

ADVANCE PROSPECTUS



YSGOL
AFON WEN
Advance

Developing young
minds together

YEAR 4 to YEAR 8

welcome

Croeso

Mrs C Crockett - Headteacher

I am delighted to introduce you to our unique and vibrant community.

Our prospectus aims to give you a comprehensive feel for life here at Ysgol Afon Wen, highlighting our values, aspirations, and the dynamic environment we foster for both pupils and staff. I am pleased to welcome you to the prospectus of our new All Age School - Ysgol Afon Wen, which will serve the children in our community from September 2024.

At Ysgol Afon Wen, we are committed to nurturing the potential within every pupil. Our Triple AAA Promise will inspire and ignite the learning spark by activating learning, advancing curiosity, and achieving success. Through this promise, we will create an environment where every pupil can flourish.

Choosing the right school for your child is a significant decision, and we understand the weight of this choice. Your child's happiness and success are paramount, and we are committed to providing a balanced environment to ensure these outcomes. We are committed to offer an outstanding education that gives every child who joins us the best possible start in life. We strive to be the best school for your child, working tirelessly to help them develop into well rounded individuals prepared for the next stages of their lives.

Our school is not the creation of a large primary and secondary school on one site, but the development of a truly inclusive 3 to 16 learning community. We are creating an all-age school ethos by embracing the best aspects of innovative practice and providing excellent teaching and learning for all our pupils.



YSGOL
AFON WEN
Advance

Children have one chance at education, and they deserve the best. Our role is to ensure they receive it. We maintain the highest expectations for our pupils and ourselves, constantly seeking to improve the quality of education we provide. We value the partnership with pupils, staff, and parents, working together to achieve our shared goals - together!

I am very much looking forward to working with you and your child to ensure they become respectful, resourceful and successful young people in the future.

Proud of
our history,
confident
in **our future**

why choose Ysgol Afon Wen

Why opt for an all age school?

- All Age schools come in various forms, including different layouts, staffing structures, and age ranges.
- At Ysgol Afon Wen, we operate as a single school with pupils aged 3-11 and 11-16 on one site.
- Core values are consistent throughout the school, fostering a unified environment.
- Our staff work as one cohesive team, sharing professional development and learning experiences with pupils across Activate, Advance and Achieve phases.
- Teachers at Ysgol Afon Wen, have the opportunity to teach different year groups, promoting collaboration and a diverse learning experience for both pupils and educators.

Key Staff - Advance Phase

Mrs C O Carroll - Associate Assistant Headteacher ADVANCE

Mrs V Geach - Progress Leader for Year 4 to Year 6

Miss L Burnett - Progress Leader for Year 7

Miss L Phillips - Progress Leader for Year 8





vision, values & ethos

At Ysgol Afon Wen, we are committed to nurturing the potential within every pupil. Our **Triple AAA Promise** will inspire and ignite the learning spark by activating learning, advancing curiosity, and achieving success. Through this promise, we are dedicated to creating an environment where every pupil can flourish.

We aim to engage minds with innovative and dynamic educational experiences. Our curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire, encouraging exploration and fostering a lifelong passion for knowledge. At Ysgol Afon Wen, learning is an adventure, and we strive to make every moment a step towards greater understanding and personal growth.

By empowering individuals to reach their full potential, we ensure that our community shines brightly, now and in the future. We believe that every pupil has unique strengths and abilities, and our goal is to help them discover and develop these talents.

Our supportive and inclusive environment ensures that every member of our community feels valued and motivated to succeed.

To achieve our **Triple AAA Promise**, we ensure five core values are at the heart of our work:



associated primary schools

A strong and supported Cluster approach . . .

Our Advance phase comprises of **Year 4, Year 5, Year 6, Year 7 and Year 8** pupils. The phase includes what is often classed as 'primary' and 'secondary' pupils to ensure there is no primary/secondary divide. The Advance phase does not just provide a seamless transition between primary and secondary education, but in fact combines these year groups into one phase. We are also delighted to welcome our primaries that will transition into our Year 7 from our associated schools.

We believe that every child matters, right from the very start of their journey with us, whether that starts at 3 or 11 years old. Every child has the right to succeed irrelevant of ability, background or age.

Our transition plans for our associated schools start in Year 5 and strengthens in Year 6. Pupils have dedicated transition teaching, delivered in their home school in Year 6. There are multiple visits and trips that ensure a seamless transition to Ysgol Afon Wen centred on their wellbeing.



advancing learning Year 4 to Year 8

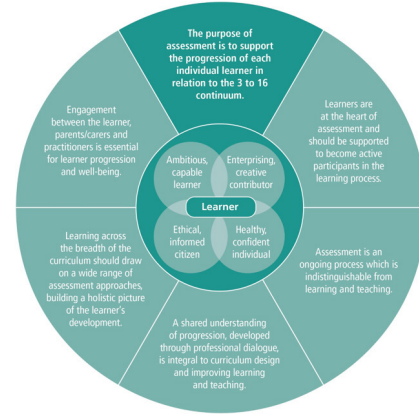
Activating Learning: We provide a stimulating and interactive learning environment that caters to diverse learning styles. Our dedicated teachers use innovative teaching methods to make learning engaging and effective.

Advancing Curiosity: Curiosity is the driving force behind all learning. We encourage our pupils to ask questions, explore new ideas, and develop a love for discovery. Our curriculum is designed to foster a spirit of inquiry and creativity.

Achieving Success: Success is not just about academic achievement; it's about personal growth and development. We celebrate every milestone throughout your child's journey and support them in setting and achieving their goals. Our comprehensive approach ensures that our pupils are fully prepared for future challenges and opportunities that life presents!

Six Areas of Learning and Experience

- Mathematics and Numeracy
- English, Literacy, and Communication
- Humanities and Religion, Values, and Ethics
- Wellbeing
- Science and Technology (STEM)
- Languages



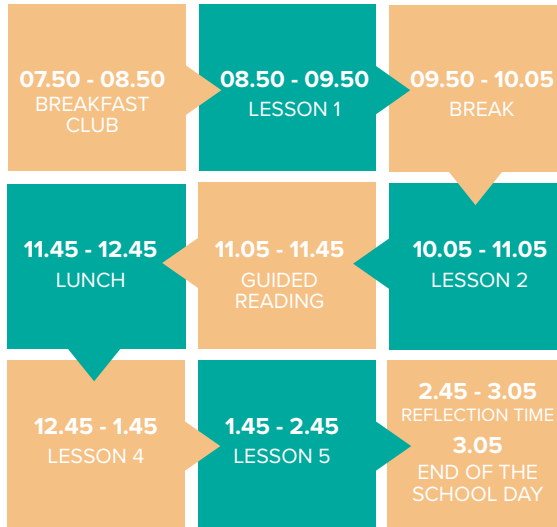
Outdoor Learning in the Advance Phase

Is conducted outdoors as the school has an abundance of green spaces. All staff are committed to providing a safe, secure, and stimulating environment.

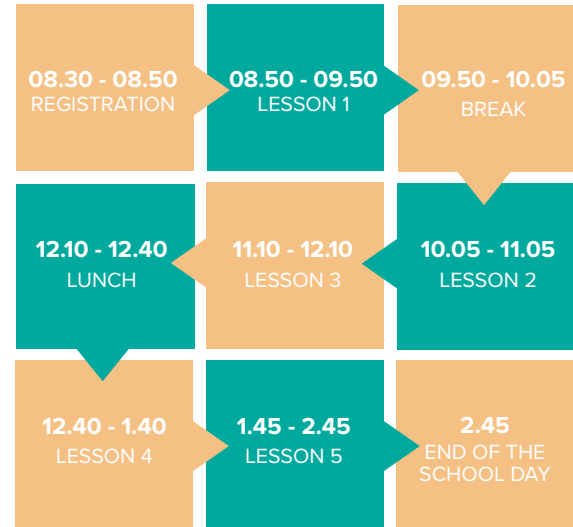
- Pupils have opportunities to explore, discover, and appreciate the natural world.
- Encourages pupil physical activity, helping to strengthen fine and gross motor skills.
- Allows pupils to test physical limits, engage in hands-on learning.

our school day

Year 4 to Year 6



Year 7 and Year 8



Pupils are not allowed to leave school during the school day without permission.

Attendance

At Ysgol Afon Wen, we expect all pupils to have 95% or more attendance. When children attend school consistently, they are more likely to do well with their studies but also build strong relationships and feel connected with the school community.

It is vitally important that your child's absence is reported to us on the first day of absence and each

subsequent day of absence unless there has been medical authorisation for a period of absence granted on day one. Absences should be reported via the school office.

Medical evidence is required to authorise absences.

beyond the curriculum expanding horizons

Extensive Opportunities:

We provide pupils with numerous opportunities beyond the standard curriculum through a variety of extra-curricular clubs. These clubs allow pupils to explore new interests and develop diverse skills. In our Advance Phase, these clubs include:

- Sport
- Technology
- Expressive Arts
- Sciences

Emphasis on Reading:

We prioritise reading because it has a profound impact on educational outcomes. Pupils who read frequently achieve higher levels of success. Our approach to teaching reading is highly effective, ensuring that our children develop strong reading skills that benefit them throughout their lives.

House System

Our House system fosters friendly competition and a school community spirit through a range of activities. In our Advance Phase, these activities include:

- Eisteddfod
- Karaoke
- Sport
- Dancing
- Baking
- Poetry

Curricular Enrichment through Trips:

We enhance our curriculum with exciting trips that enrich classroom learning. These trips are local, gradually expanding to more distant locations as pupils progress through our school.





additional learning needs ALN

The Welsh Government is dedicated to enhancing the expectations, experiences, and outcomes for children and young individuals with additional learning needs. To achieve this goal, they have introduced the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Act, aimed at revamping the existing systems for Special Educational Needs (SEN) within schools. Ysgol Afon Wen, like all educational institutions in Wales, has embraced the ALN Act.

Ysgol Afon Wen upholds inclusive principles and provides a range of services to cater to every pupil's unique requirements. Pupils with Additional Learning Needs are integrated into mainstream classes and mixed-ability groups, where they may receive supplementary support from our instructors. The class teacher is informed about any additional learning needs present in the class and tailors instruction accordingly. Depending on the complexity of the needs and required interventions, pupils may access support during classes or through specialised sessions.

Ensuring equitable treatment for employees, pupils, and all members of the school community is a core value at Ysgol Afon Wen. We are committed to preventing any form of discrimination against individuals in our procedures, practices, or service provision.

Our accessibility plan is available on the school's website under the policy section.





Our uniform Year 4 to Year 8

What uniform do our pupils need to wear?

UNIFORM ITEM	PLEASE PURCHASE FROM
COMPULSORY ITEMS	
White Polo Shirts (badged)	Any Supplier / Badged - MST Sports Ltd and The Welsh Shop
Navy Jumper / Cardigan (badged)	Any Supplier / Badged - MST Sports Ltd and The Welsh Shop
Dark Grey Trousers / Skirts / Pinafores	Any Supplier
Dark Grey Tailored Shorts	Any Supplier
Yellow Gingham Dress (Nursery to Year 6)	Any Supplier
Plain Black Shoes	Any Supplier
PE Black Top (Badged)	Any Supplier / Badged - MST Sports Ltd and The Welsh Shop
Black PE Joggers / Shorts / Leggings	Any Supplier
PE Sport Top - Top Layer	Any Supplier / Badged - MST Sports Ltd and The Welsh Shop
OTHER UNIFORM INFORMATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hoodies are not allowed in school. ● Pupils may wear one small plain stud earring. Please do not wear any facial piercings to school. All piercings must be able to be removed during the school day. ● Make up should be minimal /natural and please do not allow false nails to be worn to school. 	
FOR EMBROIDERY ITEMS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MST Sports Ltd - 6 Windsor Place, Ynysybwl, Pontypridd CF37 3HR ● The Welsh Shop - Unit B1, Taffsmead Rd, Treforest Ind Est, Pontypridd CF37 5TF 	

arriving and departing school

As a school, we promote and support sustainable modes of transportation within our school community. By encouraging walking, cycling, and the use of public transportation, we aspire to enhance the wellbeing of our pupils and reduce our environmental impact.

Entering the school site

- Pupils will enter site via the main pupil entrance (Year 7 to Year 11)
- Pupils will enter via the Activate/Advance yard (Year 3 to Year 6)
- Pupils will be met by their class teacher at the classroom door (Nursery to Year 2)

By Car:

There are available parking facilities onsite, however these are limited. At all times we would encourage families to participate in active travel where possible. We operate a restricted system onsite in the mornings and afternoons to ensure the safety of our pupils. Staff will not release your child until you arrive to collect them. Please do not worry if you are running a few minutes late.

If you expect to arrive later than five minutes, please can you get in touch with a member of the Advance school team.

Year 4 to Year 6 learning starts at 08:50 and we expect all in Year 4 to 6 to be in class and ready for their new day of exciting learning activities. You can drop children off from 08:40 onwards.

For pupils in Year 7 and above, we expect pupils on site by 8.25am for an 8.30am start.

By School Transport:

We operate restricted movement at both ends of the day. Families should be mindful of this when dropping / collecting their child to school.



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YSGOL AFON WEN 3-16 SCHOOL
YEAR 4 to YEAR 8

School Lane, Hawthorn, Pontypridd CF37 5AL

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