



YSGOL **GARTH**
OLWG

PROSPECTUS

NURTURING RESPECT
ENCOURAGING ASPIRATION
WORKING AS ONE COMMUNITY

Welcome from the Headteacher



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Ysgol Garth Olwg via this prospectus. I very much hope you enjoy browsing through this prospectus and that you will gain a valuable insight into all the opportunities, support and activities available to our pupils, as well as information regarding the structure and vision of the school.

We take great pride in our strong Welsh identity, our pioneering history and strong heritage, and we fully appreciate the weight of our responsibility in ensuring that Ysgol 3 - 19 Garth Olwg provides the very best education for our learners.

The ethos of the school is based on the following core values:

Nurturing Respect
Encouraging Aspiration
Working as One Community

By focusing on these values, our learners will have the foundation which enables them to progress happily through the school and realise their full potential.

I look forward to welcoming you to the school in the near future.



MR T. EDWARDS Headteacher

Ysgol Garth Olwg Mission



Provide 3 - 19 Welsh Medium Education of the highest standard to learners in the Pontypridd area, as well as playing a leading role in forming a strong partnership with the local Welsh medium primary schools. By doing this the Welsh-medium sector will continue to thrive in this area in the twenty-first century.

To nurture healthy, independent and multilingual learners who are proud of their school. Garth Olwg's 3 - 19 pupils show respect to all of the school's stakeholders. They will be ambitious individuals who continually set high standards for themselves. Ysgol Garth Olwg is an inclusive school that prepares all learners for the challenges of the future by providing a happy school for them to develop their skills to the full. There is a strong sense of working together as one community and as a result pupils, staff, parents and carers, governors and all stakeholders of the school are proud members of the Ysgol Garth Olwg community.

Provide a cohesive curriculum and a continuum of learning experiences that link the various stages across the 3 - 19 age range. At the heart of this vision is the Middle School (Years 5 - 8) which provides a clear focus for developing the learning continuum across this key age range.

Establish an exciting and dynamic school that adapts quickly to the educational challenges of the 21st century. This is a school that develops strategies and pedagogy based on research, a school ready to take risks and innovate as a trail blazing 3 - 19 school. Ysgol Garth Olwg will play a leading role in local, regional, national and international educational developments, that will ensure that it is recognised as a successful and pioneering 3-19 school.

Ysgol Garth Olwg Vision

Establish a true 3 - 19 School that provides a continuum of learning experiences across the age range

Nurturing healthy, respectful and confident individuals who are ready to live life and fulfil their aspirations as valued members of society

Nurturing principled Citizens who are knowledgeable about Wales and the world, proud of their heritage and confident in their use of the Welsh language

Nurturing aspirational, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives

Nurturing enterprising, creative Contributors willing to play their full part in their life and work

Proud member of the Pontypridd Education Partnership to ensure that Welsh Medium Education continues to thrive

Leadership Team Structure

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mr Trystan Edwards
Headteacher



Mr Dylan Hughes
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Elin Howard
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Amy Hughes
Assistant
Headteacher



Dr Nia Griffiths
Assistant
Headteacher

SCHOOL'S TEAM



Mrs Anna Rogers
Head of Lower
School



Mrs Rachel Llwyd
Head of Middle
School



**Mrs Katherine
Adsett**
Head of Upper
School



Mr Llŷr Evans
Head of Senior
School

LEARNING & EXPERIENCE TEAM



Mr Gwion Morris
Associate Head
Science and
Sports Science



Mrs Sara Rudland
Associate Head of
Expressive Arts
and Humanities



Ms Kristie Higgins
Associate Head
of Expressive Arts
and Humanities



**Mr Gavin
Wyn Parry**
Associate Head
of Languages,
Literacy and
Communication



Mrs Helen Carroll
Associate Head
Mathematics and
Numeracy

Learning Support

Below is a link to the school's ALN provision:



<https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/ady-garth-olwg/cartrefhome>

Schools Team



Nursery – Year 4



Mrs Anna Rogers
Head of Lower School



Isaf: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/ysgolisafgartholwg>



Mrs Gemma Spanswick
Deputy Head of Lower School



Year 5 – Year 8



Mrs Rachel Llwyd
Head of Middle School



Canol: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/gartholwgcanol>



Mrs Yazmin Bradberry
Deputy Head of Middle School



Year 9 – Year 11



Mrs Katherine Adsett
Head of Upper School



Uchaf: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/ysgol-uchaf>



Mr Craig Evans
Deputy Head of Upper School



Year 12 – Year 13



Mr Llŷr Evans
Head of Senior School



Hŷn <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/ysgol-hyn-garth-olwg>

School uniform



School uniform



School uniform **PHYSICAL EDUCATION** **LOWER & MIDDLE SCHOOL (YRS 5 & 6)**

All items in navy colour plain or branded



Plain T-shirt



Plain Shorts

Pupils in Years 5&6 may also use the clothing in the Middle & Upper School range



Plain Tracksuit
Bottoms/Joggers or Leggings

Optional



Hoodie

School uniform PHYSICAL EDUCATION MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL

All items in navy colour plain or branded



T shirts



Rugby Shirts



Shorts



Polo Tops



Socks



Skorts



Hoodie



1/4 Zip Top



Leggings



Round neck rain jacket

Dewisol
Optional



Plain
Navy
Joggers

Garth Olwg School Curriculum



Underpinning the formal curriculum taught we aim to develop ambitious and respectful learners who are cooperative and valued members of the local and global community.

Ysgol Garth Olwg's Curriculum will cultivate positive practice and healthy minds in our pupils, by giving them the experiences, information and life skills for them to be learners who:

- Cultivate respect
- Encourage aspiration
- Collaborate as one Community
- Encourage Healthy Lives
- Celebrate Wales and being Welsh
- Learn about the local area



Lower School: The main focus of the Lower School is to provide the pupils with the basic skills, with an emphasis on developing the spoken language in Welsh, in order to lay the foundations for reading and writing skills. Using the principles of the Foundation Phase, the four purposes and the areas of learning and experience within the New Curriculum for Wales, pupils have a variety of curricular and extra-curricular experiences both indoors and outdoors. By developing the pupils' literacy and numeracy skills, we are also providing the children with a variety of experiences to develop thinking, collaborative, investigative and creative skills. The aim is to ensure that pupil's transition to the Middle School as confident, independent and ambitious learners.

Middle School: The aim of the Middle School in years 5 and 6 is to develop and refine the skills acquired in the Lower School, creating independent and confident learners. We place emphasis on developing the various language and maths skills in the mornings and integrate these into our afternoon subject lessons. The four purposes and areas of learning and experience are at the heart of our work, and as a result, the creativity, expertise, opinions and contribution of all pupils are able to develop and flourish without boundaries. In years 7 and 8 learners study the topics below.

National curriculum core subjects: English, Welsh, Mathematics and Science.

Non-core subjects: Physical Education, Art, Music, Drama, Humanities, French, Design and Technology, Information Technology and Health, Wellbeing and Ethics.

Garth Olwg School Curriculum



Upper School: In year 9 the pupils continue to study the compulsory subjects and choose just four optional subjects.

The compulsory subjects (core): Welsh, English, Mathematics and Science.

Compulsory subjects (non-core): Statutory Physical Education, Design and Technology, Foundation Information Technology and Health, Wellbeing and Morals.

Optional subjects: Further Physical Education, Religious Studies, Art, Music, Geography, Drama, French, History and Further Information Technology.

At the end of year 9, pupils will choose three optional subjects to study for their GCSE qualifications or level 2 vocational qualifications.

In year 10 and 11, in addition to the compulsory core subjects the pupils will study their three chosen optional subjects and the Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh baccalaureate).

Optional subjects: Physical Education, BTEC Leadership Through Sports, Personal and Social Education, Religious Studies, Food and Nutrition, Art and Design, Music, Computer Science, Geography, Personal and Social Education, Drama, D&T: Product design, D&T: Fashion and Textiles, Photography, French, History, Health and Social Care, and Digital Technology.



Senior School: As well as studying the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate we expect pupils in the Senior School to study at least 2 another optional qualifications. There are a variety of different level 3 qualifications such as AS, A Levels, BTEC and other Level 3 Vocational Qualifications.

One of our priorities within the Senior School is to encourage learners to develop their personal and transferrable skills and to enhance their ability to take responsibility and exercise leadership.

Times of the Day

Nursery	Reception	Bl.1&2	Bl. 3&4	Bl. 5&6	Bl. 7&8	Upper & Senior
1 08:50	1 08:50	1 08:50	1 08:50	Regist. 08:45 1 09:00	1 08:30	1 08:30
Break 10:30				Break 10:00	Regist. 09:35 Break 09:55	2 09:55
2 10:50	2 10:50	2 10:50	Break 10:50 2 11:10	2 10:20	3 11:15	Break 10:55 3 11:15
Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:45	Lunch 12:00	Lunch 12:40	Lunch 12:00	Lunch 12:15	4 12:15
3 13:00	3 13:00	3 13:00	3 13:40	3 13:00	4 13:00	Lunch 13:15
Home 15:20					5 14:00	5 14:00
Home 15:00						

Clwb Brecwast and Clwb Carco

Clwb Brecwast: 7:50-8.40 a.m. (details available from the school)

Clwb Carco: 3.20-5.50 p.m. (Contact Menter Iaith Rhondda Cynon Taff)



Teaching and Learning

At Ysgol Garth Olwg we firmly believe that a strong emphasis on teaching and learning that meets the needs of each individual is characteristic of a successful school. Learning should be an experience that engages pupils' interest and curiosity that ensures that they develop into independent, lifelong learners. We personalize the learning for our pupils and encourage them to be ambitious and show endurance and perseverance that will prepare them for the future.

The subjects on the curriculum are taught using a wide, rich and creative range of teaching and learning methods that will maximize the opportunity for all pupils to reach their full potential. Our staff inspire and guide our pupils by encouraging ambition and by challenging and developing each individual and setting high expectations of them. It is vital that our pupils see the purpose of learning and understand its relevance to their personal experiences as well as enjoying their learning experiences. By nurturing pupils' respect for their work within a stimulating learning environment, and encouraging them to constantly reflect and reflect, recognizing excellences and weaknesses, we will maintain and raise standards.

One of the principles of Ysgol Garth Olwg is the importance of seeing school life "Through the eyes of the pupil". Covering the principles of the Additional Learning Needs Act and the Education Tribunal, we ensure that we have inclusive classes throughout the school. Teachers understand that each learner is developing at a different pace and that the well-being of all pupils is paramount to ensuring that they are ready to learn. Teaching and learning and the learning environment are adapted for the pupils,

using personalized learning strategies and information, from one-page profiles as well as the learners' personal targets. Bespoke interventions are tailored to meet the needs of the individual ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to progress.

Embedding the highest quality Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence skills is an integral part of the learning, and every opportunity is taken to incorporate these naturally into the design, again offering bespoke interventions as required.

Homework is used to extend learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Any work completed out of school hours is an important part of a pupil's learning pathway. Tasks are purposeful and will be set when appropriate within the scheme of work. Tasks that are fit for purpose will be chosen to promote learning practices, maintain interest and extend knowledge and understanding and will run alongside the learning programs. Our pupils are encouraged to discuss the tasks with their parents or carers.

To strive for excellence, particular focus is placed on developing pedagogy within the annual improvement plan. We strongly believe in the need to invest in bespoke Professional Learning opportunities for all our staff, with the focus on developing a research and inquiry mindset and sharing good practice.

By working together as one community we will ensure that pupils at Ysgol Garth Olwg develop the lifelong skills, knowledge and understanding that they need to move on to the next stage of their education or career.

Provision for our more able and talented pupils

At Garth Olwg, we ensure that more able and talented pupils have every opportunity to develop their skills and to thrive.

Identification and tracking: We have robust systems for identifying MAT pupils and we use Microsoft TEAMS to communicate with these groups. Extensive resources and information on activities of interest to pupils will be shared to encourage ambition.

Curriculum: We have designed a curriculum that ensures that our more able pupils are challenged and extended. Our pupils choose some subjects at the end of year 8 and therefore there is an opportunity to start some aspects of GCSE courses in year 9. We run a host of curriculum enrichment activities for all pupils and our MAT pupils benefit greatly from these opportunities. We encourage our pupils to take part in competitions of all kinds.

Lessons: We are a member of NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education) and follow their guidelines. Where possible, we create opportunities within the lessons for complex problem solving and ask rich and challenging questions. Opportunities for pupil-led learning are created and we encourage our pupils to read a wide range of texts.

Excellence Program/Seren Foundation: This year we have launched our special program for our brightest pupils. The program is designed to develop skills and provide these pupils with the right experiences. There are regular opportunities to broaden horizons, sharpen interpersonal skills and learn about subjects beyond the school curriculum. Year 8 - 11 pupils have the opportunity to take part in the Seren Foundation scheme, the Seren Network scheme for younger pupils.

Seren Network: Year 12 pupils who have achieved six or more A* grades in their GCSEs will be part of our Seren scheme. We have designed a program that develops skills and provides our brightest students with the right experiences, which will apply to Russell Group Universities, Oxford and Cambridge. We are working with the Welsh Government Seren Network. Through established partnerships with Yale, Harvard and MIT, Welsh students have had the opportunity to attend Yale Young Global Scholars, Harvard Summer School and the University of Chicago Summer School. We are delighted that some of our pupils have been selected from Wales' brightest pupils to attend these courses and their feedback has been extremely positive.

The Rhondda Cynon Taf Seren Network chooses to launch the star scheme from Garth Olwg annually. This is a great opportunity for our pupils to meet pupils from other schools with similar ambitions. They listen to interesting and inspirational guest speakers. There will also be the opportunity to attend evening lectures and attend the Seren Conference in Newtown and the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Conference. We liaise regularly with Dr Matthew Williams (Entry and Career Development Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford) and arrange trips to the University. Some of our pupils have attended the Oxford Summer School in the past and we will support pupils to apply if they wish.

Pupils will receive information about suitable schemes and lectures held at Cardiff University. Pupils are encouraged to follow MOOC courses and to be leaders within the school. We support the "Tomorrow's Doctors" scheme to thoroughly prepare our prospective doctors for applications and prepare them for medical interviews.

Communication



Remember that you can view information about attendance, behaviours, progress reports and messages through the SIMS Parents app.

Attendance & Medication

ATTENDANCE

In cases of absence, we ask that parents leave a message that included a full name/ school year/ reason for absence/ length of absence or you can contact daily.

You are able to do this by phoning the attendance line on **01443 570050** or emailing **presenoldeb.attendance@gartholwg.cymru**

If the absence is due to issues with wellbeing, we ask that you also contact the relevant Head of School to discuss the situation. We will contact you about absences via text and email. You will be able to monitor your child's attendance on SIMS.

We ask that you arrange medical/dental/optician appointments outside of school hours. If it is necessary to have an appointment during the school day, we ask for a copy of the letter to be able to note the appointment on the register in advance.

PERScription MEDICINE

Short term: generally, we ask for parents/guardians to give medicine outside of school hours. When this is not possible, you will need to ensure that the medicine is presented in the original bottle, with the original instructions clearly labelled including information about any potential side effects. You child will need to have received at least one dose of the medication before we can administer it in school.

Lower School: We ask that parents/guardians fill in a form in the office and the medication is kept in the fridge in the First Aid Room. Medication will be given at lunch time and a note of the details (time/ dose given etc)

Middle and Upper School: We ask that Parents'/Guardians send in a letter noting what needs to be taken and when. Medicine of Year 5&6 will be kept by the classroom teacher and in the relevant offices for Years 7-11.

Long term medication If your child needs medication long term, we ask that you contact the relevant Head of School to discuss and make arrangements.

Wellbeing and care

OUR WELLBEING STAFF

We have a team of dedicated wellbeing staff that are available throughout the day every day to support all of our pupils.

All pupils Mrs Siân Ogelby

Lower School Mrs Angharad Billing

Middle School Miss Jenna Hart
Miss Sheree Evans

Upper School Mrs Yvonne Rees-Williams

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL WELLBEING PROGRAMMES

Internally we run the following programmes;
Elsa, Talkabout a Boxall.

www.elsa-support.co.uk
alexkelly.biz/alexs-work-and-talkabout
new.boxallprofile.org

We also provide support through the Samaritan's DEAL programme for:

- sleep issues
- low mood
- anger
- anxiety
- shyness
- stress
- exam pressure
- building resilience

www.samaritans.org/wales/how-we-can-help/schools/deal

We also work with the following external agencies>

EyetoEye www.eyetoeye.wales/schools-counselling

YEPS (Rhondda Cynon Taf Youth Service)
www.rctcbc.gov.uk/CY/Resident/ChildrenandFamilies/YouthClubsandActivities/YouthServiceYEPS.aspx

VIBE vibeyouth.co.uk

School nurse and 'drop in' sexual health clinics

Progress and Wellbeing

Here in Ysgol Garth Olwg we firmly believe that happy pupils make successful learners and the aim of our caring community is to ensure that school is a happy place for all. As part of **working as one community**, we are committed to developing a positive relationship between school and home to ensure the best possible school experience for all pupils.

In Ysgol Garth Olwg we have a very successful structure that provides special care to our pupils. We have a team of Heads and Deputy Heads of Schools that will carefully monitor the progress and wellbeing of your child. In addition to this, there are Learning Coaches and Wellbeing Officers on hand to provide the highest standard of wellbeing support and care for your child.

This experienced team are available to support pupils across the complete range of ages in order to develop healthy and confident individuals that have self-aspiration. We have dedicated for supporting our pupils' wellbeing effectively, including specific quiet and reflective areas. There are weekly wellbeing clubs and groups to support and encourage the physical and emotional wellbeing of our pupils and **promote a healthy life**.

As part of our ethos of **nurturing respect**, we operate a reward and steps system on Classcharts. We emphasise the praise and celebrating success as it is the foundation to encourage pupils towards positive behaviour. You will receive the points information through your SIMS app.

Child Protection Officers

This is our team who work together to keep the pupils safe in the school.



Mr Trystan Edwards
Headteacher



Mrs Amy Hughes
Senior
Safeguarding
Officer



Mrs Sian Ogleby
Senior
Safeguarding
Officer



Mrs Elin Howard
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Anna Rogers
Lower School
Safeguarding
Officer



Mrs Rachel Llwyd
Middle School
Safeguarding
Officer



**Mrs Katherine
Adsett**
Upper School
Safeguarding
Officer



Mr Llŷr Evans
Swyddog Diogelu
Senior School
Safeguarding
Officer

MEITHRIN PARCH
ANNOG UCHELGAIS
CYDWEITHIO FEL UN GYMUNED


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WORKING AS ONE COMMUNITY

Ysgol Garth Olwg
Campws Cymunedol Garth Olwg
Y Brif Ffordd
Pentre'r Eglwys
Pontypridd
CF38 1DX



Ysgol Garth Olwg
Garth Olwg Community Campus
Main Road
Church Village
Pontypridd
CF38 1DX

PRIFATHRO | HEADTEACHER
Mr Trystan Edwards BSc, CPCP

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