

Deuparth Ffordd Ei Gwybod



Curriculum Policy

The Governing Body has adopted this Policy.

Agreed: March 2023

Signed: _____ *J. Barton*

Ms Julie Barton

Chair of the Governing Body

To be reviewed: March 2026

YSGOL GARTH OLWG

CURRICULUM POLICY

Ysgol Garth Olwg's Vision

Ysgol Garth Olwg's Curriculum will nurture positive habits and healthy thinking in our pupils, giving them the experiences, knowledge and life skills to be learners who:

- **Nurture Respect**
- **Encourage Aspiration**
- **Work together as one Community**
- **Promote a Healthy Lifestyle**
- **Celebrating Welshness and Wales**
- **Learn about the local area**

Our intention at Ysgol Garth Olwg is to ensure broad, balanced, challenging, progressive and relevant educational experiences for all of our learners. Our curriculum is aimed at enabling every pupil and child to develop in the ways described in the four purposes. Our curriculum is therefore designed to ensure that the pupils and children develop to be

- capable and ambitious learners, who are ready to learn throughout their lives;
- enterprising and creative contributors, who are ready to play a full part in life and work;
- principled and knowledgeable citizens of Wales and the world;
- healthy and confident individuals, who are ready to live fulfilling lives as valuable members of society.

We want our pupils to enjoy their learning, to contribute to their learning and to take responsibility for their learning.

The curriculum includes the following areas of learning and experience in accordance with Government guidelines:

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

Ysgol Garth Olwg learners will also receive education on the mandated elements below within the areas of learning and experience:

- Relationship and Sexuality Education
- Religion, Values and Ethics Education
- Developing the Cross Curricular Skills (Digital Competence, Literacy and Numeracy)

This policy was drawn up taking into account government documentation such as:

- Wales Curriculum and Assessment Act 202

Objectives

Implement the curriculum in a way that

- enable all pupils to develop in the ways described in the four purposes,
- ensure teaching and learning that offers appropriate progress for all pupils,
- suitable for each pupil's age, ability and talent,
- inclusive considering the needs of all pupils including pupils with additional learning needs
- ensuring broad and balanced teaching and learning for all pupils.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Lower School

In the Lower School there is an emphasis on developing social and speech skills in Welsh during the early years. A broad and rich curriculum is offered which has been designed in accordance with the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales. It gives learners the opportunity to study disciplines across the six areas of learning and experience developing a solid educational foundation in preparation for studies in Middle School.

Middle School

A broad and rich curriculum is offered which has been designed in accordance with the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales. It gives learners the opportunity to study disciplines across the six areas of learning and experience developing a solid educational foundation in preparation for studies in the Upper School.

See below the lessons year 7 and 8 pupils receive within the Learning and Experience Areas.

Area	Subject	Area	Subject
The Expressive Arts	Art	Mathematics & Numeracy	Mathematics
	Music	Languages, Literacy and Communication	Welsh
	Drama		English
Humanities	Humanities		French
Science & Technology	Science	Health & Wellbeing	Health & Wellbeing
	Technology		Physical Education
	Information Technology		

Upper School

At the end of year 8 learners have the opportunity to make informed decisions to tailor their curriculum in year 9 in preparation for making their GCSE option choices at the end of year 9.

Year 9 Curriculum

All learners continue to study the core curriculum and then choose 4 out of the 9 subjects in the optional curriculum.

Core Curriculum i.e.	Optional Curriculum i.e.
Welsh	Further Physical Education
English	Religious Education
Mathematics	Art
Science	Music
Religion, Values & Ethics	Geography
Statutory Physical Education	Drama
Technology	French
Foundation Information Technology	History
	Further Information Technology

Year 10 and 11 Curriculum

Learners are supported as they make post-14 choices by holding a Post-14 Learning Pathways Night, presenting the new qualifications to pupils during tutoring periods and within the subject lessons, the Upper School options website together with meetings with the pastoral team. An annual free choice audit is carried out in order to draw up columns that best meet the needs of current learners. It is recognized that the offer of all optional subjects in Key Stage 4 is dependent on viable numbers. See the Post-14 Learning Pathways Booklet for further details of the qualifications we offer.

Senior School

Learners are supported as they make post-16 choices by holding a Post-16 Learning Pathways Night, presenting the new qualifications to pupils during tutoring periods and within the subject lessons, the Upper School options website, the Senior School Prospectus together with meetings with the pastoral team. The School offers a wide and balanced range of A Level and Vocational subjects which meet the needs of our learners. An annual free choice audit is carried out in order to draw up columns that best meet the needs of current learners. It is recognized that the offer of all optional subjects in Key Stage 5 is dependent on viable numbers. We advise pupils to study the Skills Challenge Certificate together with 2 or 3 optional subjects.

See the Post-16 Learning Pathways Booklet for further details of the qualifications we offer.

Suitable Learning Pathways and Inclusion within the Curriculum

We will evaluate our curricular provision consistently, reflectively and honestly to ensure that we provide the most appropriate pathways for our learners in our curriculum at all stages of their school career.

We will adapt our pathways flexibly and constructively as a result of our rigorous self-evaluation processes to ensure that the pathways in place for our learners are suitable for their individual needs, age, cohort and campus requirements.

We will adapt the structure and organisation of our curriculum according to these self-evaluation processes to ensure that we are alert to the requirements of each year group to ensure the best purposefully differentiated education to challenge and sustain all learners.

We will take full account of the voice of all our stakeholders when considering the most suitable curriculum pathways for all our learners to ensure that all Garth Olwg learners reach their full potential.

Language of our Curriculum

At Ysgol Garth Olwg, Welsh is the main language of the school. The use of the Welsh language by pupils, and all staff within this institution is central to the ethos and high status given to the Welsh language in the school. A core part of this ethos is that we provide, where possible, all elements of our curriculum (with the exception of English and MFL lessons) through the medium of Welsh. This is essential if we are to realise our vision of ensuring that all pupils develop to be bilingually proficient, and thus play a full part in the bilingual society of which they belong.

Times of the day

Nursery		Reception		Yr.1&2		Yr. 3&4		Yr. 5&6		Yr. 7&8		Upper & Senior	
staff	08:40	staff	08:40	staff	08:40	staff	08:40	staff	08:35	staff	08:25	staff	08:25
1	08:50	1	08:50	1	08:50	1	08:50	reg.	08:45	1	08:30	1	08:30
								1	09:00	reg.	09:35	reg.	09:35
								break	10:00	break	09:55		
break	10:30	break	10:30	break	10:30	break	10:30			2	10:15	2	09:55
2	10:50	2	10:50	2	10:50	2	10:50	2	10:20			break	10:55
				3	11:45					3	11:15	3	11:15
lunch	11:30	lunch	11:45	lunch	12:00	3	12:00	lunch	12:15	lunch	12:15	4	12:15
		3	13:00	4	13:00	4	13:15			4	13:00	lunch	13:15
3	13:00	4		5	13:20	5	13:35	3	13:00	5	14:00	5	14:00
home	15:20	home	15:20	home	15:20	home	15:20	home	15:20	home	15:00	home	15:00