

The Y Bont Faen vision for our *Inspire Curriculum*

Inspire to learn - Inspire for Life

Every child at Y Bont Faen is nurtured and encouraged in a safe, happy environment with high quality learning experiences which develop the skills and knowledge needed for a successful future. We work together to reach our full potential and to become caring and confident lifelong learners.

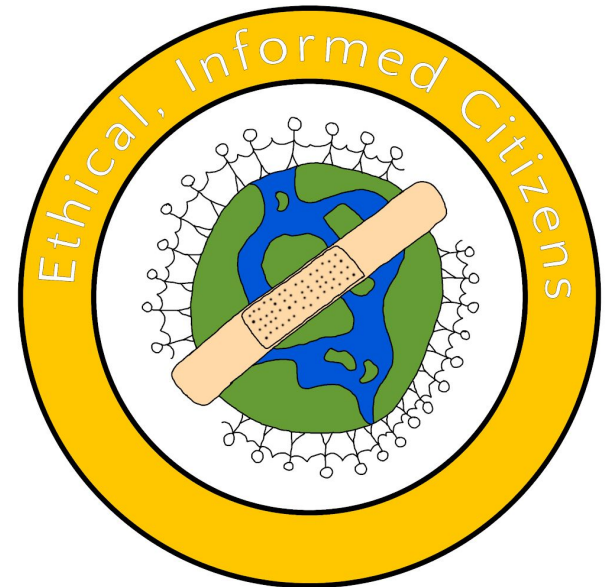
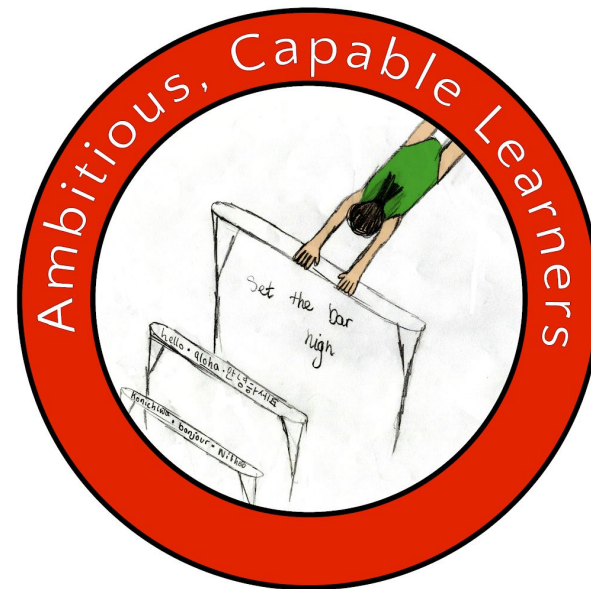


The Four Purposes

Our curriculum journey has been driven by the four purposes, to empower our learners to become:

- * ambitious , capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
- * enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- * ethical informed citizens of Wales and the world
- * healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Our teachers and children have been involved in a variety of ongoing projects that have developed a shared understanding of the *strands* that sit within each purpose, and how they are and can be developed in a stage appropriate way across the curriculum.



Our Aims

The four purposes are embedded into our revised school aims.

- To ensure the wellbeing of all is paramount and is supported through providing a happy, secure and caring environment for both children and staff, where respect and consideration for others is integral to all we do.
- To provide a rich curriculum which will help develop ambitious capable learners, healthy confident individuals, enterprising, creative contributors and ethical informed citizens.
- To have high expectations so that everyone strives to be their best embracing challenge, building resilience and self-belief.
- To encourage children to think, ask questions, collaborate and be creative through, interesting and engaging learning experiences which are relevant and meaningful to children's lives now, and in the future.
- To encourage children to be positive and active contributors to the environment.
- To celebrate diversity and build positive relationships.
- To promote active partnership within the wider community, and develop an awareness of local, national and global issues.



Our Approach to Teaching Learning

At Y Bont Faen we believe teaching approaches (pedagogy) is fundamental to building strong learning experiences that inspire, whilst ensuring children progress in skills and knowledge.

We believe, how we teach our children is as important as what we teach! Our staff use a range of pedagogical strategies to build rich learning experiences that are purposeful and meaningful, that build on prior learning, giving them opportunities to collaborate and challenge themselves. Opportunities to share, reflect and explain helps to embed learning for our children.

Professional Development

We are dedicated to growing professional learning as a team and learning with others beyond our school. We promote professional enquiry for all staff and create a climate where this can be developed at an appropriate level for every practitioner.

Thinking Matters

An important part of our pedagogy is promoting and helping learners to develop thinking skills, meta-cognition (learning how to learn) and a growth mindset, to tackle challenges confidently. Working with our cluster we have started our *Thinking Matters* journey to become a 'Thinking School', building on previous whole school approaches that have developed; cognition and metacognition, resilience and growth mindset.



Stakeholder Engagement

We have involved all of our stakeholders in developing our vision and ethos; school staff, learners, families and governors. We carried out different activities to seek their views and opinions on what they value and want from their community school and the curriculum.

Provide a happy, safe place to enjoy learning; use the outdoor space to enhance learning.

To be creative and have opportunities for art, music, drama as well as more formal classroom based experiences so a varied curriculum.

An understanding of the wider world and different religions, races and cultures within Wales and beyond

The varied curriculum including forest schools and digital learning means that my children are experiencing a wide range of knowledge and skills.

I want them to have a secure understanding of literacy and maths and understand the fundamentals which they can be able to use these in real life situations

What our parents want from our YBF curriculum.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fkVimPVPdeJ5SxIHsfACwUQJHvTJtA0bip4XKXihHZI/edit>

*Real community with a really personal focus...
You feel like your family belongs to something and is part of something*

Cultural awareness of other backgrounds e.g. Visit an Islamic temple/ look at black history.

I value the delivery of robust education - and one that really instils joy and respect for learning and the gaining of knowledge and skills regardless of 'level' of attainment if that makes sense. It's just enjoying learning whether or not you're the brightest or the most brilliant.

Keep doing what you do best because your doing a fabulous job.



Our Inspire Curriculum

Our curriculum is driven by the Four Purposes, structured around the six Areas of Learning, with the cross curricular responsibilities running through learning experiences.

By developing integral skills, through rich and meaningful learning experiences, we strive for our learners to become equipped with skills that will be relevant to their lives now and in the future. Our curriculum is designed to be creative, purposeful, contextualised and connected.

Six Areas of Learning

- Expressive Arts
- Humanities
- Health and Wellbeing
- Language and Communication
- Maths and Numeracy
- Science and Technology
- Organising

Cross Curricular Responsibilities

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Digital Competency

Integral Skills

- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Personal Effectiveness
- Planning and



Our Inspire Curriculum

At Y Bont Faen our Inspire Curriculum will be a broad and balanced approach of systematic teaching and learning of specific skills and knowledge, such as developing numeracy and literacy, alongside our enquiry approach, which will enable our children to seek challenge, explore, investigate and question the world around them. Our curriculum will help them to develop respect, integrity, become confident decision makers and build a feeling of “Cynefin”, as citizens of their community, Wales and the wider world.

Our Inspire Curriculum has been developed around three umbrella topics that will run across the whole school, to ensure we build depth of skills and knowledge, whilst engaging with personal, local, national and global enquiries.

My Identity, Wales and the World

Creative Minds

What a Wonderful World

Children will explore different lines of inquiry within each topic, which reflect key themes of the What Matters Statements, from the Curriculum for Wales. Cross curricular skills are developed meaningfully in authentic contexts. Pupil voice helps to influence and shape our lines of enquiry.

Why is our school special? How can we help our local wildlife? What influences our identity? Is it fair that inequalities exist in society?

Children will have opportunities to share, present and celebrate their learning in a range of creative ways.



Our Inspire Curriculum

Religion, values and ethics (RVE) and Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

Both RSE and RVE are mandatory elements of the Curriculum for Wales therefore, families are not able to request that their children are withdrawn from these lessons. Both are taught as integral part of our curriculum supporting a curriculum that celebrates diversity, identity, empowerment and respect. Children build understanding of their own and others beliefs values and ethics in relation to religion and other guiding non-religious influences. At Y Bont Faen they will begin to learn about the five main faiths; Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism. Children will learn about different relationships, what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like and their role in different relationships. Above all, our focus will always be to help equip our children with an emotional toolkit to enable them to stay safe and overcome challenges whilst building strong wellbeing.

RVE and RSE have been mapped across Health and Wellbeing, Humanities, Digital Competency, Languages, Literacy and Communication.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf>

RSE

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-01/curriculum-for-wales-relationships-sexuality-education-code.pdf>

ALN

All children will be challenged and supported appropriately in order for them to make progress. Children with identified additional needs and emerging additional needs will be supported through strong class provision and the use of specialised interventions. At Y Bont Faen we pride ourselves on our partnerships with families in helping provide the most appropriate support.

Rights of the Child

We are a Rights Respecting School and pride ourselves on putting the Rights of the Child into practice within our school and beyond. Developing opportunities to build understanding of individual rights and what they mean to our children, what these look like to children across the world and making links to their rights in different contexts across the curriculum. We have achieved the Bronze award and are now working towards achieving our Silver award.

Creativity

To help develop creativity across our curriculum with both staff and learners, we have been part of the Lead Creative School project, run by Arts Council Wales. Creative agents and artistic practitioners have worked closely with staff and learners to help develop creative approaches and strategies to learning across the curriculum.

We have engaged with a range of artists to provide enriching learning experiences that expose children to the exciting world of the art, stimulating creativity, curiosity and imagination.



World of work

We strive to provide opportunities for children to engage with authentic real-life experiences that inspire them for their futures lives. All children have the opportunity to engage with the enterprise process at an appropriate level to their stage of learning. We engage with *Big Ideas Wales*, inviting their role models in to talk to the children about how they started their business, problems they overcame and to give advice to the children about life in work. Our school enters the annual Enterprise Troopers competition, to showcase the entrepreneurial skills that have been developed. We also work closely with Cowbridge Rotary, where children get the opportunity to work on a project called KIVA. With this project, children are introduced to microfinance. We forge close partnerships with local businesses and look for opportunities to develop these further.

Inspire award

We have developed the Inspire Award Scheme, based on the four purposes that underpin the Curriculum for Wales, to promote authentic and meaningful opportunities for children, as an alternative to 'traditional homework'. Each term pupils are invited to choose from several carefully designed 'challenges' which reflect aspects of a chosen purpose. Challenges include learning Makaton, donating games to a charity shop, climbing a mountain, and tracking food miles. The Scheme has been designed to promote independence, as well as giving pupils the opportunity to work collaboratively with family members or friends. We believe that the life skills children are developing through the Scheme will be long lasting and will ignite interest in areas of learning they might not previously have discovered or explored. Early feedback from pupils and parents / carers indicate that the Scheme encourages greater creativity, exploration, independence and more active engagement outdoors.





Progression

We have worked closely in partnership with our Cluster Schools to unpick the What Matters Statements and map the progression of skills and knowledge across the the Progression Steps. These progression documents will drive the creation of learning experiences across learning groups which build on prior learning and ensure all children make good progress in all areas of learning.

Collaboratively we have mapped skills and knowledge across each year group under the overarching whole school topics to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum. These will feed into our topic maps and weekly planning of learning experiences.

Assessment

Assessment is fundamental to the learning process, helping pupils to identify and achieve their next steps in learning.

Assessment has three main roles to enable learner progression:

- *supporting individual learners on an ongoing, day-to-day basis
- *identifying, capturing and reflecting on individual learner progress over time
- *understanding group progress in order to reflect on practice

At Y Bont Faen Primary School this will be carried out through Assessment for Learning (AFL) strategies and ongoing teacher assessment. Children are integral to this process, reflecting on their learning and that of others, identifying successes and next steps.

We will continue to carry out summative assessments including:

Baselines

Selfie

Reading ages

Spelling ages

Non- verbal

Welsh Government personalised assessments



Where Next?

Our curriculum reflects an ever-changing world, and we recognise that it will evolve and adapt to embrace this.

We will continue to seek feedback from all stakeholders as well as professional enquiry and academic research, in order to reflect on, evaluate and adapt our Inspire Curriculum. The professional learning, and monitoring and evaluation calendars, allow for whole staff evaluation, review and planning to adapt our curriculum appropriately.

Our curriculum will be regularly reviewed and refined through ongoing evaluation and collaboration.

At Y Bont Faen Primary School we are looking forward to continuing this exciting learning journey together.



Happy and Healthy people - body and mind

We work together as a team to create an environment that supports positive wellbeing for all. Where staff and children have a good understanding of what influences physical and mental health and wellbeing. We aim to support each other in building a strong toolkit to overcome the challenges that life brings, to enable us to take pride in success and motivation from challenge.

What Matters Statements

1. Developing physical health and wellbeing has life-long benefits.
2. How we process and respond to our experiences affects our mental health and emotional well-being.
3. Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others.
4. How we engage with social influences shapes who we are and the affects our health and well-being.
5. Healthy relationships are fundamental to our wellbeing

The Highlights

- Health and wellbeing is developed holistically through learning experiences within different AoLE s and as part of life at Y Bont Faen.
- Relationships and sexuality education strongly links to the AoLE.
- Children will explore, develop, understand and manage emotions.
- They will learn about how to stay safe through making considered decisions.

The inspiration and Power of the Arts

At Y Bont Faen, we engage, motivate and encourage learners to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills. We provide opportunities for our learners to experience the expressive arts in all its forms for them to appreciate and value its positive effects on their life and society. Children are given opportunities to be imaginative in their approach to their learning and understanding of Expressive Arts, inquisitive in their enquiry and understanding of themes and skills, resilient in refining and improving their work, collaborate and become confident through exploring, reflecting and creating. Through engaging with the expressive arts, learners can gain an understanding and an appreciation of cultures and societies in Wales and in the wider world around them.

What Matters Statements

1. Exploring the expressive arts is essential to developing artistic skills and knowledge and it enables learners to become curious and creative individuals
2. Responding and reflecting, both as artist and audience, is a fundamental part of learning in the expressive arts.
3. Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination.

The Highlights

- The Expressive Arts Area of Learning spans five disciplines: art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music.
- Develop rich contexts that enable exploration, critical thinking and creativity.
- Develop curious and creative minds

A Sense of Belonging, Cynefin

As a 'Rights Respecting School' our humanities curriculum has strong links to the UNCRC, enabling children to realise their rights to participation, freedom of expression and information (Articles 12, 13 and 17) and supporting children to know and understand their rights under the UNCRC (Article 42) and, to develop an understanding of the human rights of others. It seeks to fire the imagination, awaken a sense of wonder and belonging (cynefin), develop a purpose of enquiry, and to inspire learners to grow in knowledge, understanding and wisdom. This Area encourages learners to engage with the most important issues facing humanity, including sustainability and social change, and help to develop the skills necessary to interpret and articulate the past and the present. The Area encompasses geography, history, religion, values, and ethics (RVE), business studies and social studies. These subjects share many common themes, concepts, and transferable skills, while having their own discrete body of knowledge and skills.

What Matters Statements

1. Enquiry, exploration and investigation inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.
2. Events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.
3. Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.
4. Human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.
5. Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity and are able to take considered and ethical action.

The Highlights

- Develop a rich context for enquiry
- Provide rich contexts for children to be curious
- Develop and understanding of each subject and its value
- Encourage active participation and engagement in all subject areas

Reasoning and Creative Problem Solving

We work together as a team to engage and excite our children in solving mathematical challenges through learning the key number skills and applying them to real life contexts through exploration and play. This inspires resilience, collaborative opportunities and teaches children to learn from their mistakes. Maths at Y Bont Faen is aimed at inspiring learners to enjoy the self belief of success and feel comfortable in taking measured risks. The school aims to ensure children are secure in exploring the five proficiencies in Mathematics: conceptual understanding, communication using symbols, strategic competence, logical reasoning and fluency.

What Matters Statements

1. The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities.
2. Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships.
3. Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world.
4. Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed inferences and decisions.

The Highlights

- To develop curious and enquiring minds
- To be confident in basic number skills
- To apply knowledge and skills to real life problems
- To increase resilience and not be afraid to fail.

Communication is the Window to our World

At Y Bont Faen communication is at the heart of our learning. We value oracy, listening, reading and writing skills to express ourselves across the curriculum. We foster a love of literature and languages to develop a sense of identity and belonging to our community, Wales and the wider world. We learn the skills to make links and acquire new language. Feeding young imaginations, inspiring creativity and curiosity helps to develop enthusiastic learners.

What Matters Statements

1. Languages connect us.
2. Understanding languages is key to understanding the world around us.
3. Expressing ourselves through languages is key to communication
4. Literature fires imagination and inspires creativity.

The Highlights

- To communicate effectively across the AOLE's
- To make sense of language structures and patterns.
- To develop multilingual skills.
- To spark imagination and creativity in our learning.
- To explore the world around us through languages and literature.

Curious and innovative thinkers of the modern world

At Y Bont Faen we aim to develop inquisitive problem solvers and critical thinkers who are prepared for the ever changing world. Through practical hands-on experiences children make discoveries for themselves, build resilience and make links from their learning to the world around them. We strive to develop ethically informed learners who are reflective of scientific and technological impacts on the world. This area encompasses, Scientific Enquiry, Technology and Engineering, Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Computation.

What Matter Statements

1. Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena.
2. Design thinking and engineering offer technical and creative ways to meet society's needs and wants.
3. The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival.
4. Matter and the way it behaves defines our universe and shapes our lives.
5. Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe.
6. Computation is the foundation for our digital world.

The Highlights

- 'Just because we can, does this mean we should?' Developing an awareness of how our actions have impact on our planet, including climate and nature emergencies.
- We strive to equip our learners with skills to overcome future challenges, so that they are knowledgeable about the use of our planet's resources in a sustainable and ethical way.
- To understand how computers work so that they are able to reflect on the limitation of what a computer can do.