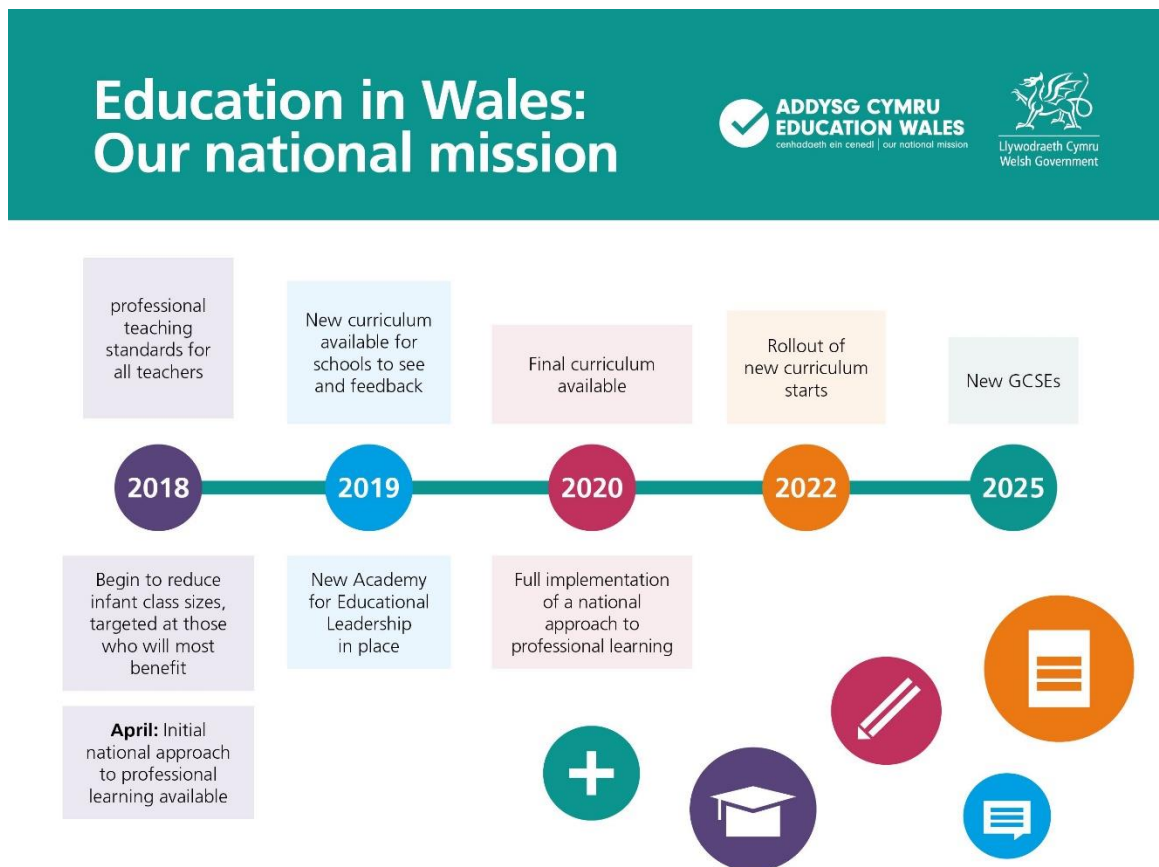




Aim to learn, learn to succeed ~ Anelu at ddysgu, dysgu i lwyddo

Curriculum Changes at Ysgol Maes Owen

We are currently in the middle of a very exciting time regarding education in Wales. I thought it may be helpful if we shared a summary with you so you can feel confident about what is happening and the impact this may have on your child(ren). The photograph below is taken from the Education section of the Welsh Government website. This photo and lots of additional information can be found at <https://beta.gov.wales/our-national-mission-0>



In April this year, the draft version of the revised National Curriculum will be distributed to schools. School have been encouraged to 'have a go' at implementing parts of the new curriculum already and here at Ysgol Maes Owen we have been doing this is several ways since last September.

You may have heard your child talking about 'themes' rather than individual subjects. We are now ensuring that the 'voice' of your children is deciding what they learn about within these themes. Their ideas have been amazing and have led teachers to really think 'outside the box' when planning lessons. Lessons are no longer always led by the teachers as your children are driving their own learning in many different ways. Lessons happen outside of the classroom through hands-on experiences. This 'real' learning has resulted in your children becoming really engaged throughout the school day.

You may also have heard your child(ren) talk about their 'Learning Powers'. Learner confidence and wellbeing has always come first for us and this is an additional focus on helping your child become

a confident and resilient learner, where getting something wrong is seen as a fantastic opportunity for learning more...rather than failure. The 'Learning Powers' being developed throughout the school are **Concentrating**, **Improving**, **Having a go**, **Enjoying learning**, **Being Curious**, **Not Giving Up**, **Being Imaginative** and **Being Cooperative**. To date, we are seeing a real improvement regarding learner resilience.

Another change has been for schools to work together more closely as a Cluster. As we are a feeder school for Ysgol Emrys Ap Iwan, our Cluster consists of Ysgol Emrys Ap Iwan, Ysgol Y Foryd, Ysgol Glan Gele, Ysgol Sant Elfod and Ysgol St George. We have shared staff training, planning and are in the middle of time tabling all of our teachers and Teaching Assistants to observe good teaching and learning in schools other than our own.

These are only small parts of a far bigger picture. If you'd like to have a chat about any of this and to hear more, the next 'Parents/Guardians Pop In!' is on **Tuesday 2nd April at 9.00 am** held here at school with Mrs McEwan-Williams and I.

I hope this update has given you some extra information about the exciting next-steps in education and how we as a school are moving forward.

Mrs C Foulkes
Headteacher