult following after school events and clubs.**

## Lunchtime and Snacks

### Free School Meals

All children in Wales have access to a **FREE** meal each day under the Welsh Government Universal Free School Meals Scheme. This commitment is in response to the rising cost-of-living pressures on families and our shared ambitions of tackling child poverty and ensuring no child goes hungry in school.

It is important that you apply for the universal free school meals using the link on the Torfaen County Borough Council Website - [Universal Free School Meals Application](#).

There are also further grants that are accessible to you including a School Uniform Grant.

### Packed Lunches

Children may bring a packed lunch from home in for lunchtime. Please make sure that lunch boxes have your child's name and class clearly marked on it. What parents choose to put in their children's packed lunch is a matter of personal choice however we do encourage a healthy balance in a lunchbox.

Unfortunately, we do not have facilities on site to keep packed lunchboxes cool therefore please ensure that ice-packs/ blocks are provided during hot weather to ensure that perishable foods do not spoil.

Any food that is not eaten is returned in your child's box so that you can see what he/she has eaten.

The Torfaen School Catering menus are available on our school website with additional information on Special Diets/ Dietary Requirements should this apply to your child.

### Healthy Snacks

Children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack in for break time, please do not send any children into school with crisps, biscuits, sweets, fizzy drinks, energy drinks or squash.

More information on healthy lunchboxes and snacks can be found on our website.



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# Attendance

Our target for attendance for 2025-2026 is **93%**

It is very important that your child attends school regularly and punctually so that they settle into the routines and expectations of school life and achieve their potential in all areas of the curriculum. Children's attendance is monitored closely by school and the Education Welfare Officer.

We fully recognise however that pupils are at times absent due to genuine reasons such as personal ill health and medical and dental appointments. However, we as a school ask for your full co-operation to ensure, as best as possible, that such visits take place either at the end of the school day or during the school holidays.

***Absence can be reported through the GroupEd App or phoning the school office on 01633 624170***

Please ensure that children arrive on time for the school day, our school gates are locked at 9am and children will need to come to the school office if they arrive after 9am and will be marked as late.

# School Information

## Notifying School of Medical Conditions

As part of the admission process you will be asked to complete a medical questionnaire so that school is fully informed about any medical needs your child may have. If this need is significant a meeting may be held between professionals and yourselves to discuss your child's needs.

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to keep school updated regarding any new medical conditions that may occur.

**Please ensure that contact details are kept up to date.**

## Holidays during term term

In line with all other Torfaen schools, the Headteacher is unable to authorise holiday absence during term time. Only exceptional circumstances may be authorised, but this is as the word exceptional implies, very rare. Therefore, please plan holidays in the 13 weeks school holidays throughout the year.

If you wish to apply for holiday leave during term time, you are asked to make an appointment to meet with the Headteacher to share the reasons for this request. Should you be unable to attend school for a meeting, please outline the request for the holiday in a letter to the Headteacher.

## Pre- School and After School Care

There is a free breakfast club at Nant Celyn which runs every morning from 8.15am to 8.50am. Children should arrive by 8.35am at the latest to enable them to eat their breakfast in plenty of time. It is run by an external organisation. Due to age. Children are to queue outside the exterior hall door when waiting to come into breakfast club.

For further Information contact Mrs Tracey James Tel – 01633 647720

After school care is available through Torfaen Play for a fee from 3.15pm to 5.45pm and is housed in the ICC next door to the school. For further details and costs please contact – Torfaen Play 01633 877740.





Nant Celyn Primary,  
Henllys Way  
Cwmbran  
Tel 01633 624170  
Email; [clerk.nantcelyn@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.nantcelyn@torfaen.gov.uk)