

Penclawdd Primary School
Nursery Prospectus



A happy face, a learning place, a growing space

Contents

A welcome from the Penguin Nursery Team	3
A little bit about our Penguin Nursery Team	4
Aims and Objectives of our Nursery	5
Why come to Penclawdd Nursery?	6
Transition from home to Nursery	7
Key information - things you need to know	8
Key information - things you need to know	9
Our partnerships with parents	10
Our Penclawdd Early Years Curriculum	11-13
Feedback about our Nursery	14
Penclawdd Primary School vision	15
We love coming to Nursery	16

Contact details

Tel: 01792 850239

Email: Penclawdd.Primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

www.penclawddprimary.co.uk



A welcome from the Penguin Nursery Team

Our vision at Penclawdd Nursery is to support every child in their quest to become the best they can be, through engaging them in our rich learning environment and caring for them with genuine affection. We foster a passion for learning and exploration that will last your child a lifetime and instil in them moral values which respect the environment as well as people and their cultures. Our children will leave us with excellent skills of independence, an ability to engage in meaningful play, and knowledge that they are capable, loveable, and valuable members of the community.



Mrs. Davies
Early Years Lead



Mrs. Thomas
Nursery Lead



Ms. Griffiths
Nursery Teaching Assistant

All staff have current DBS checks and receive on going training in Child Protection / Safeguarding.



A welcome from Headteacher Mrs. Louisa Reynolds-Milnes

On behalf of the Staff and Governors, I would like to warmly welcome you into our school community. I hope your child's time with us will be happy and rewarding. Our school is a welcoming family where everyone is nurtured and efforts and achievements are celebrated together. I strongly believe that the Early Years is the building blocks to children's education. Penclawdd Nursery offers an outstanding start to inspire and nurture children at the beginning of their school journey.

A little more about our Team...



Mrs. Davies - Early Years Lead

Mrs. Davies has a keen interest in early childhood development and holds a first class BA (Hons) Degree. She is an excellent practitioner who continues to build on her knowledge. Most recently she has studied for the Level 4 SKIP qualification in 'Developing and Supporting Physical Development in Early Childhood'. She has taught in the school for many years and prior to her teaching post was a Teaching Assistant. Mrs Davies passionately leads Welsh and Expressive Arts across the school. She has a wealth of experience and is held in huge esteem by staff and parents and of course the children. Mrs. Davies is very athletic and has completed 'The IronMan in 2019'! She is very interested in research and schematic play. We are in awe of her enthusiasm and passion for Early Years teaching. She loves her dog and can often be seen exploring the wilds of Gower, with Boo!



Mrs. Thomas - Nursery Lead

Mrs. Thomas holds a degree in Welsh and has a Post Graduate Certificate in Education. She has extensive experience in her teaching role at Penclawdd, teaching PPA from Nursery - Year 6. She also supports children with Additional Learning and in particular social and communication needs (SCN). She is the recognised SCN Champion for our school. Mrs Thomas is also our trained well-being lead and is a hugely valued support to children and families. Mrs Thomas loves Irish dancing and is a recognised teacher in the CRN organisation. She has a local dance school that is super busy with competitions and shows - scouting the next Michael Flatley!! She currently teaches around 60 dancers from age 3 - 26!



Ms. Griffiths - Nursery Teaching Assistant

Ms. Griffiths has worked as a teaching assistant alongside Mrs. Davies and staff in our Nursery since the Covid pandemic.

She is currently working towards achieving her Level 3 in Teaching Support. Ms. Griffiths is a busy lady and also works as a kitchen assistant and school cleaner. Her sense of humour and warmth radiates throughout the school. In her spare time she loves to cook the most amazing cheesecake and is busy training her Golden retriever puppy Luna!





Aims and Objectives at our Nursery

- Our school motto is: '*A happy face, a learning place, a growing space*' and in our Nursery we provide a happy, relaxed and safe environment for all children to learn through play and structured activities.
- We encourage the children to feel part of their community by welcoming visitors, and by taking part in visits to local facilities and places of interest in the area.
- We are proud to teach and embrace our Welsh culture.
- We encourage each individual child to progress and develop, promoting their learning using our Early Years Curriculum.
- To meet each child's developmental needs, we plan extensively following the children's interests and progression.
- We support every child in their development, allowing them to progress at their own rate whilst offering plenty of encouragement and praise.
- We actively promote a smooth transition into school by offering joint activities and experiences.
- Children will be taught to care for and respect not only themselves, but also others and their environment.
- We aim to increase their personal confidence and self-esteem. We actively promote positive behaviour.
- We aim to develop the concentration, communication and listening skills of the children, to broaden their range of experiences and to deepen their levels of understanding.
- We aim to develop their physical abilities.
- We actively promote creativity and imaginative play.
- We actively promote healthy eating and healthy lifestyle.
- We actively promote independence in Nursery including personal care and hygiene.
- We actively promote equality of opportunity for everyone.

Why start your child at Penclawdd Nursery?

- Above all, our Nursery is FUN!
- Every day there are fun things to do, new things to learn, exploring to be done and best of all, friends to share it with.
- Attending Penclawdd Nursery provides your child with an important introduction into the social world of interaction, sharing, talking with others and learning to play co-operatively. This is supported by the sensitive and nurturing input of the staff, who take time to listen to and talk with each child.
- Your child will have many exciting experiences which are designed to support and extend their growing curiosity.
- They will be able to take part in activities which are planned to develop a wide range of skills and to foster a love of learning.
- In our Nursery, we place a great emphasis on the children's developing creativity and sense of imagination.
- Young children are natural adventurers and enjoy finding out about the world they live in. In our Nursery, the children are actively encouraged to explore their environment.
- We go outside nearly every day and in most weathers whether we are flying kites, role playing on the wheeled toys or making dens.

`Pupils at Penclawdd Primary School relish attending school`.

Estyn November 2022





Transition from home to school

Starting Nursery and what you need to know

- Children may join Penclawdd Nursery the day after their 3rd birthday.
- Parents are often keen to reserve a Nursery place and this can be done by completing an application form. Please contact the office or complete via our website. www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/nursery-admissions/.
- We encourage parents/carers to visit us and meet staff and familiarise themselves with the nursery procedures.
- Our staff will give you a warm welcome and will be delighted to meet your child. We will do our best to meet your requirements. If you have any queries this is a wonderful opportunity to ask staff and for your child to meet new friends and see their learning environments.
- We welcome your child to a morning session, Monday to Friday 8.50am - 11.20am. Term time dates are available on our website. www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/term-dates/
- The Nursery session begins at 8.50am and ends at 11.20am. Please try to maintain prompt timekeeping as a late arrival may result in your child missing an activity. It can also be distressing for a child to arrive or to be picked up at a later time than the rest of the children.
- If possible, please let us know if your child is unable to attend a session. You can message us via our website: www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/reporting-your-child-absent
- Please also let us know if you will be late collecting your child. The telephone number is 01792 850239.

The care, support and guidance provided across the school community is exceptional and supports the school's vision, to 'bring out the best in each other'

Estyn November 2022

Key information – things you need to know...

Keeping Hydrated/Snacks

The children have a drink and snack during the session. Research has shown that children can concentrate for longer if they are well hydrated. Therefore, we ask you to bring a named water bottle for your child to access throughout the session.

We encourage healthy eating across the school and ask that parents supply their child with a piece of fruit for break time. This is a wonderful, healthy choice for re-fuelling tiny minds in preparation for play and learning. Please ensure you tell us about any allergies or intolerances so that we can ensure we keep your child safe and healthy.

Collection from Nursery

To ensure the safety of your child, it is important to notify the staff if someone else will be collecting your child at the end of the session.

Within the admission pack you can write a list of the adults who are authorised to collect your child.

What can my child wear to Nursery?

Apart from a lovely big smile and lots of enthusiasm for fun and adventure, please ensure that your child wears school uniform and correct footwear. Suitable clothing should be worn, bearing in mind the messy nature of many activities!

Please supply your child with a warm coat or raincoat during cold or wet weather, and a hat and sun-cream during hot weather. A pair of wellies for outdoor learning, clearly labelled with your child's name would also be a brilliant investment in preparation for the muddier months as we do hope to be outside as often as possible!

School hoodies / Sweatshirts can be purchased at Wipe Out in Penclawdd. Please take care to label all clothes with your child's name.

Recording your child's time in Nursery

We will seek your permission to use your child's photograph on our website / twitter account. The admissions form will have details relating to this and data protection.





Key information - things you need to know...

Poorly children

If your child is unwell and can't attend Nursery, please contact the office and leave a message or message us via our school website.

Please remember that children should not be brought to Nursery if they are feeling unwell, or are suffering from a virus or infection of any kind. This not only prevents the spread of infection to other children and staff, but also enables them to recover more quickly. If your child arrives at Nursery and is unwell, you may be asked to take them home again. If it becomes clear during the session that your child is unwell, staff will contact you and ask that you collect them

IMPORTANT - There is a 48-hour isolation period after a sickness bug

Allergies / Medical information

Please record any food allergies / medical details when completing the admission pack and speak to staff.

We use sensitivity in catering for children with specific dietary needs.

The school update records of children's specific dietary / medical requirements regularly. All staff are informed of these and the information is shared appropriately.

First Aiders

The school has 4 qualified First Aiders. We also have 3 First Aid points in the school. During playtime members of staff carry a first aid bag. In the event of an accident your child will receive First Aid.

If an emergency situation arises, we will call emergency services and contact you immediately

Toilet Accidents

This happens from time to time as children become engrossed in play and forget. Accidents are dealt with in a professional manner and we urge you not to worry!

Many parents supply their child with a change of pants / trousers / leggings.

In the event of an accident we can help your child to change, if they can clean themselves. If a child soils his / herself then we will ring you.

We are here if you need us

Please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff if you are unsure about anything or have any issues relating to your child. If you have any comments on our provision or can suggest any improvements, please let us know - our aim is for both you and your child to enjoy your time with us.

Partnerships with parents

We genuinely welcome your involvement in the nursery and your child's learning and and celebrate our excellent partnership with parents! We also promote your child's independence. There are many opportunities to be involved such as school visits, forest school, sharing the learning experiences and many more.

Settling into Nursery

It is vitally important that your child feels comfortable, safe and secure in our Nursery.

Some children settle more quickly. Each child is different, and so each settling in arrangement is tailored to the needs of each individual child. Your child needs to learn that you will leave and then come back. Shorter sessions to help settle a child are sometimes a good idea.

Please feel free to discuss such arrangements with staff, along with any concerns or questions you may have. Appointments can be made if more time is needed.

Communication to parents / carers

Our website is updated regularly with information relating to school event. Please read our Headteacher's weekly blog for up to date news.

For class communication we use an app called See Saw. You'll be given a QR code to create an account. Staff will send you messages / pictures to keep you informed of events. The app is free and very popular with parents.

All classes also use Twitter and this is a great way to see what each class is up to!

'Partnerships with parents are exceptional and the school has earned their trust, particularly when deciding the right approaches to adopt so that their children can thrive'.

Estyn November 2022





Our Penclawdd Early Years Curriculum

Our curriculum is play based and builds on the interests and understanding of all children. We use both indoor and outdoor facilities during the Nursery session. We aim to support the development of the child in terms of their physical, social, creative and intellectual development through activities that are child centered and engaging.

Learning through Discovery and Play

- Children in our Nursery are encouraged to take part in a variety of activities following on from their interests and discoveries. We strongly believe that children learn by doing and therefore give the children opportunities to gain first hand experiences through play and lots of practical activities. These activities take place both inside and outdoors.
- We place great emphasis on developing the children's skills and understanding and encourage them to develop positive attitudes to their learning. We want the children to grow in self-confidence and to experiment and investigate new things, to form new relationships and to develop as individuals.
- We place great importance on using the outdoor area. Outdoors, children feel free to explore, investigate and make sense of the world around them. They can feel the changes in the weather, discover the natural world and move and develop their physical strength in unrestricted space.

The school provides a broad and stimulating curriculum and staff plan exciting engagement visits to encourage learner enthusiasm.

Estyn November 2022

Our Penclawdd Early Years Curriculum

- Our spacious bright Nursery is a happy, stimulating environment, where caring, dedicated staff foster an enthusiasm for learning in their pupils, while encouraging self-confidence and consideration for others.
- From the very first day at school we lay the foundations for a love of learning that will remain with your child throughout the course of their time in school and indeed their adult lives.
- Literacy (Oracy, reading and writing) numeracy, scientific thinking and basic motor skills are all part of our early years curriculum, together with opportunities for the children to express themselves through Music, Gymnastics, Art, Drama, and so much more...
- Positive attitudes to learning are encouraged as your child will experience a wealth of activities.

Teachers' use of language, both in English and Welsh is highly effective, such as when the youngest pupils experience words such as 'aghast' and 'saunter' ...staff ensure that their pupils have fun, enjoy their learning and feel free to express themselves.

Estyn - November 2022



Our Penclawdd Early Years Curriculum



- In Nursery we pride ourselves in offering a multisensory approach. We want our children to explore various textures, sounds, and smells which will enhance their sensory integration and fosters brain development and sensory processing. Howard Gardner, a childhood development theorist, states that by adopting a multi-sensory approach it allows young learners to enhance understanding, retention, and overall cognitive development.
- As part of our play-based learning the outdoors plays a pivotal part. As early years practitioners we understand the value of outdoor play in stimulating curiosity, problem solving and logical thinking. Both early childhood psychologists **Piaget** and **Vygotsky** advocate this way of learning and believe that outdoor play provides a rich context for peer collaboration, imaginative play and by using our staff it helps our little ones to develop rich language and vocabulary.
- We are continuing to develop our loose parts play and as your child goes through our Nursery you will see this area of learning develop. 'Loose parts' philosophy was a concept born by the architect Simon Nicholson and swiftly adopted by many childhood theorists as a way of extending the use of open-ended, flexible materials or objects to provide children with endless possibilities for creative and imaginative play. You will often see children using a colander or a saucepan as a musical instrument - or imagining that a crate is a boat - this way of play is an area we wish to develop in the early years setting of Penclawdd to encourage child directed play and experiences.

As mentioned, at Penclawdd we will observe your child's interests, we then plan our activities based on the schematic play your child shows - this is play where they engage in repetitive and symbolic play based on specific themes and interests... which could be multiple! Through schematic play children are actively constructing, developing their cognitive understanding and schematic play builds on language development. We will provide appropriate activities and

resources along with specific questions to facilitate their schemas and deepen their play experiences.

We believe in the importance of hands-on exploration and allowing children to have new experiences as well as building on prior knowledge. You will see a vast array of activities to ensure that we are allowing our learners to be creative and able to foster many cognitive skills throughout their morning.

Some feedback / reviews about our Nursery

'Pupils at Penclawdd Primary School relish coming to school. Younger pupils confidently sing a variety of Welsh songs passionately and respond to classroom characters effectively.'

Estyn Nov 2022

'Nursery staff are so welcoming, fun and are always there to answer any questions I might have.'

Parent

Thank you for today. All the way down to the car he wanted to go back to school!

He's definitely decided it is the place for him.

New parent 2023

'Mrs. Davies and her team are outstanding and willing to go that extra mile'

Parent

Thanks so much for looking after her this week. She's been brilliant and it's all down to how you make her feel. She has not stopped talking about school all week and has been looking forward to go all week. She's lucky to have such a lovely and caring school and teachers.

New parent 2023

Thank you for an inspirational visit and for all your hard work in making the nursery such a great place for the children to thrive, learn and have fun.

School Governor

Penclawdd is a supportive caring environment.

Parent





Thanks for reading / Diolch am ddarlen

Our Vision for Penclawdd Primary School

Our vision for Penclawdd Primary School is to be a community of excellence whereby everyone strives to be the best they can be in a nurturing, encouraging and supportive environment.

To meet our vision, we will:

- Provide a safe and happy learning environment, whereby the physical and mental wellbeing of all staff and pupils is at the heart, to ensure all our children are ready to learn.
 - Develop further as a community to ensure children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted in all we do.
 - Provide a values-based education to help learners grow and develop, promoting tolerance and understanding.
 - Ensure everyone in our school family feels valued and continue to develop positive and special partnerships with all stakeholders - pupils, staff, parents, governors and our community.
 - Ensure pupil voice is rightly loud and proud and strive to give all our pupils a 'voice' in making our school a better place.
 - Provide a rich, inclusive and balanced curriculum that stimulates the natural curiosity and enquiring minds of our pupils to become ambitious, independent learners.
- Enable all our pupils to reach their full potential and be equipped with the skills to become ambitious capable learners, ethically informed citizens, enterprising creative contributors and healthy confident individuals.
 - Strive to promote a culture where everyone feels a sense of belonging, respect and pride in our school and community.
 - Celebrate our Welsh culture, heritage and identity with the belief - ysgol heb iaith, ysgol heb galon (a school without a language is a school without a voice).
 - Strive to be a reflective and self-improving school whereby we honestly evaluate our progress to ensure the best possible education for all. We have an excellent, dedicated and motivated team, who are passionate about education.

Created in partnership with all stakeholders,
December 2021

Article 28 "You have the right to education"



**We love
coming to
Nursery**

