

Ysgol Rhostyllen



Prospectus 2025/26

'We believe that the best gift we can give our children apart from love is education'



Welcome / Croeso

Dear Parents / Carers,



Ysgol Rhostyllen is a community Primary School which caters for children aged between 3 and 11 years old.

We are delighted that you have expressed an interest in our school and look forward to establishing a positive partnership with you and your child in order to achieve the best possible outcomes.

The development of the individual child is the shared responsibility of the home and school. This partnership should promote a positive and supportive environment from which the child can respond to the many opportunities provided in school. We strive to create a culture of respect, self-discipline, inner confidence and a pride in good behaviour and appearance.

As a community school we value our relationship with all aspects of the locality. We are a friendly, happy school with traditional values and high expectations of all our pupils. We are fully committed to enriching children's lives now and into the future.

If you would like to visit the school please telephone to make an appointment on (01978) 352357.

We hope that this prospectus will provide you with all the information you need about the life and work of Ysgol Rhostyllen.

'We believe that the best gift we can give our children apart from love is education'

Huw Rowlands

Headteacher

Ysgol Rhostyllen

School Details: Ysgol Rhostyllen
School Street
Rhostyllen
Wrexham
LL14 4AN
(01978) 352357
Email: mailbox@rhostyllen-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. Huw Rowlands

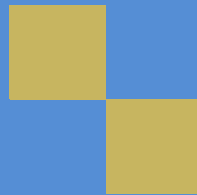
Chair of Governing Body: Mr. Paul Humble

Type of School: Community Primary School
(pupils of 3 – 11 years of age)

Currently, there are 216 full time pupils and 19 Nursery pupils (239)



School Staff



Senior Leadership Team

Mr. Huw Rowlands - Headteacher
Mrs. Gemma Brownhill – Deputy Headteacher / ALNCO
Mr. Daniel Guy – Learning Lead

Teaching Staff

Mrs. Sarah Bartley
Mrs. Kayleigh Davies
Mrs. Zara Lloyd
Miss Zoe Maddock
Mr. Joshua Owens
Mrs. Rosie Simmonds
Mrs. Beth Williams

Teaching Assistants

Mrs. Lowri Birchall
Mrs. Emily Ellis
Miss Nicola Jones
Mrs. Nadine Peers
Mrs. Lisa Roberts
Mrs. Sarah Smallwood

Mrs. Cheryl Galt – **Clerical Officer**

Mrs. Valerie Jones – **Caretaker**
Mrs. Lorraine Bellamy – **Cleaning Staff**
Mrs. Clara Oliveira Drago – **Cleaning Staff**

Mrs. Diana Davies – **Kitchen Staff**
Mrs. Marie Thomas – **Kitchen Staff**
Mrs. Karen Jones – **Kitchen Staff**
Mrs. Jade Gibson- **Kitchen Staff**

Mrs. Karen Jones – **Breakfast Club Senior Supervisor**
Mrs. Marie Thomas – **Breakfast Club Supervisor**
Mrs. Sharon Williams – **Breakfast Club Supervisor**
Miss Lucie Williams – **Breakfast Club Supervisor**

Our Vision



'We believe that the best gift we can give our children apart from love is education'

All children need love, care time and understanding. Their primary education is a vital part of a growing awareness of the wider world, for which they need to gain knowledge and skills essential to life. It is of the upmost importance that children are happy at school if they are to reach their potential. Our aims at Ysgol Rhostyllen are:

- To maintain a happy, caring environment with a secure and welcoming atmosphere which gives children the confidence to become independent learners.
- To promote respect for all, regardless of differing religious beliefs and ways of life and develop a culture which is opposed to discrimination relating to socio-economic background, creed, ethnic origin, gender or disability.
- To provide learning environments where children can enjoy success through well planned activities, and which caters for individual needs.
- To plan a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum for each child's physical, intellectual, emotional, social and moral needs.
- To work in close partnership with the child's home and family to promote a positive educational experience and which helps children to interact successfully with their peer group, family and community.
- To actively encourage lifelong learning, promote high standards and encourage all children to achieve their potential.

Safeguarding & Security

Safety of children is our number one priority, from security of the site to the welfare of each individual. We have very clear guidelines in place to ensure our safeguarding is robust. We ensure that all staff, volunteers and visitors have current DBS checks before working with children.

Our Principles:

- The welfare of children, and their wishes and feelings are afforded consideration when developing and carrying out school activities.
- All children have equal rights to support and protection irrespective of their race, age, ability, gender, language, religion, sexual orientation and culture.
- All staff and volunteers have a professional role to identify and respond to the needs of children and report any concerns immediately.

Designated safeguarding persons are Mr. Huw Rowlands (Headteacher), Mrs. Gemma Brownhill (Deputy) and Mr. Daniel Guy (Learning Lead).

Security

- The main entrance to our school is open for visitors. To ensure everyone's safety, visitors must ring the bell in the entrance porch and wait for a member of the admin team to respond.
- To keep your children secure during school hours, the gates are locked at 9:00 am and will reopen at the end of the school day.
- Please note that no child is permitted to leave school early without prior permission.
- Our playgrounds are well-supervised during playtimes to ensure a safe environment for all children.
- For added security, the school is equipped with external lighting, a CCTV system, and an intruder alarm.
- We also prioritise teaching our pupils how to keep themselves safe, both in and out of the school environment.
- When visiting, all guests must report to the main entrance, sign in, and wear a visitor's badge for identification.
- We ask that when parents/carers come into school, they must wait to be escorted around the building by a member of staff. The foyer area and main school can only be accessed via a fobbed system.
- If there are any changes to normal pick-up arrangements, please inform the class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. In that case, use the main entrance to collect your child.

Admission Policy

In accordance with Local Authority policy, children are admitted to school (part time) in the September following their third birthday. They begin statutory full-time education in the September following their fourth birthday. All admission requests whatever the child's age should be made to Wrexham Local Authority.

Parents who wish to enrol or transfer their children to our school are welcome to make an appointment visit.

A meeting for parents will be held prior to children in Nursery and Reception commencing school. This will be an opportunity to meet the staff and receive relevant information regarding school procedures and organisation. Nursery pupils will have the opportunity to visit their new class before they attend in September.

The Wrexham admission policy can be found on their website www.wrexham.gov.uk

Access and Admission for Disabled Pupils

The school is on one level and its design is easily accessible to pupils and visitors with disabilities. There is a spacious disabled toilet on site. Local Authority policies and practices (which cover admissions) ensure that pupils with a disability are not treated less favourably than other pupils and have equality of access to the curriculum and school facilities.

The Curriculum, Educational Organisation and Teaching Methods

Ysgol Rhostyllen is an English medium school with Welsh taught as a second language to all pupils from Nursery through to Year 6. Pupils are taught in eight straight year groups. Since September 2022 a new curriculum was introduced in Wales and the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 sets out the following concepts and mandatory elements which will be taught to pupils from ages 3 to 16:

- The cross curricular skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competence
- Religion, values and ethics
- Relationships and sexuality

The school aims to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, which gives varied opportunities to develop essential skills. We will support learners in their journey to become:

- **Ambitious, capable learners** who are ready to learn throughout their lives
- **Healthy, confident individuals** who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society
- **Enterprising, creative contributors** who are ready to play a full part in life and work
- **Ethical, informed citizens** who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.

These are called the four purposes of the curriculum and will be central to the children's learning and development. As well as literacy, numeracy and digital skills children's learning will be focused around the six areas of learning and experience. Everything your child learns will be connected to these areas. They are:

- Expressive Arts
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Health and Wellbeing
- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Science and Technology

The curriculum also covers the following aspects:

- Diversity and respecting differences
- Experiences and skills for careers and the workplace
- Learning about local, national and international contexts
- Developmentally appropriate relationships and sexuality education

Areas of the Curriculum

Welsh / Cymraeg

In line with National Assembly of Wales policy Welsh is included in the curriculum throughout the school in a move towards bilingualism. Children participate regularly in Welsh oracy sessions to develop confidence and vocabulary, in addition to focused lessons and the use of incidental Welsh which is encouraged throughout the school throughout the day. As a school within Wales, we pride ourselves on celebrating our country's language and culture through drama, music, dance, stories and visits to the Urdd organisation's residential centres in Bala and Cardiff.

The children enter a variety of Urdd competitions to consolidate their Welsh language and culture. We also have our own annual Eisteddfod to celebrate St David's Day

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)

RVE is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for

Wales for learners from age 3 to 16. We aim to give learners opportunities to respond sensitively to religion and non-religious philosophical convictions and explore the beliefs and practices of people in their community, Wales and the wider world. We also aim to develop secure values and establish their ethical beliefs and spirituality through the exploration of a range of issues. This will also support the development of pupils' mental, emotional and spiritual well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy.



Collective Worship

There are three acts of collective worship per week and on the other two days short assemblies are held in class. There are regular visits from Father Dylan, the local minister and occasionally from representatives of charitable organisations. Parents and family members are invited to join the staff and children in class assemblies. Parents who wish to withdraw their children from such activities will need to inform the school of their decision.



Areas of the Curriculum

Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE)

This subject is treated with sensitivity at Ysgol Rhostyllen. RSE is part of the child's personal, social and health education programme. It involves discussions about caring, dealing with feelings, keeping safe and healthy, making decisions, family life and the care of the body. The content is always carefully matched to the needs, age and maturity of the child.

Sporting Activities and Extra-Curricular Activities

At Ysgol Rhostyllen we aim to involve children in as many activities as possible. We praise and encourage the children for their activities outside as well as within school. During the school day we provide the following activities for the children: Football, Netball, Gymnastics, Dance, Cricket, Rounders, Athletics and Outdoor Education.

The school offers a range of after school clubs for children. This could not take place without the commitment of all the teaching and non-teaching staff at the school. We also welcome parents who offer valuable help and expertise. Clubs include Cymraeg, Urdd, Games, Football, Netball, Lego, Laser Tag and Karaoke.



Homework

At Ysgol Rhostyllen we regard homework as a very important aspect of children's learning. We see homework as an opportunity for parents to share activities with their children and to encourage their learning. The involvement of parents or carers can be so effective, not only in assisting the child to make educational progress but also to reinforce the values of learning. Children in Nursery and Reception will have 'Home Activity' books which are varied, often practical tasks. Reception pupils will also practice their key words, phonics and reading.

Children in Years 1 and 2 will also have 'Home Activity' books. In addition, they should spend time practicing their reading, spelling and phonics. In Year 2 pupils who have a computer may access some of their Maths homework online.

Children in Years 3 to 6 should spend time each evening reading at home. They will also have spellings to learn each week and at least one piece of homework which could relate to Literacy, Numeracy or topic work.

The school day



The school bell is rung at 8:45am.

Pupils in the infants will be greeted by their classroom door by the teacher. Junior pupils will gather in their class groups on the junior yard where their teacher will escort them into the school building.

8.50am - 11.45am

Reception to Year 2 Morning Session

8.50am - 12.00pm

Year 3 to Year 6 Morning Session

12.45pm - 3.00pm

Reception to Year 6 Afternoon Session

8.50am - 11.20am

NURSERY – MORNINGS ONLY

It is essential that pupils arrive in school on time. Being late disrupts the school day for everyone. If you know in advance that your child is going to be late, please inform the school.

Unaccompanied children should not be on the premises before 8.40am. For security reasons gates onto the Infant and Junior yards are locked at 8:50am and the only access after this time is through the main reception area where the late register will need to be completed.

If due to unforeseen circumstances, you will be late collecting your child please try and let us know so that supervision arrangements can be made.

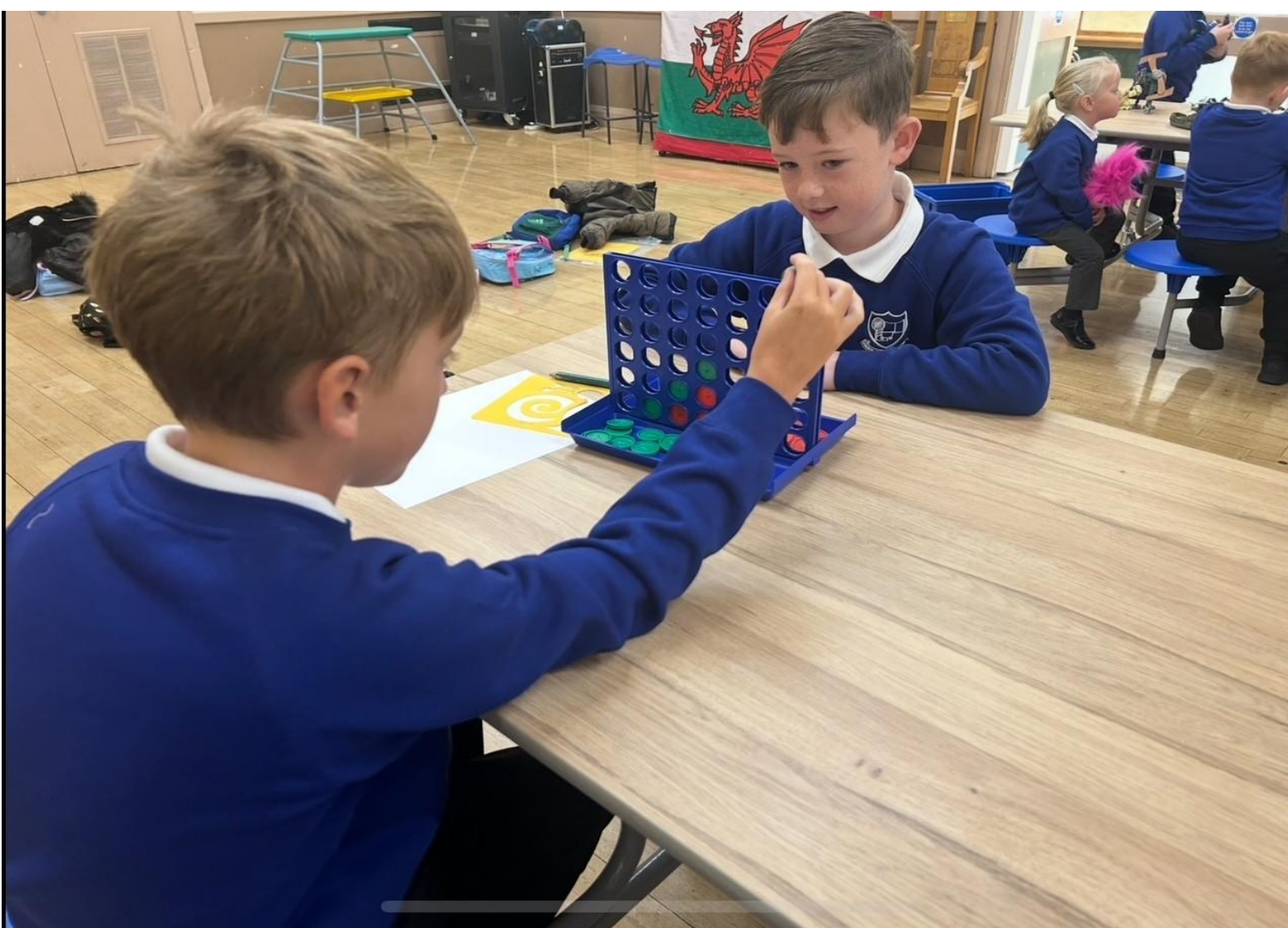
Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality are key for pupils to really benefit from school and pick up the skills they'll need for life.

- If your child is absent from school, parents or carers should inform the school by phone or email. If your child is absent without explanation, we'll contact you for clarification.
- An attendance traffic light letter is sent home every term to update parents on their child's attendance percentage.
- We employ various strategies to promote good attendance.
- Persistent poor attendance and punctuality may be referred to the Local Authority Attendance Officer and Education Social Worker.
- Fixed penalty notices can be issued for ongoing poor attendance.

We do not encourage holidays during term time and are only able to authorise 10 school days for holidays taken during term for exceptional circumstances.





Breakfast & After School

A school run breakfast club runs each day from 7.50am until 8.45am. It is staffed by our own staff. The children get a good choice for breakfast.

The children have plenty of activities to keep them busy during breakfast club. All participating children must be in Breakfast Club by **8:35am**

The charges are as follows:

7:50am – 8.20am - £3 daily

From 8.20am – Free admission

A local nursery operates an after school and holiday facility. They also offer wrap around care for Nursery pupils following their morning sessions. These services are all based at the school. Application forms and details of costs are available from the school office.

School Uniform

We have an agreed dress code which helps identify all pupils as belonging to our school community.

The uniform consists of:

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- White blouse, shirt or polo shirt
- Black or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Pupils are expected to wear sensible, strong, black shoes with no open toes or high heels
- For the summer, black or grey shorts and white t-shirt or a gingham dress

P.E Kit

- Black shorts or Joggers
- Plain white T-shirt (no logos)
- Black pumps or trainers
- School sweatshirts or cardigans still to be worn on designated PE days

Sweatshirts and cardigans can be purchased from RAM Leisure on Whitegate Industrial Estate.

Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn or brought to school. Pupils who have pierced ears are only permitted to wear a single stud in each ear. Please note that earrings are not allowed in the swimming baths.



School Meals

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 are entitled to free school meals.

The meals are freshly cooked each day by the canteen staff and need to be pre-ordered through the Council's ParentPay system.

Alternatively, your child may bring in their own packed lunch and as a healthy school we encourage a balanced diet.

You may also be entitled to additional help through the School Essentials Grant, which includes financial support for uniform, sports equipment and devices.

We urge parents/carers to apply for an entitlement to Free School Meals so that your child receives the maximum support that they're entitled to. This also supports us as a school to access maximum funding from Welsh Government to support our pupils.

To access this year's scheme visit the [School Essentials Grant page on our website](#)



Snack Time

Free milk is available for the children from Nursery up to Year 2.

The children are welcome to bring a snack to school, please respect our healthy eating policy by ensuring your child does not have crisps, chocolate and sweets.

Each child has a water bottle in school provided by the school and is encouraged to take regular drinks.



Medicines

Staff are permitted to administer medicine under the following strict guidelines:

- The medicine must be brought in to school by a responsible adult and handed in at the school office
- The medicine must be clearly labelled with the child's name and content
- A form authorising consent to administer the medicine must be completed stating dosage and time.



Health & Safety

All at the school are committed to the highest standards of health and safety. Most staff are first-aiders and in the event of minor accidents, parents are informed of the details. If there is an accident of a more serious nature, then parents will be asked to come to school and dependent on the circumstances the child may need to attend hospital. If we are unable to contact the parent, we will make emergency arrangements in the best interests of the child.

Risk assessments are always undertaken for out of school activities.

Assessment, Progression and Reporting

The staff continuously assesses the progress of each child throughout the school year using a variety of methods, including Assessment for Learning, Marking and Feedback, Observations and personalised assessments.

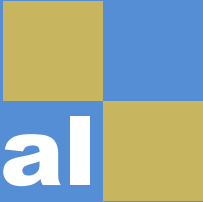
National Numeracy and Literacy tests are taken twice a year from pupils in Y2-6.

The school uses Assessment for Learning principles and our pupils are encouraged to assess their own progress and learning, especially the older children, who are involved in setting their own targets.

A detailed report on each pupil's progress will be sent home annually in July.

Consultative Parents Evenings provide opportunity for parents to see their child's work and discuss progress with teachers. These are held in the Autumn and Spring Terms.





Children with Additional Needs

The school adheres to Wrexham County policies and the national guidelines laid down in the Additional Learning Needs Code of Practice.

Mrs. Gemma Brownhill is the ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs coordinator) at Ysgol Rhostyllen. As part of our regular monitoring systems, i.e. pupil tracking systems, we can identify children's strengths and weaknesses and ensure that they make the best progress. Where necessary, children are given extra support according to their individual requirements. These additional needs may require support for long or short periods of time. Where extra support is necessary, parents are included in a dialogue with the class teacher on how to support the child moving forward.

The ALNCo, alongside the class teacher will develop intervention strategies which are monitored through our robust tracking system. The school's support staff work with individuals and small groups of children on specific skills.

When there is continued concern about a child's progress, additional advice and/or assessment may be requested from external agencies. The school aspires to be fully inclusive. All reasonable adjustments are made to the environment and teaching and learning activities to ensure that children with disabilities are not disadvantaged.

More Able and Talented Pupils

Our broad and balanced curriculum offers opportunities to extend and challenge the more able. Teacher planning is differentiated to fulfil their academic needs and any child with an identified talent in other areas such as sport or music is fully supported and their achievements celebrated.

These are shared across the school for cross curricular learning. Each class has an interactive white board which is used to enhance the learning of the children. Secure Wifi is available throughout the school. We teach computing – including basic programming and have a comprehensive and e-safety curriculum that runs through all ICT units taught.

Behaviour

Ysgol Rhostyllen prides itself on being a happy school. We have few rules. Those we do have are to enable school community to work safely and harmoniously together. Some rules are based on our expectations and on respect and care for one another, personal property, school property and the school building.

There are rewards for good behaviour and effort and sanctions are applied when rules are broken, or behaviour deemed unacceptable.

Where a child experiences difficulty in conforming to acceptable standards of behaviour. Parents are informed and invited to discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

We aim to encourage children to accept responsibility for their own actions and try to help them understand the consequences of their behaviour and the reason why certain behaviour is unacceptable.

The ethos of the school is one where positive reward outweighs sanctions and where self-discipline is the key to effective learning. We seek your co-operation in supporting the Behaviour Policy.





Policies

All our policies are available to view at the school office. Key policies are available on the school website.

Equal Opportunities

The school is committed in all its thoughts, systems and practices to ensure equal opportunities for all involved in our school community. Members of staff ensure that they treat children equally and that everyone has the same opportunities regardless of gender, race or colour, age or faith. The School's Equality Plan and Equality and Diversity Policy are regularly updated and set out our objectives, a summary of what we hope to achieve and the steps we will take to deliver those objectives as an employer, as an educational establishment and as part of our local community.

Charging and Remissions Policy

When organising trips or visits which enhance the curriculum, the school invites parents to contribute towards the costs. All contributions are voluntary, however if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, the activity has to be cancelled or modified.

We aim to ensure that all children get an equal opportunity to participate in all activities. When costs are a barrier to any child taking part in the wider life of the school, we endeavour to find ways to overcome the problem. Parents/carers are urged to contact the Headteacher if they find themselves in such circumstances. Remission for the costs incurred for the accommodation on residential visits can be applied for as long parents/carers can provide evidence of being in receipt of certain benefits. Details are available from the school office.

The Governing Body's Charging and Remissions Policy provides further information regarding this matter.



School Council, Eco Committee & Criw Cymraeg

Pupils in Years 2-6 apply to become School council, Eco Council or Criw Cymraeg members at the beginning of each school year. Classes vote for a pupil from each year group to represent them. The committees represent the views of the pupils in school and may be approached for help or ideas at any time.

The children run regular committee meetings where ideas are discussed on topics such as fundraising, playground activities, school environment or continue to enhance Welsh at the school.

The Committee representatives report back to the children in their class on decisions made during the meeting. Committee members have responsibilities in school and they help children with problems. They also invite suggestions to improve any aspect of school life.

Older members of the committees are given specific positions, such as chairperson and secretary, and use a display board to present the minutes and agenda of meetings.

School Trips and Residential Visits

All classes participate in educational out of school visits which are usually linked to topic work. This can provide an inspirational stimulus to learning and the details of any activities involving individual classes will be sent out prior to the visit. In Year 5 pupils can attend Glanllyn Urdd Centre in Bala on a residential visit where they participate in various activities such as canoeing, climbing, rafting and archery.

In Year 6, pupils have the opportunity to participate in a visit to Cardiff where they explore our capital city, visiting sights such as the Millenium Stadium, Welsh Assembly and Carddif Bay.

Parents Teachers & Friends Association (PTFA)

Here at Ysgol Rhostyllen we have a very active PTFA, who raise substantial amounts of money for the school. Every parent is automatically a member of the PTFA and is encouraged to join in and help with school run events. We have had a school disco, Christmas fair, Easter Bingo and many more events throughout the year.

We are very grateful to the PTFA for their commitment and generosity.

Complaints Procedure

The school has an open-door policy whereby we can usually address any issues or concerns you may have as the need arises. We are committed to dealing effectively with complaints and we aim to clarify any issues about which you are not sure.

If you wish to raise a concern or make a complaint these stages usually apply:

- **Stage 1** - Raise your concern with the teacher or designated person
- **Stage 2** - If issue is not resolved, raise your concern with the Headteacher
- **Stage 3** - If issue is still not resolved, write to the Chair of Governors

All these stages have timescales. Full details are available in the School's Complaints Procedure.



Governors



Governors help provide the best possible education for pupils at school. Their main role is to raise standards and to monitor progress against targets that have been set.

The governing body at Ysgol Rhostyllen is a group of people responsible for the strategic running of a school. They are comprised of the headteacher, staff governors, parent governors, community governors and governors appointed by the local authority.

Governors carry out their duties voluntarily and their role is to hold the headteacher to account for the running of the school and the progress and wellbeing of its pupils and staff.

Our School Governors

Headteacher:	Mr. Huw Rowlands
Local Authority Governors:	Mr. Paul Humble (Chair of Governors) Rev'd Dylan Parry Jones Vacancy*
Parent Governors:	Mr. Joshua Davies Mrs. Jessica Winfield Mrs. Shanice Blackmore Mrs. Laura Topham
Community Governors:	Ms. Bushra Ali Ms. Sarah Love Ms. Gemma Richards (Vice Chair of Governors)
Additional Community Governor:	Vacancy*
Teacher Governor:	Mrs. Beth Williams
Staff Governor:	Mrs. Emily Ellis

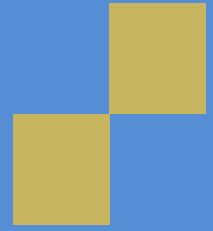
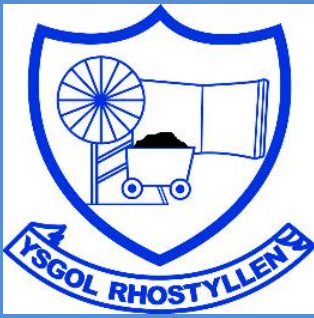
School Term Dates

2025/26

Term	Term Open	Half Term Close	Half Term Open	Term Close
Autumn 2025	Monday September 1	Friday October 24	Monday November 3	Friday December 19
Spring 2026	Monday January 5	Friday February 13	Monday February 23	Friday March 27
Summer 2026	Monday April 13	Friday May 22	Monday June 1	Monday July 20

Training Days

- Monday 1st September - 2025
- Tuesday 2nd September - 2025
- Friday 24th October - 2025
- Monday 5th January - 2026
- Monday 13th April – 2026
- Monday 20th July – 2026



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