

Ysgol Gynradd Porthcawl Primary School



Curriculum Policy

Author	Evan Richards
Date reviewed	June 2025
Chair of Governors signature	
Headteacher signature	
Next review	June 2027

Curriculum definition

Our school curriculum is defined as everything our learners experience in pursuit of the four purposes. It is not just what we teach but also how we teach it and, importantly, why. As a staff, we have designed a 3D curriculum. The curriculum comprises 126 modules, spanning Reception to Year 6, which are closely linked. Each module builds on previous learning and prepares pupils for future learning. Knowledge, skills, and experiences are carefully sequenced to give pupils at Porthcawl Primary a unique learning journey.

Vision

Our school motto is-

Persevere

Perform

Succeed

When designing the curriculum, the vision that underpinned everything we did was – Experts Learn Better. We therefore aim to inspire, support and challenge all children so that they have the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Curriculum aims

To make the vision a reality for learners, the curriculum will:

- enable learners to realise the four purposes and equip them for ongoing learning, work and life;
- build high expectations and enable all learners to achieve their full potential;
- offer a broad and balanced education, which enables learners to make links between the different areas of learning and experience and to apply their learning to new situations and to more complex issues;
- support progression along a continuum of learning;
- support learners' health and well-being, including their mental health and well-being;
- support learners' development of knowledge that is the foundation of being an informed citizen;
- recognise our learners' identity, language(s), ability and background and the different support they may need given their particular circumstances.

- reflect the diversity of perspectives, values and identities which shape our locality and Wales and develop an understanding of the wider world;
- enable learners to make sense of growing up in contemporary Wales and of issues which will be important in the future, including well-being, sustainable development and citizenship.
- support learners to critically engage with a range of information and to assess its value and validity.
- enable learners to develop an understanding of their rights and the rights of others.
- be built in co-construction with our stakeholders (learners, families, the wider community, and our cluster colleagues).

Curriculum structure and design

When planning the modules, we carefully considered-how each module would relate to other modules. When doing this, we took into consideration-

Vertical links – Links between modules being taught in the same year group.

Horizontal links – Links between modules from the same area of learning in different year groups.

Diagonal links – Links between modules in different year groups and different areas of learning.

These links have been created by carefully sequencing knowledge, key vocabulary, skills and experiences, ensuring that each module is part of a pupil's learning journey throughout their time in PPS. Our curriculum is constantly evolving as we look to improve and maximise the impact of each module. We have included the current sequence of modules, but this will change as we move forward.

Half term 1

Year 6			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	RVE
Autumn 1- The British Empire	Empire & colonialism	India	Identity and Belonging
	Ancient History	Physical Geography	Global Goals
Spring 1 – Changing World	The Black Death	Climate change	Climate Action Goal 13
	Modern History	Country Study	RVE
Summer 1 -Countries in Conflict	WWII	UK	The Journey of Life

Year 5			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	RVE
Autumn 1 – Trade	Slave trade	London	Identity and Belonging
	Ancient History	Physical Geography	Global Goals
Spring 1 – Sea Explorers	Invaders- Saxons/Vikings	Oceans	Life Below Water Goal 14
	Modern History	Country Study	RVE
Summer 1- The World in Conflict	WWI	Antarctica	The Journey of Life

Year 4			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	Ancient History	Human Geography	RVE
Autumn 1- Liberating Leaders	Owain Glyndwr (Mark Drakeford)	Gandhi	Identity and Belonging
	World History	Physical Geography	Global Goals
Spring 1- Solar Power	China	Deserts	Affordable and clean energy Goal 7
	Modern History	Country Study	RVE
Summer 1 – Black Gold	Coal	Swansea & Cardiff	The Journey of Life

Year 3			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	Global Goals
Autumn 1- Equality Street	Industrial Revolution	Cities & Countryside	No Poverty Goal 1
	Ancient History	Physical Geography	RVE
Spring 1 – Wild Wales	Celts	Mountains	Identity and Belonging
	Modern History	Country Study	RVE
Summer 1- Before their time	Ancient Egypt	Egypt	The Journey of Life

Year 2			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	Global Goals
Autumn 1- Hometown Hero	Betty Campbell	Local Area	Quality Education Goal 4
	Country Study	Physical Geography	RVE
Spring 1 – Brilliant Brazil	Brazil	Rivers	Identity and Belonging
	Ancient History	Modern History	RVE
Summer 1- Horrible Histories	Romans	Tudors	The Journey of Life

Year 1			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	RVE
Autumn 1 – Moving Forward	Greeks	Transport	Identity and Belonging
	Country Study	Country Study	Modern History
Spring 1- African Adventures	South Africa	South Africa (Big 5)	Nelson Mandela
	Modern History	Physical Geography	Global Goals
Summer 1- Fierce Fires	Great fire of London	Rainforests	Responsible Consumption and Production Goal 12

Reception			
	History	Geography	R.V.E.- Business and Social
	World History	Human Geography	Global Goals
Autumn 1 – My World	My World	Houses	Zero Hunger Goal 2
	Ancient History	Modern History	RVE
Spring 1 – Once Upon a Time	Castles	Kings and Queens	Identity and Belonging
	Physical Geography	Country Study	RVE
Summer 1 – Wonderful Weather	Weather	Australia	The Journey of Life

Half term 2

Year 6			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Living things	Food	Drama
Autumn 2- Field to Fork	Human body & health	Field to fork –Great Porthcawl Bake off	Stand-up comedy
	Forces and energy	Create	Music
Spring 2 – Forceful Bridges	Electricity and magnets	Bridges	Rap
	Matter & Materials	Computation	Art
Summer 2 – River Banksy	Water - filters	Algorithms – Raspberry Pi	Banksy – Street Art- Bristol

Year 5			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Forces & Energy	Create	Drama
Autumn 2 – Light and Dark	Light & sound	Shadow puppets	Mime
	Living Things	Food	Music
Spring 2 – Over Time	Evolution	Balanced sandwich & food hygiene	Classical – Hans Zimmer
	Matter & Materials	Computation	Art
Summer 2 – Blue Water	Water cycle	Algorithms – Raspberry Pi	Van Gogh - Impressionist

Year 4			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Forces & Energy	Create	Drama
Autumn 2 – Love is in the air	Gravity & up-thrust	Parachute	Shakespeare
	Living Things	Food	Music
Spring 2 – Heartbreak Habitats	Habitats	Smoothie – fair trade	Elvis – Rock ‘n’ Roll
	Matter & Materials	Computation	Art
Summer 2 – Marvellous Mixtures	Solutions	Algorithms - Scratch	Helen Elliott/ Rhiannon Davies - Contemporary

Year 3			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Living things	Food	Drama
Spring 2 – The Circle of Life	Life cycle and photosynthesis	Balanced pizza	Lion King – animals
	Matter and Materials	Create	Music
Autumn 2 – The 3 Rs	Recycling – changing materials	Bag for Life	Recycling Reggae
	Forces and Energy	Computation	Art
Summer 2 - Dream Time	Solar system	Algorithms – Scratch	Stumpy Brown – Aboriginal

Year 2			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Living things	Food	Drama
Autumn 2 – Fabulous Food	Food chains	Eat-well plate – food groups	Pop – Shakira Waka Waka
	Forces and Energy	Matter and materials	Music
Spring 2- Don't Stop Moving	Friction	Reversible & irreversible	James and the Giant Peach 8
	Create	Computation	Art
Summer 2- Carnival	Rio Headpiece -stitching	Algorithms – Bee-Bot	Tribal art – printing on fabric

Year 1			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Matter and Materials	Create	Art
Autumn 2 – Trumpet and Transport	Materials – man made & natural	Vehicle	Abstract art - Picasso
	Living Things	Food	Drama
Spring 2 – Terrific Transformers	Life cycles of animals	Sugar – fruit kebab	Hungry Caterpillar – re-enact
	Forces and Energy	Computation	Music
Summer 2 – Wonderful World	Earth	Algorithms – sequence & patterns	Jazz – Louis Armstrong

Reception			
	Science	Technology	Expressive Arts
	Forces & Energy	Food	Drama
Autumn 2 - Happy and Healthy	Push, pull, twist & magnets	Healthy/ unhealthy lunchbox	Traditional tales with props
	Matter and Materials	Create	Music
Spring 2 - Waves	Water - solids, liquids & gases	Boat	Exploring sounds – make instrument
	Living Things	Computation	Art
Summer 2 – Creepy Crawlies	Minibeasts	Algorithm – Vtech caterpillar	Cubism – Henri Matisse snail

Assessment and Pupil Voice

Each module ends in a rich celebration task. All pupils get the opportunity to follow their chosen interests and work on a project of their choosing, either individually, in pairs or in groups. This is a chance for pupils to celebrate what they have learned in that module in whatever way they choose. Every pupil also completes an online evaluation of each module, allowing us to make changes and improvements year on year.

Cross-Curricular Links

Cross-curricular links are very important and **provide** an added **opportunity** for pupils to build on previous knowledge, skills and experiences. All of our LLC units in Welsh and Literacy are linked to the 126 modules allowing pupils to revisit previous learning and to make the modules authentic and purposeful.

The [four purposes](#) are the aspiration for all learners in Wales.

Our curriculum is designed so that all ~~our~~ learners will be supported to develop as:

ambitious, capable learners who:

- set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge
- build up a body of knowledge and have the skills to connect and apply that knowledge in different contexts
- are questioning and enjoy solving problems
- can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English
- can explain the ideas and concepts they are learning.
- can use numbers effectively in different contexts
- understand how to interpret data and apply mathematical concepts
- use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information
- undertake research and critically evaluate their findings.

and are **ready to learn throughout their lives**

enterprising, creative contributors who:

- connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products
- think creatively to reframe and solve problems
- identify and grasp opportunities
- take measured risks
- lead and play different roles in teams effectively and responsibly
- express ideas and emotions through different media
- give of their energy and skills so that other people will benefit

and **are ready to play a full role in life and work**

ethical, informed citizens who:

- find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views
- engage with contemporary issues based on their knowledge and values
- understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights
- understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices
- are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, past and present
- respect the needs and rights of others as a member of a diverse society
- show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet.

and **are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.**

healthy, confident individuals who:

- have secure values and are establishing their spiritual and ethical beliefs

- are building their mental and emotional well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy
- apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives
- know how to find the information and support to keep safe and well
- take part in physical activity
- take measured decisions about lifestyle and manage risk
- have the confidence to participate in performance
- form positive relationships based on trust and mutual respect
- face and overcome challenge.
- have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can

and **are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.**

The four purposes serve as the starting point for all decisions around curriculum design, and our curriculum is planned in a way that supports learners in making progress toward these goals.

Integral skills

The four purposes are also underpinned by integral skills, which will be developed through a wide range of teaching and learning within the curriculum.

Creativity and innovation

Our curriculum will be designed in a way that develops learners' creativity and innovation by providing the space for and the opportunities that support them to:

- be inquisitive and generate ideas;
- link and connect disparate experiences, knowledge and skills, and see, explore and justify alternative solutions;
- be able to identify opportunities and communicate their strategies.

This will support learners to create different types of value.

Critical thinking and problem-solving

The curriculum will be designed in a way that develops learners' critical thinking and problem-solving by providing the space for and opportunities that support them to:

- ask meaningful questions and evaluate information, evidence and situations;
- analyse and justify possible solutions, recognising potential issues and problems;
- become objective in their decision-making, identifying and developing arguments;
- be able to propose solutions which generate different types of value.

Personal effectiveness

The curriculum will be designed in a way that develops our learners' personal effectiveness by providing the space for and opportunities that support them to:

- develop emotional intelligence and awareness, helping them to become confident and independent;
- lead debate and discussions, helping them to become aware of the social, cultural, ethical and legal implications of their arguments;
- evaluate their learning and mistakes, helping them to identify areas for development;
- become responsible and reliable;
- be able to identify and recognise different types of value and then use that value.

Planning and organising

The curriculum is being designed in a way that develops our learners' planning and organising by providing the space for and opportunities that support them to:

- set goals, make decisions and monitor interim results (where developmentally appropriate);
- reflect and adapt, as well as manage time, people and resources.
- check for accuracy and be able to create different types of value.
- develop an appreciation of sustainable development and the challenges facing humanity
- develop awareness of emerging technological advances
- confidently meet the demands of working in uncertain situations, as changing local, national and global contexts result in new challenges and opportunities for success
- generate creative ideas and to critically evaluate alternatives
- build their resilience and develop strategies which will help them manage their well-being – they should be encountering experiences where they can respond positively in the face of challenge, uncertainty or failure
- learn to work effectively with others, valuing the different contributions they and others make – they should also begin to recognise the limitations of their own work and those of others as they build an understanding of how different people play different roles within a team.

Areas of Learning and Experience (Areas)

Our school curriculum is designed in a way that ensures learning and teaching that encompasses all six Areas of Learning and Experiences (Areas)

- [Expressive arts](#)
- [Health and well-being](#)
- [Humanities](#)

- [Languages, literacy and communication](#)
- [Mathematics and numeracy](#)
- [Science and technology](#)

All Areas have equal status within our curriculum.

Statements of what matter

Our school curriculum provides opportunities for learners to engage with and develop their understanding of the key concepts within all the [statements of what matter](#).

Expressive Arts WM1 Exploring the expressive arts is essential to developing artistic skills and knowledge and it enables learners to become curious and creative individuals.	Expressive Arts WM2 Responding and reflecting, both as artist and audience, is a fundamental part of learning in the expressive arts.	Expressive Arts WM3 Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination.	Humanities WM1 Enquiry, exploration and investigation inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.
Humanities WM2 Events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.	Humanities WM3 Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.	Humanities WM4 Human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.	Humanities WM5 Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.
Health and Well-being WM1 Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits.	Health and Well-being WM2 How we process and respond to our experiences affects our mental health and emotional well-being.	Health and Well-being WM3 Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others.	Health and Well-being WM4 How we engage with social influences shapes who we are and affects our health and well-being.
Health and Well-being WM5 Healthy relationships are fundamental to our well-being.	Languages, Literacy and Communication WM1 Languages connect us.	Languages, Literacy and Communication WM2 Understanding languages is key to understanding the world around us.	Languages, Literacy and Communication WM3 Expressing ourselves through languages is key to communication.
Languages, Literacy and Communication WM4 Literature fires imagination and inspires creativity.	Mathematics and Numeracy WM1 The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities.	Mathematics and Numeracy WM2 Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships.	Mathematics and Numeracy WM3 Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world.
Mathematics and Numeracy WM4 Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed inferences and decisions.	Science and Technology WM1 Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena.	Science and Technology WM2 Design thinking and engineering offer technical and creative ways to meet society's needs and wants.	Science and Technology WM3 The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival.
Science and Technology WM4 Matter and the way it behaves defines our universe and shapes our lives.	Science and Technology WM5 Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe.	Science and Technology WM6 Computation is the foundation for our digital world.	

The curriculum uses the statements of what matters to guide the selection of all curriculum content. Specifically, they are used to:

- select the range of experiences, knowledge and skills that enable learners to make sense of the 'big ideas' and key principles within each statement
- support learners' progression within the 'big ideas' and key principles, and their ability to develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding and application of the statements of what matters

- allow learners to explore topics and ideas through different lenses – the same concept or idea will be explored through different statements of what matters.
- help learners to make sense of a range of experiences, knowledge and skills within each Area by ensuring that content helps learners to develop a coherent understanding of a range of information.

Descriptions of learning

In school, we use the [descriptions of learning](#) as a planning tool to inform the wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences within the curriculum. The curriculum also utilises the descriptions of learning to inform planning for a range of contexts for learning across a progression step, creating depth and breadth throughout the curriculum.

Our curriculum does not use the descriptions of learning to create stand-alone tasks, activities, assessment tasks or interim reports to make judgements about learners' outcomes at a particular point on the continuum.

Progression

[Progression](#) in learning is a process of increasing depth, sophistication, engagement and learner control, rather than of covering a body of content. Progression is not linear, and different learners are likely to progress in markedly different ways. Progression is at the heart of our curriculum design. When selecting the content of the curriculum and assessment, we use the [principles of progression](#) for each Area to inform our approach to progression.



Link to supporting guidance: [Shared understanding of progression.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)

Mandatory curriculum elements

Relationships and sexuality education

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) within the curriculum is planned using the [RSE Code](#) and is designed in a way that is developmentally appropriate, inclusive and pluralistic. More details can be found on our RSE policy.

Religion, Values and Ethics **(RVE)**

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) is mandatory for all learners aged 3 – 16 and sits within the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience. Teaching and learning in RVE reflect that the religious traditions in Wales are, in the main, Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Wales. It also reflects the fact that a range of non-religious philosophical convictions are held in Wales. RVE is planned to meet the mandatory requirements of the Humanities AoLE, and to have regard to both the statutory RVE guidance within the Humanities Area, and the Bridgend Locally Agreed Syllabus. There is no right to withdraw from RVE.

Links to supporting CSC resources for RVE can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 1*)

Cross-curricular skills

We believe that the [mandatory cross-curricular skills](#) of literacy, numeracy and digital competence are essential for learners to be able to access knowledge. They enable learners to access the breadth of our curriculum, equipping them with the lifelong skills to realise the four purposes. These are skills that can be transferred to the world of work, enabling learners to adapt and thrive in the modern world.

Our curriculum is designed to enable learners to develop competence and capability in the cross-curricular skills and extend and apply them across all Areas.

Across the curriculum, learners will be given a range of opportunities 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

We will use the [Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competency Frameworks](#) to guide our approach to the development of the cross-curricular skills.

Cross-cutting themes

[Cross-cutting themes for designing your curriculum - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#)

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE)

Our curriculum is designed to identify and make authentic and meaningful links between learning within a particular Area and learning within the RSE Code.

Links to supporting CSC resources for RSE can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 2*)

Human Rights

We believe that learning about human rights empowers learners as rights-holders. This enables learners to critically examine their own attitudes and behaviours and to develop skills to be ethically informed citizens of Wales and the world, who can advocate for their rights and the rights of others.

The curriculum incorporates opportunities for learners to:

- learn about human rights by developing their understanding of what human rights are and where those rights have originated. This includes developing their understanding of the UNCRC and UNCRPD.
- learn through human rights, which supports learners to develop values, attitudes and behaviours that reflect human rights.

Diversity

We want our curriculum to recognise and celebrate the diversity that exists within the social groups within the school community, the communities we serve, and society as a whole. We want learners to be aware of the characteristics of others and treat others with compassion, empathy, understanding and equity, regardless of those characteristics. As learners progress through the curriculum, they will become increasingly aware of a range of specific characteristics which can define their identity, including sex, gender, race, religion, age, disability and sexuality.

Our curriculum incorporates opportunities for our learners to:

- develop empathy and compassion for others
- celebrate diverse backgrounds, values and characteristics
- develop their own values and sense of identity
- develop an understanding of people with different beliefs and perspectives
- challenge stereotypes

Links to supporting CSC resources for diversity can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 3*)

Careers and work-related experiences (CWRE)

We believe that learning about CWRE is fundamental to developing skills for work and life.

Our curriculum incorporates opportunities for CWRE that inspire learners to:

- develop an understanding of the purpose of work in life, both for themselves and for society as a whole
- become increasingly aware of the range of opportunities available to them, broadening their horizons
- develop the attitudes and behaviours required to overcome barriers to employability, career management and lifelong learning
- appreciate the increasing range of opportunities in the workplace where the ability to communicate in Welsh is important
- explore opportunities through a variety of meaningful experiences in learning, work and entrepreneurship.
- develop resilience and the ability to be adaptable in response to the challenges, choices and responsibilities of work and life

Links to supporting CSC resources for CWRE can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 4*)

Local, national and international contexts

Local, national and international contexts provide key perspectives for our learners and are important in supporting them to realise the [four purposes](#).

Our curriculum incorporates opportunities for learners to:

- develop learning through a range of places and events of significance
- make links with the local community and organisations
- learn about the contributions and experiences of different individuals that shape each context
- learn about cultural diversity, values, histories and traditions that shape each context
- understand different identities, histories, cultures, perspectives and values that shape communities and societies
- recognise and engage with factors, influences and impacts (including economic, social and environmental impacts) locally, nationally and internationally
- develop an authentic sense of cynefin, building knowledge of different cultures and histories, allowing them to develop a strong sense of individual identity and understanding how this is connected to and shaped by wider influences
- draw on the stories and distinctiveness of our school's local surroundings
- understand their role as citizens and the structures of government which affect them in each context
- explore, critically analyse and respond to contemporary issues and challenges affecting their lives and the lives of others through each context
- understand sustainable development, the challenges the environment and society face and how they can engage with and make a difference in these issues, supporting sustainable citizenship.

- understand contemporary Wales, providing opportunities to reflect, understand and analyse contemporary society and their engagement with it
- recognise Wales' diverse linguistic heritage and culture, and its connections with the rest of the world
- recognise how our languages unlock knowledge about our literature, geography, history and their links beyond Wales
- recognise the links between local, national and international contexts, understanding how they constantly influence each other.
- use critical analysis in each context, recognising both positive and challenging aspects within each

A curriculum accessible to all

Through the design of our curriculum, we ensure it:

- is suitable for each learner's age, ability and aptitude
- takes account of each learner's additional learning needs (ALN), if any
- secures broad and balanced learning and teaching for each learner
- makes arrangements for assessing the ability and aptitude of learners in respect of the relevant curriculum, on entry to a school or setting, to identify the next steps in their progression and the learning and teaching needed to support that progress.

Cynefin

Our curriculum will instil learners with a pride and passion in themselves, the school community, the wider community and Wales. Our curriculum will enable learners to explore and understand the different identities, landscapes and histories that all come together locally and nationally to form their cynefin. This will allow learners to develop their own sense of identity and to understand the identities of others, making connections with people, histories and landscapes elsewhere in Wales and internationally.

Learning and teaching

Our vision for learning and teaching is:

Experts Learn Better.

Our curriculum has been designed so that pupils can develop knowledge, skills and vocabulary and build on these as they travel through school. Lessons are planned to be engaging, authentic and stimulating. A wide range of teaching strategies are used, including assessment for learning, individual, pair and group work, teacher focus groups and short intensive sessions.

Our spiral curriculum and clear mapping of knowledge and skills ensure pupils make clear progression on their learning journey. At PPS we have high expectations of our

pupils. Our students share these expectations. They believe they can achieve something if they put the effort in and use a 'Growth Mindset' when faced with a challenge.

Assessment

The purpose and role of assessment within our curriculum

Assessment is an integral part of teaching and learning, playing a fundamental role in enabling learners to make progress. For assessment to be effective, we recognise that partnerships between practitioners, learners, parents and carers are important.

Progression in learning is a process of increasing depth, sophistication, engagement and learner control, rather than of covering a body of content. Progression is not linear and different learners are likely to progress in markedly different ways. Assessment planning and practice, built into the curriculum and classroom practice, should recognise this and allow for a variety of diversions, stops and variations in pace in a learner's journey.

We will assess all learners across the 3 to 16 continuum based on the progression articulated in our curriculum, against planned learning intentions.

Link to Welsh Government supporting guidance: [Assessing learner progress.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/assessing-learner-progress)

The role of different participants in our assessment process

Leaders

Our school leaders will establish a strong learning culture that supports and challenges our practitioners, enabling them to make appropriate progress. This is achieved by:

- creating a clear vision for the curriculum that supports our learners' realisation of the four purposes and supports individual learner progression;
- creating an environment that develops the necessary knowledge and skills to promote learner wellbeing;
- creating an environment based on mutual trust and respect, rather than one focused on compliance and reporting;
- enabling our practitioners to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their role in assessment effectively;
- ensuring the design, adoption, review and revision of the curriculum that affords opportunities for our practitioners to plan purposeful learning that addresses the needs of each of our learners;

- developing and embedding processes and structures that enable practitioners to develop a shared understanding of progression;
- ensuring there is a clear picture of learner progression within the school that is understood by all practitioners, a process that embeds regular ongoing professional dialogue on progression into our systems to support self-reflection and inform improvement;
- ensuring there is a clear understanding of learner progression across our cluster of schools that feeds into discussions on learner progression within each school or setting
- considering how additional challenge and support for learners can be best provided, including working with other partners
- encouraging engagement between all participants in the learning and teaching process in order to develop effective partnerships
- ensuring that the statutory requirements have been met and that due regard has been paid to this guidance for assessment, and that practitioners are taking account of this in planning, learning and teaching and within daily practice.

Practitioners

Practitioners at PPS will plan and provide effective learning experiences that are tailored to the age and developmental needs of learners. They will support and challenge learners effectively to ensure individuals make progress from their own starting points. This is achieved by:

- being clear about the intended learning, and planning engaging learning experiences accordingly;
- supporting the promotion of learner well-being through assessment practice;
- sharing intended learning appropriately with learners;
- evaluating learning, including through observation, questioning and discussion;
- using the information gained from ongoing assessment to reflect on their own practice to inform next steps in teaching and planning for learning;
- providing relevant and focused feedback that actively engages learners, encourages them to take responsibility for their learning, and moves their learning forward;
- encouraging learners to reflect on their progress and, where appropriate, to consider how they have developed, what learning processes they have undertaken and what they have achieved;
- provide opportunities for learners to engage in assessing their own work and that of their peers, and supporting them to develop the relevant skills to do this effectively;
- developing learners' skills in making effective use of a range of feedback to move their learning forward;
- involving parents and carers in learner development and progression, with the learner's involvement in this dialogue increasing over time;
- engaging in dialogue with leaders and fellow practitioners to ensure we have a clear picture of the progress being made within our school;
- identifying any additional challenges or support learners may require, and engaging with external partners where necessary.

Learners

Our learners will participate in and contribute to the learning process in a way that is appropriate to their age and stage of development. This will help them develop knowledge, skills and understanding, and apply them in different contexts. As they make progress with increasing independence, our learners will be supported and encouraged to:

- understand where they are in their learning and where they need to go next;
- develop an understanding of how they will get there;
- respond actively to feedback on their learning, and develop positive attitudes towards receiving, responding to and acting upon feedback in their learning;
- review their progression in learning and articulate this both individually and with others;
- reflect on their learning journey and develop responsibility for their own learning over time

Parents and carers

Parents and carers play a crucial role in assessment, and we will engage with them to support their child's progress effectively.

We will encourage and enable parents and carers to:

- engage regularly with the school and its practitioners in order to understand and support their child's progression in learning;
- share relevant knowledge and understanding with us, which will support their child's learning and progression;
- respond actively to information provided about their child's learning and, in collaboration with us, plan ways of supporting that learning within and outside of school.

External partners

We will engage external partners to:

- help practitioners assess and identify the needs of learners who may require additional support, and help them through the provision of advice and support. This includes specialist educational support and support from other agencies, such as health
- provide information about learning progression that has taken place for learners who may spend some of their time in other contexts.

Supporting each of our learners on an ongoing, day-to-day basis

To support learners on an individual and ongoing, day-to-day basis, assessment is embedded into everyday classroom practice in a way that supports and is indistinguishable from learning.

Our assessment practices will identify each learner's strengths, achievements, areas for improvement and, where relevant, barriers to learning. This understanding will be used by practitioners, in discussion with learners, to determine the next steps required to advance their learning, including any additional challenge and support required.

Identifying, capturing and reflecting on each learner's progress over time

At PPS we constantly assess the progress our pupils are making. This is done daily through verbal feedback and regularly through written feedback. Staff attend termly pupil progress meetings where barriers to learning and progress is discussed in detail. From these meetings, interventions and extra support are arranged. Progress is also regularly shared with parents and carers. At PPS, we have three parent and carer evenings a year.

Our practitioners identify the progress being made by our-learners and record this, where appropriate, to understand each learner's journey over different periods of time and in a variety of ways. This includes developing an understanding of how a learner has learned, as well as what they have learned and can demonstrate their learning.

Reflecting on a learner's progress over time enables practitioners to provide feedback and plan their future learning, including any necessary interventions, additional support, or challenges that may be required. Feedback includes both immediate next steps and longer-term objectives and goals that the learner should work towards to help keep them moving forward in their learning. This information is also used as a basis for communicating and engaging with parents and carers.

Approaches that support us in identifying, capturing and reflecting on each of our learner's progress over time

At PPS we use the following to measure progress-

- Pupil progress grids- updated half-termly
- Pupil progress meetings – termly with members of the SLT
- Termly parent/ carer meetings
- Evaluations linked to assessment tasks
- National test data for reading and numeracy
- Book scrutiny and listening to learners for each area of learning

[Supporting learner progression assessment guidance - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/612222/Supporting_learner_progression_assessment_guidance_-_Hwb.pdf)

Understanding group progress in order to reflect on our practice.

Assessment enables our practitioners and leaders to understand to what extent and in what ways different groups of learners are making appropriate progress. This understanding contributes to our processes of self-evaluation and continuous improvement.

CSC resources for assessment and progression can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 5*)

Communicating with parents and carers

When communicating and engaging with parents and carers, we share information about:

- the progress their child is making
- their future progression needs
- how future progression needs can be supported at home
- their general well-being in school

We share learner information with parents and carers termly.

Parents and carers are given the opportunity to look at pupils' work and discuss progress and barriers to learning. In these meetings, ways forward are discussed and success is shared.

We provide an annual summary of individual learner information.

Reports are issued in the summer term, focusing on the learner's progression and the individual needs and support of the learner. Feedback on the report explains what has gone well and provides clear targets for improvement going forward.

Information on any support, interventions or additional needs required for the learner's development is also shared.

Our learners are provided with opportunities to contribute to the communication process with their parents and carers.

In the summer term, pupils will get the opportunity to present their work to their parents and carers. This will differ from the other parent meetings as it will be pupil-led. At this meeting, pupils will discuss the work they are proud of, as well as their targets for the future.

Reading and numeracy assessments

Statutory online personalised assessments are part of our wider assessment arrangements and are designed to help practitioners and learners understand how reading and numeracy skills are developing and what the next steps should be.

Reading and numeracy tests are completed by all pupils from years 2 to 6 in the autumn and summer terms. Results and ways forward are then shared with parents and carers. Staff also use these results to identify individual and group trends, informing future teaching and learning.

On-entry assessments

At any point a learner enters our school, we will assess their capabilities, skills, knowledge and aptitudes against the curriculum to determine the next steps in their progression and the learning and teaching needed to make that progress.

Transition

In accordance with the [2022 Transition Regulations](#) our transition plan covers the following matters:

- proposals for managing and co-ordinating the transition of learners from feeder primary schools to the secondary school
- proposals for how continuity of learning will be achieved through curriculum design and planning for learning and teaching for learners in Year 6 transitioning to Year 7
- proposals for how each learner's progression will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school
- proposals for how the learning needs and the well-being of each learner will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school
- proposals for reviewing and monitoring the impact of the transition plan in respect of how it has helped:
 - achieve continuity of learning
 - support individual learner progression

For more detail on transition see our transition plan.

Curriculum Summary

In line with the mandatory requirement for schools to publish a summary of their curriculum, a copy of our curriculum summary can be found here.

[Curriculum | Porthcawl Primary School](#)

Links to supporting CSC resources for Curriculum Summaries can be found in the appendix below (*Appendix 5*)

Curriculum review, evaluation and revision

The review process

It is the responsibility of the governing body and headteacher to keep the curriculum and assessment arrangements under review, revising them if they no longer comply with our curriculum policy.

Appendix

1. **RVE** [supporting materials](#) and guidance on CSC Knowledge Bank
2. **RSE** guidance and [supporting materials](#) on CSC Knowledge Bank
3. **Diversity** [supporting materials](#) on CSC Knowledge Bank
4. **CWRE** [supporting materials](#) on CSC Knowledge Bank
5. **Assessment and progression** [supporting materials](#) on CSC Knowledge Bank
6. **Curriculum summary** [guidance](#) on CSC Knowledge Bank