



# Welcome to the Nursery Class



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## Starting Nursery

We have compiled this booklet in order to provide you with the information you need to make your starting point with us, at Ysgol Bodhyfryd, as easy as possible. We appreciate that starting Nursery is a big step for you and your child, and our aim is to ensure that your child settles in quickly and makes new friends.

We will provide a safe, happy and stimulating environment where your child will develop key skills, build upon their knowledge and understanding and have opportunities to explore, discover, investigate and problem solve.

We aim to extend and develop your child's social, emotional, educational and physical development throughout this initial year. By providing a happy, safe, stimulating and inclusive environment your child will grow in confidence, and be ready to begin full time education in Reception Class next September.



## The first few weeks

During the first few weeks, some children are sure to feel uncertain of their new surroundings. If your child is anxious as you say goodbye, please help your child to overcome this hurdle by saying a quick goodbye, and leaving as soon as possible. We realise that it's an anxious time for you too, so if you are worried you are welcome to call the school once you arrive home/to work, to check that they have settled. The school phone number and e-mail is on the front page, for your information.

Please do not send in toys and teddies with your child, we have an abundance of fun and comforting toys for your child to explore in school.

We realise that starting school can be an unsettling time for you and your child. If you or your child are worried about anything please speak to the teacher during drop-off or pick-up or arrange an appointment if you need more time. We will try our utmost to resolve any issues and will keep all discussions confidential.



## Class Times

Nursery will be held 5 mornings a week from 8.55am to 12.00. In addition Nursery + is available in school which is funded and run by parents through the Mudiad Meithrin. Please ask at the school for more details.

At the end of each session please wait for your child by the small wooden fence outside the Nursery Classes. If there are any changes in the arrangements for collecting your child, please inform the teacher/school by note, phone call or during drop off.

## School Uniform



All children are expected to wear the following school uniform:

red sweatshirt (available to buy from the school)

white polo shirt

grey trousers or grey skirt/pinafore

We encourage all children to dress independently from the outset. Please help your child by buying velcro fastening shoes and avoiding clothing with tight belts and buckle fastenings.

Please send the following PE kit in a labelled bag to be left in school every half term :

red T-shirt, black shorts

(Black pumps will be required for the Summer Term only)

**Please mark all clothes clearly with your child's name.**



## Home / School Links

Nurturing a strong link between home and school is key to you and your child's enjoyment of school. We all have different ways of doing things and being in school is new for everyone. If your child has any particular difficulties or if there is anything you feel we would benefit from knowing about you child the teacher will always be willing to listen and help wherever possible. Young children will inevitably react to situations outside of school and this can affect their behaviour in school. Please let us know of any changes or family events that may affect your child's wellbeing, in order to help us to be aware, and respond in an understanding, and constructive manner.

### Remember.....

- Talk to your child about anything and everything, this is very important.
- You are the most important person in your child's life and how you respond will affect how they feel, think, and behave..
- Enjoy every minute of this precious time with your child. If we work together as partners in education we'll provide the best start for your children.

## Snack

The school provides a healthy snack of fruit and vegetables for a weekly cost of £1.50. We also supply free milk and water is available at all times. Please place your snack money in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and hand it to the teacher or assistants on a Monday morning. You are welcome to pay monthly or every half term if this is more convenient.





## School Dinner

If your child will be staying in school for Nursery + please send in a lunch box with your child's name. on In the interests of your child's long term health and fitness we kindly ask you to make healthy choices for your child's lunch. Please do not include crisps, sweets and chocolates. Fizzy drinks are not allowed in lunchboxes.

## Sickness and Medical Information

Do not send your child to school if they are unwell as they will not be able to enjoy their experience and are likely to affect the wellbeing of other children in the classroom through spreading their illness. Please let the school know as soon as possible if your child is unwell or needs to attend a medical appointment.

If you child feels unwell during the school day we will do our utmost to contact you (or an alternative person as provided) in order to arrange for your child to be collected from school. In the unlikely event that your child should need emergency medical care and we are unable to contact you we will take you child to hospital and arrange to meet you there.

If your child has asthma or allergies it is important that you inform the school/ Teacher and provide any prescribed medication needed in the event of a reaction. If your child needs prescribed medication during school hours for any other ailments, we would kindly ask you to come to the school to administer these drugs.

Please be on the look out for head lice and check your child's hair regularly. They are unfortunately very common and should not carry any stigma. However they are easily passed from child to child ,the best way to treat for head lice is to thoroughly comb through your child's hair with a fine comb. Please contact the school if you need further advice on treating head lice.

## The Foundation Phase

The Foundation Phase is an educational methodology developed specifically to meet the physical emotional social and educational needs of 3-7 year olds. It is implemented in all schools throughout Wales and is designed around 6 areas of learning:

### Language, literacy and communication skills

These skills are developed by talking and listening to the children, encouraging them to enjoy listening to different stories and rhymes, and develop a pleasure in books and stories.

### Personal and social development, wellbeing and cultural diversity

The children are encouraged to live, work and play together, through developing the ability to co-operate and grow increased independence.

### Mathematical development

Counting rhymes, songs and stories are used to teach the children to sort, match and compare familiar objects.

### Knowledge and understanding of the world

Children learn about the environment, and they're encouraged to make decisions and choices

### Physical development

Children are given the opportunity to learn how the body works, and how to use a variety of equipment in the classroom. The importance of staying safe is emphasised.

### Creative development

These skills are developed through painting, drawing, music,

movement and role play.

We also introduce and develop Information Technology and Communication skills through the use of digital equipment to enhance our teaching in all six areas of learning.





## Key Skills

The Foundation Phase places great emphasis on learning through play and active involvement inside and outside the classroom. These hands on activities are designed to develop:

- Your child's skills and understanding across the six areas of learning.
- Your child's personal, social, emotional physical and intellectual wellbeing.
- A positive attitude towards learning.
- Your child's self esteem and confidence to investigate, experiment, learn new things and form new relationships.
- Your child's creative and problem solving skills.

## Classroom Areas

To ensure hands on experiences across all six areas of learning the classroom is divided into the following areas:

- Construction and small world play
- Mark making
- Mathematics
- Sand and water
- Language and Book corner
- Role play
- Computer
- Outside classroom

Activities are planned to provide a balance of teacher-led and child-led activities to develop and stimulate your child's ideas.



## Recording and Assessment

All Nursery staff will assess your child's progress by listening to them, modeling language whilst playing with them and observing as they carry out their day to day activities and specific focus tasks. Pictures comments and observations are recorded in their individual profiles and are used to plan the next stage of their learning. You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher each term to discuss their progress.



We would like to ensure that you and your child enjoy their time with us at Ysgol Bodhyfryd and that starting school is a positive experience for the whole family. We hope this booklet has provided you with some of the information you need in order to help your child settle in. If you have any other questions, feel free to contact us directly.