

# Ysgol Llanystumdwy

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Early Years and a great welcome to you and your family to Llanystumdwy School. We hope that you will have many happy years in our company. We look forward to working with you for the benefit and development of your child and share your child's education in partnership with you. Starting school is a wonderful experience and our aim as staff is to ensure that the step from home to school a happy one for your child.

I hope that this booklet, which explains our objectives in the nursery class, will benefit you.

Sincerely,

*Cathryn S Davey*

**'Children learn more in their first five years  
than at any other time in their life!'**



### Time:

Nursery Hours: 1pm-3pm

You are welcome to come to school with your child to help them put their coat on the peg and to feel at home. We want to encourage them to come into the building and put their coat on the peg independently as soon as possible. By the time they come to school full time they are usually quite confident in doing it themselves.

The parents wait for the children outside the school gate at 3 o'clock when a member of staff will transfer them back to your care.

### Clothing:

We are very keen for children to spend a large part of their time being taught outside through the Foundation Phase so they are required to have rain coats and shoes at the school permanently.

WE LIKE TO SEE VELCRO! Shoelaces are difficult for nursery children. Also, nasty accidents can happen because of them. The staff are always around but they cannot be everywhere at once. Please make sure the child's name is marked clearly on each item of clothing. The children will remove their clothing at times and sometimes if there is no name on them, they're bound to get lost. Trying to sort 20 blue jumpers after physical education lessons is heartbreaking if not impossible!

### Contacting the school:

You are welcome to come to chat with the head teacher or teachers at any time but please make an appointment for a longer meeting because staff are teaching for most of the time. In an emergency, please contact the school as soon as possible if you are going to be late collecting your child so that he / she will not be worried.

If you change your arrangements for collecting your child, remember that you must notify the school by telephone or letter.

### Medication :

Please do not send Antibiotics to school with your child. Please try to time doses around the school sessions. Any other medication must be discussed with the teacher.

## PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

### Toilet Time:

Whilst we appreciate that accidents can happen sometimes, pupils must be trained to use the toilet before beginning the Nursery Class. If they do have an accident, your child will be changed in a sympathetic and discreet manner. The wet clothes will be placed in a plastic bag and your child will have clean clothes from spare clothes at the school. They are welcome to bring spare underwear from home in a bag to keep it on their hook. We ask you to wash the clothes and send them back to us as soon as possible please. The children are encouraged to flush the toilet and then wash their hands after using the toilet to prevent the spread of germs and make them ill. We appreciate every effort to practice this at home so that this comes naturally to children.

### Good behaviour:

Starting school is a happier experience if your child can make friends and share toys.

Encourage your child to be independent:

- when going to the toilet
- when washing and drying hands
- to recognise his / her coat
- when putting toys and books away

All adults who come into contact with the Early Years pupils demonstrate a good example by treating each other and the children with kindness and respect. Pupils will be encouraged to discuss their feelings. They are led to deal with their frustrations and bad moods in a positive way. Pupils will learn manners by saying "Please" and "thank you" every time. Pupils will learn to look after their toys and equipment, handle them carefully and be responsible for returning items to their proper place when finished playing. If a child's behaviour is very bad or dangerous, the staff will ask them to sit out of the activity and take time to think quietly about his behavior and to apologise if necessary. If a child's behavior is causing concern, we will discuss this with you privately as soon as possible.

### Discipline:

Discipline in the Nursery will be firm but fair and consistent. Children come to the Nursery with a wide range of patterns and behavior of all young children tends to be self-centred. Children often fall out and says "he / she is not my friend. " This is a natural part of forming relationships with one another and will continue throughout their time at school and on into adult life. May we remind you that there are two sides to every story and remember that small children are often quite self-centred as previously stated.

If your child comes home complaining about the other child and is worried about this, come and discuss this with staff. We can probably solve the problem easily with early intervention.

We want every child to be happy in the Nursery Class. In the Nursery, we encourage the positive social skills of sharing and taking turns. By the time the children leave the Nursery we hope that they can play co-operatively together. Let us know in advance if your child has

behavioural problems, especially if they tend to hurt others by hitting, biting, scratching, kicking and so on. With treatment we can deal with the behaviour of this kind from the start, but we need your co-operation and support.

### **Learning through play:**

Play is used as a means to access all areas of learning. Pupils learn successfully with enjoyment. Through carefully structured play the staff will use the child's successes to develop and introduce new ideas. Opportunities for all types of play are planned by the staff and pupils play individually, in pairs and in groups of varying sizes with or without adult guidance.

The most important thing to note is that children enjoy playing and learning without being aware that they are being taught. A child learns by being busy and engaged. Your child will be encouraged to play, explore and learn at their own pace. We offer time, space, materials and equipment in a place where they can feel happy and secure. Your child will develop self-confidence and independence while being encouraged to do as much as possible for him/herself.

During each session there will be time to explore independently, to listen to stories, to explore music and movement, to paint, to draw, write, create, build, to cook, to play outside, to use books, to share, to talk and listen to others, to participate in imaginative play, play with toys e.g. small and large trains, cars, dolls houses and so on. They will be encouraged to observe the world around them, the weather and the seasons, to look after living things and to use technology.

Remember, your child has learned a lot more than you hear from him / her!

### **Parents Association:**

There is a very good Parents Association here at Llanystumdwy. The parents co-operate well with each other to raise money for resources and the requirements of your children. You are very welcome to join the association and a letter will be sent by the secretary to notify you when the meetings are held. It can be a strange feeling going to a meeting where many people knew each other already, but remember that everyone is there for the benefit of the children and everyone is very pleased to see new members who want to help.