



Curriculum Statement

Our curriculum has been developed and shaped by the four purposes at the heart of the Curriculum for Wales. These aim to develop children and young people as:

- 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.

The school ensures that learning opportunities are offered to learners at the appropriate stage of education throughout the age range of the school. The curriculum offer may therefore focus on Routes for Learning, the Developmental Pathways and Areas of Learning for pupils aged 3-16. Followed by Skills for Life curriculum for all learners beyond statutory school age.

All teaching and learning opportunities are inclusive and allow equal access and opportunity by all pupils. It is important that 'Cynefin' is at the heart of our curriculum and that our school community, and local community is always represented in our curriculum.

Pen-y-Cwm School aims to:

1. Provide a curriculum which is broad, balanced, relevant and purposeful
2. Build upon our children's and young people's prior experiences, skills, knowledge and understanding
3. Strive for our learners to experience and demonstrate continuous progress and achievement
4. Provide a curriculum which is dynamic and flexible to changing needs
5. Make explicit what is to be taught and how the intended teaching and learning takes place
6. To ensure provision for equal opportunities and cultural diversity
7. To make provision for the individual learning needs of each of our pupils as identified in their IDP (Individual Development Plan). In accordance New Curriculum Wales 2022 our curriculum is focused on what matters to our pupils; we endeavour to meet the individual learning needs of all our pupils. These are agreed with parents in the Annual Review meeting.



Our curriculum incorporates the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework in Wales and the Digital Competency Framework to ensure that these skills are taught in all areas of the curriculum.

Pen-y-Cwm recognises that for some pupils, social and emotional development is central to the development of their academic skills. Therefore, pupils are taught the necessary emotional resilience and social skills needed to become a valued member of their community. The emotional wellbeing of all pupils is always a focus and all teachers strive to support their pupils through creating an environment which supports their emotional needs e.g. zones in classroom spaces, and use of specialist areas across the school.

We recognise that flexibility in terms of balance within the curriculum is important to ensure relevance for our individual pupils. Therefore, not all our learners will experience all aspects of the curriculum all of the time. Learners throughout the school depending on their stage of development will benefit from sensory activities, exploratory play and extended periods devoted to various forms of therapy. Where identified and appropriate learners will access individual sessions and group sessions that target specific needs. Learners that have profound and multiple learning disabilities and those who display challenging behaviours may need individual sessions of intensive interaction before they are able to participate in small group or whole class activities. To support learners physical skills and sensory integration, they may be offered Rebound Therapy, MOVE (Movement Opportunities Via Education) provision. Members of staff in school are trained in THRIVE and TIS (Wellbeing Support) in order to support pupils' emotional and social development. Religious Education as detailed by SACRE (Standing Advisory Council of Religious Education) is also incorporated as a core part of our curriculum.