



WELCOME TO / CROESO I
YSGOL CRAIG Y DERYN



'Dysgu heddiw er mwyn yfory'



Welcome

The staff and governors would like to warmly welcome you and your child to Ysgol Craig y Deryn. We hope that you will enjoy happy years in our company.

Together: Pupils – Parents – Teachers

At Ysgol Craig y Deryn we want all our children to be happy at school and enjoy a caring, well-ordered and stimulating environment that will give each child the opportunity to fulfil his or her potential. We hope to achieve this by ensuring a close working relationship with parents and all the school's partners.

We consider co-operation with parents vital for the success and happiness of each and every child. We are aware of the duty we have as a school since so many parents have chosen to send their children to Ysgol Craig y Deryn to be educated instead of to another nearby school. We appreciate the strong and friendly relationship that exists between the school, parents and the pupils.

We look forward to you joining us.



Aims of the School

- To ensure that each child is given the opportunity to reach his or her full potential within a happy and caring environment
- To encourage children to be independent thinkers
- To nurture each child's self-respect and respect for others within the school and the wider community
- To develop children who are confident in their mathematical, digital and linguistic skills – both Welsh and English
- To help children to learn about and value their cultural and historical heritage
- To enlarge the children's knowledge by providing a full range of experiences and opportunities within a broad and interesting curriculum
- To prepare our pupils to embrace their future as adults in society
- To ensure that each pupil's voice is heard and that everyone is treated equally

Starting At Ysgol Craig y Deryn

Your child's first day!

- This is an important day for you and your child. We will do all that we can to ensure that it is a happy and memorable one for all concerned.

The Start of your Child's First Day

- In September, we request that you escort your child to the school reception area. A member of staff will be waiting by the door from 1:00pm onwards to greet you and help you on your first day and to help your child to settle in the classroom.

There will be activities and tasks arranged around the classroom so that your child can play freely. We kindly ask that you say goodbye to your child in a swift and jolly manner since a child can sense when a parent is worrying! It is likely that some children will be tearful when parents leave them on their first day – this is usual, but most children settle in very quickly. We will contact you if we feel that your child is worried and continues to cry for a longer than usual time. You are also welcome to contact the school later on during the day if you wish to put your mind at rest.

Your child will get 1/3 of a pint of milk each morning free of charge. If your child is allergic to milk, we will provide a cup of water as an alternative.

The End of your Child's First Day

- When you collect your child at 3:30pm, we ask that you please wait by the main door to the cylch meithrin (follow the path to the right of main reception) . A member of staff will be waiting for you and will call your child when you arrive. We will hand children over safely to their parents/guardians one at a time. If a different person is going to be collecting your child, it is essential that you inform the school beforehand, either by phoning or sending in a letter. **We will not allow your child to leave with another individual unless we have been informed prior to the end of the school day.**

Attendance

- We try to ensure a high attendance level for each pupil as absences prevent progress. We ask parents to bring their children to school by 12:00pm. If a child arrives after 12:10pm then a

late mark will be given on the register. In accordance with Government Guidelines, all parents must give a reason for their child / children's absence from school. Parents should do this by telephoning the school and leaving a message on the school's answer phone. This should be done as soon as possible on the **first day** of absence. If the school does not receive an explanation for the absence, the absence will be marked as an 'Unauthorised Absence' on the register.

Holidays

- All holiday dates are sent out in September for the academic year. Please inform the school if you will be taking your child on holiday during term time. Holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised by the Headteacher- unless there are exceptional circumstances. The school does not encourage parents to take their child for occasional day holidays, as this is disruptive to their education.

School Uniform

- We, at Ysgol Craig y Deryn, believe that dressing appropriately is part of a good education, which contributes towards developing self-discipline as well as creating a sense of belonging. It is important that the children feel equal to their peers. A school uniform sets high standards and order in the school and we ask for parents' co-operation in this matter.

Our school uniform is:

- Black skirt/ pinafore/black trousers/shorts
White shirt/blouse
Plain red/white polo shirt – also available with the school logo.
- Red and white summer gingham dress (optional)
- Plain red jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt- also available with school logo Red fleece - also available with school logo
- Black shoes

Our P.E. uniform is:

- Plain red t shirt/red t shirt with the school logo
 - Plain black shorts
 - Trainers
- For more information please contact Lorraine Rodgers the school secretary -01654710463
- Your child will also need to bring wet weather clothing and wellington boots to school (these will be kept in school) for our outdoor and 'Muddy Thursday' sessions.
 - We kindly ask that you **label each item of clothing (including shoes) with your child's name.** This means that we can return any mislaid items of clothing to the correct owner.
 - You can order your clothes from [school](#) – 01654710463.

HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

- We acknowledge that parental support for the school is going to be very valuable and we look forward to establishing a strong home – school partnership.
- **Themes**
- Areas of learning will follow the Curriculum for Wales and will be taught through cross-curriculum themes.

- **Home Tasks**
- A home task is set occasionally, based on what the children are learning in class. We ask parents to help with these tasks. Following on from this, there will be an opportunity for the children to talk about their work in class if they wish, and to celebrate their success. Information about each task will be sent home with your child.

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR STARTING SCHOOL

How can you help your child?

- Encourage your child to develop self-support skills and to grow independent when using the toilet
- Teach your child to wash his/her hands and reinforce this regularly so that it becomes a natural activity. It will help your child develop personal hygiene skills and to minimise the spread of infection.
- Teach your child to put on/take off his/her coat independently. We will be using the outdoor area regularly during the day, throughout the year and your child will be encouraged to put on his/her coat independently and return it to the correct hook at the end of the session.
- Encourage your child to tidy his/her things. In class, children are expected to care for the classroom resources and to take responsibility for returning them to the correct place ready for the others to use them.

Additionally, we would very much appreciate it if you could:

- Discuss the school with your child – talk about the fun that is to be had there!
- Help your child recognise his/her name in writing
- Read Welsh – language books and watch Welsh language television programmes, Welsh apps and DVDs
- Give your child opportunities to use creative tools and materials at home e.g. crayons, paper, glue, scissors and paint

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

- **What should I do if I need to speak to a member of staff regarding my child?**
If you need to discuss anything regarding your child, please send a note or telephone the office and we will arrange a mutually convenient time for discussion without any disruption.
- **What will happen if my child has a toilet accident?**
We appreciate that accidents happen and we will deal with these quickly and in a sensitive manner. Your child's clothing will be put in a plastic carrier and your child will be provided with a clean uniform from the school stock. We kindly ask that you wash and return these items of clothing as soon as possible. We suggest that parents - pack a spare pair of knickers/pants in their child's bag just in case they have an accident whilst in school. If your child soils himself/herself we will contact you immediately to inform you and advise you if you need to come and clean him/her and provide him/her with clean clothes.
- **How will I receive letters from school?**
We suggest that you look in your child's bag at the end of each day for letters or other important information. We will also be sending out information via Class Dojo (login details

will be given at the beginning of term) and School Facebook (please 'friend' request the school to have full access).

- **When will my child be having P.E. lessons?**

The school will send a letter home within the first two weeks of school explaining the timetable to you.

- **Is my child allowed to wear jewellery to school?**

In accordance with the rules of the school and the Local Authority, pupils with pierced ears should wear one pair of studs rather than hoops in their ears. No jewellery at all is to be worn during PE lessons.

- If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us – we're here to help!

If there is anything worrying you or your child - we encourage you to share your concerns with us.