



School Prospectus 2024-2025

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



Eco-Schools 2023
Platinum Award



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WELCOME TO YSGOL MAES OWEN

Ysgol Maes Owen

Morfa Avenue

Kinmel Bay

Rhyl

LL18 5LE

Tel: 01745 353721

E-mail: pennaeth@maesowen.conwy.sch.uk

Twitter: @MaesOwen

Head Teacher: Mrs. C. Foulkes

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs. M. O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

It gives us great pleasure in issuing our school prospectus for 2024-2025. This booklet will provide you with relevant information about our school and will give you a clear understanding of what we endeavour to do for your child.

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

Mission Statement

At Ysgol Maes Owen we work together to provide the children in our care with an excellent education, whilst nurturing and caring for their needs as they develop and grow.

Aims

To achieve this, our school aims to develop:

- happy, caring and self-disciplined children;
- an effective use of language in reading, writing, speaking and listening;
- an effective use of mathematical skills, concepts and procedures
- an enquiring approach to studying the world around us and a concern for natural beauty and conservation
- an appreciation and interest in the arts, physical and cultural activities;
- the understanding and use of Welsh and a love of our community, country and culture;
- physical and sporting literacy;
- all members of the school - physically and intellectually by providing appropriate support for professional development and training needs;
- a warm and open relationship with all stakeholders in our school community.

We do this by planning and providing for each child as an individual; ensuring support and challenge in all areas. We believe that this is only possible through working together and creating clear routes of communication. Confidence in a school comes from knowing and understanding what is happening within it. We aim to involve all parents, families, guardians and members of our local community. We sincerely believe that all adults involved in a child's life have a direct impact and by working together we can ensure success.

We hope you will find this prospectus a useful guide to our school's work, activities and way of life and view it as the first step in a process of partnership between home and school.

Kind Regards,

Mrs C Foulkes (*Headteacher*), Mrs M O'Connor (*Deputy Headteacher*) & Mr. M Jones (*Chair of Governing Body*)

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION 2024-2025

Contacts

<i>Address:</i>	Ysgol Maes Owen Morfa Avenue Kinmel Bay Rhyl LL18 5LE
<i>Telephone:</i>	01745 353721
<i>E-mail:</i>	pennaeth@maesowen.conwy.sch.uk
<i>Head Teacher:</i>	Mrs. Catrin Foulkes
<i>Deputy Head Teacher:</i>	Mrs. Michelle O'Connor
<i>Chair of Governors:</i>	Mr. M Jones
<i>LEA Education Officer:</i>	Kate Evans Conwy Education Services, Coed Pella, Conway Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 7AZ
<i>Statutory Head of Education:</i>	Dr Lowri Brown Conwy Education Services, Coed Pella, Conway Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 7AZ



Other information

<i>Type of School:</i>	Community
<i>Number on the school roll:</i>	213
<i>After School Club:</i>	Towyn Fun Club, (North Wales Childcare Ltd) 8.00am – 6.00pm (More details available on request, including charges)
<i>Breakfast Club:</i>	From 8.00am, this is FREE and takes place in our school hall

OUR SCHOOL

Ysgol Maes Owen is an English medium Community Junior School catering for children aged 7-11. The school affords ample, well equipped classrooms, a state of the art ICT suite, Nurture & Family Room and a stimulating outdoor environment.

It is important that children and staff enjoy a safe and orderly working environment. This prospectus is designed to provide specific guidelines



Our Mission Statement

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

Our Shared Vision

At Ysgol Maes Owen we work together to provide the children in our care with an excellent education, whilst nurturing and caring for their needs as they develop and grow.



ORGANISATION

Age	Year
7 - 8 years old	Year 3 (Key Stage 2)
8 - 9 years old	Year 4 (Key Stage 2)
9 - 10 years old	Year 5 (Key Stage 2)
10 - 11 years old	Year 6 (Key Stage 2)

At Ysgol Maes Owen we have a two form entry; pupils are taught in mixed age classes.

School Staff 2024-2025

<i>Head Teacher</i>	- Mrs C Foulkes <i>BEd NPQH</i>
<i>Deputy Head Teacher</i>	- Mrs O'Connor <i>BEd Year 5/6</i>
<i>ALNCo</i>	- Mrs O'Connor

Miss S Blears <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 3/4
Mr D Morgan <i>BA</i>	Year 3/4
Mrs K Jones <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 3/4

Mrs M O'Connor <i>BEd (Hons)</i>	Year 5/6
Mrs J Jones <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 5/6
Miss T Pye <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 5/6
Miss L Topping <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 5/6
Mrs J Tierney <i>BA (Hons)</i>	Year 5/6
Mrs S Crowe <i>BEd (Hons)</i>	Resource Base Teacher

<i>Teaching Assistants</i>	Mrs J McEwan-Williams
	Mrs J Remers
	Mrs T Davies
	Mrs T Jones
	Mrs V Lumsden
	Mrs A Stanley
	Miss T Probert
	Miss L Cody

Visiting Teacher Specialists - Music, English as Second Language and Curriculum Support.

<i>Office Manager</i>	Ms A Wilson
<i>Caretaker</i>	Miss H Thompson
<i>Cleaner</i>	Miss Terri-Anne Williams
<i>Canteen Staff</i>	Mrs S Dinn
	Mrs S Brookes
	Mrs K Rowlands
	Miss S Kirk
	Miss H Malone
	Miss E Crane

<i>School Nurse</i>	Alison Turton
	Abergele Clinic
	01745 823746

Cluster Attendance Leader

Helen Taylor
Abergele
01745 832287

Chair of Governing Body

Mr M Jones

Clerk to Governing Body

Mrs Vicki Lumsden

LA Education Officer

Kate Evans
Conwy Education Services,
Coed Pella,
Conway Road,
Colwyn Bay.
LL29 7AZ
01492 544261

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Ysgol Maes Owen, the whole school family work together. We aim to provide a welcoming and happy atmosphere for all, where achievement and happiness go hand in hand. To achieve this, the staff and the Governors work hard to celebrate successes whilst at the same time embracing necessary change.

I thank you as parents and guardians for being so supportive and positive – a successful school works in partnership with its pupils' families. I look forward to meeting and speaking with you throughout the school year.

Diolch o galon,

Mr M Jones
Chair of the Governing Body

The Governing Body:

Chairperson Morris Jones

Vice Chair James Curran

Clerk to the Governing Body Vicki Lumsden

Local Authority Representatives

James Curran (May 2028)

Michael Smith (May 2026)

Cllr Kay Redhead (May 2026)

Minor Authority Representative

Morris Jones (May 2026)

Parent Representatives

Geoffrey Barnett (Co-Opted) (Dec 2027)

Amy McAdam (Oct 2028)

Jazmine Bonnell (May 2027)

Christine Brough (Oct 2028)

Community Representatives

Mariette Roberts (Mar 2028)

Anthony Hill (Nov 2025)

Joanne Matthews (Dec 2025)

Head Teacher Catrin Foulkes

Teaching Staff Representative Michelle O'Connor (Oct 2026)

Non-teaching Staff Representative Annette Stanley (Dec 2027)

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP



At Ysgol Maes Owen we aim to create a genuine and meaningful partnership between school and home.

There are many opportunities for parents to become involved in the work of the school and to gain a greater understanding of school life. Parents' time and expertise can be used in many ways in schools and is greatly valued. If you would like to help in the school please contact our *Family Liaison Coordinator, Jo McEwan-Williams* on: (01745) 353721 or 07513834121.

The school communicates with Parents and Carers in various different ways - newsletters, questionnaires, parent consultation and informal evenings.

Parents are invited to a range of events throughout the school year.

Ysgol Maes Owen Parent and Teacher Association (PTFA)

We are very fortunate to have a very committed PTFA. Throughout the year many events are organised for adults and children.

Without the tremendous support of the PTA, we would find it very difficult to provide our children with the 'tools' we consider to be essential for their development. You can play a part in many ways:

- Become a committee member.
- Support and attend PTA events at Ysgol Maes Owen.
- Volunteer to help at a single event or on a regular basis.

For more information please contact the *Chairperson, Miss Steph Blears* on:(01745) 353721.

HOME/ SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Name of child: _____

THE SCHOOL AGREEMENT

The school will:

- Provide a caring and supporting ethos to enable your child to grow in self-esteem and confidence.
- Seek to develop each child to his/her full potential encouraging them to do their best at all times.
- Encourage each child to take care of their surroundings and respect their own belongings and those of others.
- Provide a balanced curriculum to meet the individual needs of the child.
- Provide regular homework.
- Offer curriculum sessions and parents' evenings at least twice a year.
- Provide a written report once a year.
- Contact parents regarding absences that have not been notified.
- Keep parents informed about general school matters.
- Encourage you as parents to become involved in the life of the school by assisting with classroom based activities and PTA involvement.
- Promote at all times, an ongoing dialogue between parents/ teachers and children.

THE PARENT'S AGREEMENT

I/ We will attempt to:

- Ensure my child attends school regularly, on time and inform the school as soon as possible of any reasons for absence.
- Foster in my child good behavioural attitudes and support the school's discipline and anti-bullying policy.
- Ensure my child is dressed appropriately in accordance with the school's expectation.
- Actively support my child in achieving his/her potential and ensure that set homework is undertaken and completed on time.
- Inform the school of any problems that might affect my child's performance and/ or behaviour in class or at school.
- Attend whenever possible, parents' and curriculum evenings at the school.

Signed: _____ School.

Signed: _____ Parent/ Guardian.

JOINING THE SCHOOL



Starting school can be a time of mixed emotion for you and your child. At Ysgol Maes Owen we aim to work together to make the transition smooth and rewarding. As part of our "Jumping into the Juniors" programme, our staff teach Year 2 pupils from Ysgol y Foryd and spend time getting to know the pupils before they transfer.

Children are admitted to our Year 3 classes in September following their transition from infant school. The majority of pupils come here from Ysgol Y Foryd.

In the school year prior to entry, new pupils and parents will be invited into school for a series of visits. During this time, there will be an opportunity to discuss the partnership between school and home and talk about any worries you may have.

Parents, who wish their children to be admitted at any other stage, are welcome to do so by arrangement with the Head Teacher.

Admissions are carried out in conjunction with the LEA as admitting authority, information regarding admissions policy and procedures can be discussed in full with the Head Teacher.



Transfer to secondary school.

An excellent relationship exists between our school and all high schools within the area, but close links have been established between Ysgol Maes Owen and the team at Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan in Abergele. Transition activities begin in Years 3 and 4 and an extensive programme of transition support begins for pupils and their families in Year 6. The majority of our pupils transfer to Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan.



SCHOOL INFORMATION

It is important that a child is happy at school. You are always welcome to come and discuss any aspect of your child's education with the Head Teacher or a member of staff. However, as staff have a full time teaching commitment, you will appreciate that it is difficult for teachers to see parents during the day. Nevertheless, staff are available most days after school but we would ask that you make every effort to make prior arrangements to see them. The Head Teacher will, whenever possible, attempt to meet parents to discuss any concerns.

School Hours

Morning Session 1	08.55 – 10.15
Break	10.15 – 10.30
Morning Session 2	10.30 – 12.05
Lunch	12.05 – 13.00
Afternoon Session	13.00 – 15.15

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 08.30 – 16.30

In the interest of children's safety, pupils must not arrive at school before 8.45am, as adequate supervision is not available. Upon hearing the bell, children will line up on the appropriate place on the yard. Pupils arriving late must enter through the main door and their name will be entered into the 'late book' which will be checked on a regular basis for persistent latecomers.

End of the School Day

If there are any changes from the normal routine, we ask that the class teacher be informed beforehand to avoid confusion. No child will be released to anyone other than the parent/carer or person appointed by the parent. It is very important that pupils are picked up on time at the end of every school day.

Attendance

It is very important that your child attends school punctually and regularly. In the event of the child being persistently late or absent with no reasonable explanation, our Cluster Attendance Leader, Helen Taylor will be informed.

Absences of pupils for which no valid explanation has been provided will be treated as unauthorised. Birthdays, holidays within school time, looking after other children, shopping trips within school hours or visiting relatives will not be acceptable reasons for absences. Information about school holidays and in-service training days can be found at the back of this prospectus.

Absences

If your child is absent from school, please inform the school by telephone 01745 353721 or 07513834121

In the first instance, a member of the school office staff may call you on the first day of absence to enquire as to a reason for the absence.

For permission to leave school premises during the school day, e.g. to attend an appointment, it is essential that a letter is sent to the class teacher or a phone call made to the school.

Returning to the School after Illness

Children returning to the school after illness should clearly be fit to do so and free from infection. If in doubt, we are happy to advise.

Holiday Requests

Holidays taken during term time are not permitted. However, the Head Teacher has the right to grant absences for up to 10 days during the academic year - however, *this leave is only granted in exceptional circumstances*. Holiday request forms are available from the school office.

First Aid

Simple first aid is given at school when necessary. If an accident requires hospital attention we will make every effort to contact Parents/Carers first. *Please ensure all contact information is up to date so that you can be contacted, if necessary.*

There are five 3 day trained first-aiders:

Mrs J McEwan-Williams, Mrs Vicki Lumsden, Mr David Morgan, Mrs S Crowe, Mrs K Jones

Named first-aiders are:

Mrs Tracey Jones and Mrs Tracy Davis

Medical

The primary contact with school is through the School Nurse, Mrs Alison Turton.

Teaching staff need to be aware of any medical condition that may affect your child's progress or safety within the school day.

Medicines

If your child needs prescribed medication during the day, you must sign an agreement with the school. It can only be administered if this agreement has been signed by you. Children who need prescription medication, such as Epi-pen should contact the school and a medical plan will be drawn up.

Sun Protection

During warm summer months all children should be provided with a sunhat which they will be encouraged to wear when playing outside. School staff are not permitted to apply sun cream to children. We ask you to apply sunscreen before

school in sunny weather.

Children may re-apply their own sun cream which must be provided in a clearly named tube or bottle, and kept in their tray.

School Uniform

"Look smart – Act smart"

What a child wears to school reflects his/ her attitude to learning. All children are expected to wear school uniform.

Cardigan/ Sweatshirt:

Maroon with or without school logo.

Blouse/ Shirt:

White polo shirt.

Skirt/ Trousers/Leggings:

Grey/ Black.

All pupils must wear black shoes or black trainers and if pupils do attend school wearing anything else, *you will receive a phone call or letter asking for a change of footwear.*

A full range of school uniform can be seen in school and purchased from Jean Emporium, Rhyl. We ask all parents to *mark their uniforms with their child's name.*

P.E. and Games Kit

It is important for pupils to wear correct clothing for physical activities.

Children require black shorts or cycling shorts, a yellow polo shirt and plimsolls or trainers for outdoor activities.

Currently, we ask pupils to wear their PE kits to school on their class PE days.

Hair, Make-Up and False Nails

Hair bands, clips etc. should be discreet designs. We recommend long hair is tied back. No make-up, nail varnish, false nails, teeth gems or temporary tattoos are acceptable.

Jewellery

Watches are the only item of jewellery considered appropriate for school. For pupils with pierced ears, studs must be worn.

Please note, staff are not allowed to remove or look after jewellery for children. The safest place is at home.

Lost Property

Naming all items of clothing reduces the risk! We keep all lost property for a reasonable period of time, but it is difficult to identify items that are not labelled. For any lost items please contact the school's *Office Manager, Miss Angela Wilson on (01745) 353721.*

SCHOOL MEALS

The school meals service provides a range of nutritious and freshly cooked meals. School meals are free for all year groups.



Packed Lunches

Children who do not have a school meal may bring a packed lunch.

Please ensure that packed lunches are brought to school in a secure container labelled with your child's name, and with appropriate food hygiene precautions taken.

Water is available, but you may wish to supply a drink. In the interest of health and safety, we would ask that children do not bring fizzy drinks or sweets.

Snack Time

You may wish your child to have a mid-morning snack. We welcome fruit and vegetables. In line with Welsh Government guidance, we ask you not to send your child with chocolate, sweets, crisps or chewing gum.

The school runs a tuck shop where children can purchase fruit for 40p, refillable water bottles are £1. The tuck shop is open daily at play time.

Please respect our policy on healthy eating.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety receives a high priority within our school. Regular risk assessments help support our policy of a safe working environment for all.

Head Lice

Head lice can be a real problem in all schools. Cases of head lice should be reported to the class teacher. The Health Authority clearly places responsibility for treatment with the parents/carers.

Security

All doors are kept locked during the school day, although pupils may exit in case of any emergency.

All visitors must report to the main office upon arrival in school.

Dogs

Please **do not** bring dogs onto the school premises (this includes the car park, playgrounds and pedestrian area), or tie them to fences which obstruct the pavement where children walk.

No matter how gentle your animal is, children can be easily scared.

Please do not allow your dog to foul the pavement on the route to and from school. Bag it and bin it!

Smoking

We are a Healthy School and we are a designated 'No Smoking Zone'. *This also includes e-cigarettes/vapes.* Please do not smoke anywhere within the school or school grounds. This includes the car park and the pavement outside school.

Road Safety

We actively encourage parents/carers and children to walk to school. For safety reasons, we ask that:

Bicycles and scooters should not be ridden through the school premises (this includes the car park, playgrounds and pedestrian area).

Motorists should respect the road markings and not park in front of school gates, or on pavements surrounding the area. **Please do not park or stop on the yellow zig-zag lines.**

Bicycles and scooters may be stored in the cycle and scooter racks provided, please note that this is at your own risk, and you should take appropriate steps to ensure that your bike is adequately secured.

THE CURRICULUM

A school curriculum is everything a learner experiences in school.

When designing Ysgol Maes Owen's curriculum we have the needs of our learners at the forefront of our minds.

We carefully consider what we teach, how we teach it and also why we teach it.

Our curriculum encompasses the six Areas of Learning: Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing, Humanities, Language, Literacy and Communication, Maths and Numeracy and Science and Technology.

Our planning has a thematic approach. It is purposeful, creative and engaging. We use Mantle of the Expert, authentic contexts and immersion events to engage learners. Our planning always has an entry point and an exit point. We use a blend of teaching and learning approaches and are able to be flexible with planning for current affairs.



Mathematics and Numeracy

All pupils are given the opportunities to develop their own knowledge and understanding of Mathematics through practical activity, exploration and discussion. They are given access to Mathematical vocabulary to enable them to apply Mathematics practical tasks, in real life and across the entire curriculum.

Language, Literacy and Communication

Children are immersed in various language experiences and activities to allow them to build on skills, knowledge and understanding to progress and develop their Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing throughout the school curriculum.

Children develop their own awareness of Wales as a country with two languages and are given opportunities to experience activities in both English and Welsh. Activities develop their skills in talking, listening, reading and writing,

The curriculum is further enriched by celebrations of traditional cultural events.

At this moment in time no pupils are exempt from Welsh as a National

Curriculum subject and as such no such alternative provision is required.

Learning and experience in this area aims to enable pupils to communicate effectively using Welsh, English and International languages. It aims to encourage learners to transfer what they have learned about how languages work in one language to the learning and using of other languages.



Science and Technology

Science and Technology will be increasingly relevant in the opportunities young people encounter and the life choices that they make.

This area draws on the disciplines of biology, chemistry, computer science, design and technology, and physics to enhance pupils' knowledge and understanding of the world.

Expressive Arts

This area spans five disciplines: art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music.

Whether as creators or as audience, through engaging with the expressive arts, children can gain an understanding and an appreciation of cultures and societies in Wales and in the world.

Experiencing the expressive arts can engage children physically, socially and emotionally, nurturing their well-being, self-esteem and resilience. This can help them become healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Health and Wellbeing

Wellbeing is at the heart of our school ethos and is developed across the whole curriculum. Children learn about themselves, their relationship with other children and adults. They are encouraged to develop their self-esteem, their personal beliefs and moral values, and gain a positive awareness of their own and other cultures.

Physical Education at Ysgol Maes Owen develops the children's knowledge, skills and understanding, so that they can perform with increasing competence and confidence in a range of physical activities. By including dance, games, gymnastics, swimming and water safety, athletics, health, fitness and well-being activities and adventurous activities in our curriculum, we ensure that all the needs of the National Curriculum are met. Physical Education promotes an understanding in children of their bodies in action. It involves thinking, communication, selecting and applying skills and promotes positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle. Thus we enable them to make informed choices about physical activity throughout their lives.

At Ysgol Maes Owen through weekly Physical Education lessons, extra curricular activities and links with

sports clubs, our sporting aim is to provide opportunities for pupils within school and in the community to develop a love for sport and the opportunities it brings to our lives.

Our aim is to improve focus in the classroom and to have a positive impact on the pupils' physical and mental health.

Cross Curricular Skills

Literacy, numeracy and digital competence are mandatory cross-curricular skills within Curriculum for Wales.

It will be the responsibility of all teachers, across all curriculum areas to develop and ensure progression in these skills. All classes have an interactive screen. The school also has several sets of Chrome Books, iPads and a newly refurbished Information Centre for use across the entire curriculum and to support our broad range of extra-curricular activities.



Humanities

The Area encompasses geography; history; religion, values and ethics; business studies and social studies. These disciplines share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills.

Humanities is central to children becoming ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.

It is important that children have opportunities to discuss and explore their personal perspectives on religious and non-religious world views, ethical challenges and social inclusion issues.

It can also promote an understanding of how the people of Wales, its communities, history, culture, landscape, resources and industries, interrelate with the rest of the world.

Homework

**"What we learn with pleasure,
we never forget."**

Home work can add much to a child's development, but we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Homework is set at the start of each term and encourages creativity and imagination through several mini assignments that children can choose from. Homework can be shared on Google Classroom or brought back to school at the end of each term for a "Show and tell" session. This enables pupils to share their successes with their peers and class teacher.

We set a variety of homework activities:

- Encouraging children to read by giving them books to take home.
- Asking children to collect things from home.
- Encouraging children to research a topic further by using the local library or internet
- Creating art work and models

Parents/Carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part in that process.

We ask parents to encourage their children to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best.

Parents/Carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and discussing the work that their child is doing. If Parents/Carers have any problems or questions about the homework they should in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, they then should contact the Head Teacher or Governing body.

The Curriculum for Wales 4 Purposes are the heart and core of Ysgol Maes Owen's curriculum.

They underpin all aspects of our curriculum design, planning and teaching. Our vision and values as a school support the 4 purposes.

Ambitious, Capable Learners

In Maes Owen we ...

- Have resilience built into themes, assemblies and learning superpowers are encouraged in all classes
- Ensure that all planning is cross curricular, has a thematic, creative approach with the use of Mantle of the Expert and is pupil led
- Include STEM activities throughout the planning and curiosity is encouraged
- Ensure that Welsh sessions are delivered weekly in addition to everyday Welsh being used throughout the school day. Welsh sessions are built into the theme therefore making them purposeful
- Encourage learners to reflect on their learning using a variety of AfL techniques
- Deliver Numeracy skills in Maths sessions before transferring the skill into the topic session
- Give children access to different technology to enhance their learning



Enterprising, Creative Contributors

In Maes Owen we ...

- Give children creative opportunities to design, make and evaluate their work
- Teach children different strategies through a variety of teaching styles so that they are equipped to solve problems differently
- Encourage children to use their learning superpowers to persevere and to build on their resilience so that they grasp every opportunity
- Give the children different experiences so that they can take sensible risks
- Promote outdoor activities and teachers use different pedagogical styles throughout
- Encourage collaborative work, giving opportunities for children to develop working within others

Ethical, Informed Citizens

In Maes Owen we ...

- Understand the importance of keeping children informed of current affairs
- Ensure children have the facts so that they can make informed opinions
- Have school Ambassadors that are role models within the school. They promote our core value of respect and act as liaisons between the school staff and pupils
- Encourage the school rule, RESPECT. This is visible around the school and is modelled and encouraged by all staff and Ambassadors
- Understand the importance of being a citizen in Wales and teaching cultural diversity and tolerance
- Actively promote and care for the environment through topics within our curriculum and with achieving the Eco Platinum Award



Healthy, Confident Individuals

In Maes Owen we ...

- Encourage learners to share ideas, thoughts and emotions within lessons and nurture sessions
- We encourage learners to respect themselves, each other and the school.
- Actively encourage resilience throughout the school day with the use of our learning superpowers
- Children are guided with showing empathy and being understanding of others
- Give children key roles and responsibilities around the school to boost confidence and independence
- Actively monitor children with the use of the PASS survey to identify some that may need additional emotional support
- Promote the 5 ways to wellbeing throughout the school day alongside the daily mile encouraging the importance of a healthy diet and healthy mind
- We try to be independent and do things for ourselves

PUPIL AND PASTORAL SUPPORT

Additional Learning Needs

Ysgol Maes Owen has a structure in place which supports the right for all learners to have equity of access to an education that meets their needs and enables them to participate in, benefit from and enjoy learning. We endeavor to cater for all pupils, some of whom may have additional needs which could be physical, emotional, social or academic in nature. We also have exceptionally able children who require elements of challenge within the curriculum to enrich their thinking, understanding, skills and knowledge through differentiated tasks.

In line with Welsh Government Additional Learning Needs (ALN) reforms, we are replacing the old Special Educational Needs (SEN) system with the new Additional Learning Needs (ALN) system. The document 'Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme' is available on the school website and/or by request to Mrs Michelle O'Connor (Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator, ALNCO).

The new ALN system strengthens the importance of providing information and support to learners and their Parents/Carers to ensure they are involved in the process and have control over the decisions that affect them. We focus on placing learners' needs, views, wishes and feelings at the heart of this process.

We ensure that all learners with ALN are supported to overcome barriers to learning and can achieve their full potential. Ysgol Maes Owen recognises the importance of identifying needs early and putting in place timely and effective support for learners, which is monitored and adapted to suit individual needs and deliver desired outcomes.

The school's ALNCO, Mrs Michelle O'Connor, works closely with all members of staff in planning strategies and monitoring development and progress to ensure the needs of all learners are met. This can be through Universal Provision, which is routinely available to all children and may be provided at a whole class, small group or individual level. In some cases, a child may require a more targeted level of support which may involve requesting the support and expertise of outside specialist agencies, such as the Conwy Additional Learning Needs Department, School Nurse, Speech and Language Therapist, Educational Psychologist, Occupational Therapist or CAMHS.

Parents and Carers of children with any Additional Learning need will be regularly informed of any steps taken to assist their child's progress. We have an open door policy at Maes Owen and parents/carers are encouraged to visit school and discuss any concerns they may have.

A full copy of our Additional Learning Needs Policy is available on our school website or upon request from our Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator.

Pupils with Disabilities

At Ysgol Maes Owen all pupils are treated as individuals and no pupil will be treated more or less favourably than their peers.

In addressing the requirements of the DDA act 1995 our accessibility plan clearly outlines the progress made in allowing all pupils full access to all areas of the school and curriculum – including new ramps and rails that have been fitted.

Safeguarding

At Ysgol Maes Owen, we take Safeguarding very seriously and follow the All Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2019. We have a duty of care and we want you to feel that your child is safe in our hands.

Occasionally children make disclosures and if this happens, it is important that your child is listened to. We sometimes have to refer to outside agencies because the needs of the child are paramount. We follow all statutory guidance. Written reports are confidential and securely stored.

Mrs Foulkes is the lead person for Safeguarding and Mrs O'Connor supports her in this role. The Education Safeguarding Lead for Conwy County is Sian Pineau.

Looked After Children

We ensure that Looked After Children at Maes Owen are offered stability, safety, continuity, positive relationships and individual care. Our Looked After Child Co-ordinator, Mrs Sally Crowe, acts as an advocate and coordinates support for Looked After Children.

Equal Opportunities

The Governing Body, teachers and school community operates a policy of equal opportunities, anti-sexism, and anti-racism. Our curriculum provides the framework within which pupils experience a variety of relevant and appropriate strategies, which ensure equality of opportunity regardless of sex, race, religion, class or disability. (Section 4 of the School Government term of Return Regulation 2000).



Discipline and Pastoral Care

This school in partnership with Parents/Carers encourages self-esteem and an acceptance of responsibility for the pupils' own actions. Ysgol Maes Owen is a place that cares and fosters an ethos of mutual respect for people and property. Great emphasis is placed on consideration, courtesy and good manners. Where there is a serious concern over a child's behaviour in school, parents/carers will be contacted immediately, concerning any appropriate disciplinary action that may have to be taken. We follow our Behaviours and Wellbeing Policy. The school has an anti-bullying policy, which states that;

'...this school does not tolerate bullying'.

We rely on the pupils, staff and Parents/Carers to work together to ensure bullying is stopped in its earliest stages.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Under normal circumstances, the school offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities both during and after school. Activities this year may include a selection of the following: Eco Club, Cookery, Multi-Sports, Clwb yr Urdd, Art and Craft and Forest School sessions and are due to restart after the October half term break.

Our extended community facilities also include a Breakfast and After School Club which is available on site. This allows “wrap around care” where your children can be cared for from 8.00am until 5.30pm.

School Council, Eco-Council and Criw Cymraeg

There are two children from each class who form a representative group of pupils chosen by their peers to discuss matters about their education and any Eco issues.

Criw Cymraeg work to promote the Welsh Language and Culture throughout the school. All of these groups meet on a regular basis and feed back to the school, senior leaders and governors.



SCHOOL AWARDS

Healthy School Award

The school has achieved the National Quality Award for Healthy Schools. We aim to give pupils a greater understanding of themselves by covering aspects of diet, hygiene and exercise.

We provide water bottles for every child in the school when they begin Year 3, and the children are encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day. Children are allowed to fill their bottles regularly.

Green Flag Award

Eco-schools is an international award programme that guides schools on their sustainable journey, providing a framework to help embed these principles into the heart of school life. In Ysgol Maes Owen the children are the driving force behind Eco-Schools – they lead the eco-committee and help carry out an audit to assess the environmental performance of our school. Through consultation with the rest of the school and the wider community, the pupils decide which environmental themes they want to address and how they are going to do it. Measuring and monitoring the progress provides the school with the evidence they need to celebrate their successes. This year the school has

proudly been awarded the Platinum Eco-Schools Award.



Ocean Friendly School Award

This year our Eco Warriors have worked hard on caring for our seas and oceans. With all their hard work we are the first school in North Wales to have been awarded the Marine Conservation Society's Ocean Friendly Award.

Eco-Schools 2023
Platinum Award



Gwobr Platinwm
Eco-Sgolion 2023



Cymraeg Campus

The Cymraeg Campus Language Charter was launched to develop the use of Welsh in English medium schools. Ysgol Maes Owen achieved the Bronze/Efydd award and we are currently working towards the Silver/Arian award. This has been done through a focus on and an improvement in the use of Welsh all around the school – on the yard, in lessons, in the canteen. We are very proud of the progress we have made as a school and the achievement of receiving this award.



Trauma Informed Schools Award

We have a Gold Award for the Attachment and Trauma Accreditation programme. All our staff are trained and key members of staff have obtained a Diploma for this programme. This ensures that all our children, no matter what their start in life, feel safe in the school knowing that they have someone to help, guide and support them.



Progress Reports

Meetings with parents take place once each term. The first parents' evening is to exchange information, discuss how your child has settled in to their new class and their progress. The second parents' evening focuses on your child's progress and to review their work and in the Summer Term the parents' evening provides an opportunity to discuss

your child's end of year progress report.

Should you have any concerns regarding your child's progress at any time during the year, please do not hesitate to contact us.

REQUIRED STATISTICS

Pupil Absence Rates (Sept 2023 – July 2024)

Attendance rate:	88.9%
Authorised absence:	6.7%
Un-authorised absence:	4.4%

Charging and Remission Policy

The School Governors recognise the valuable contribution that a wide range of additional activities, including out of school visits, can make towards pupils' education.

The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for pupils of the school, and reserve the right to make a charge in certain circumstances for activities organised by the school. Charging may, in certain circumstances, be remitted in part or full where the parents are in receipt of qualifying benefits. In such cases, the parents should apply in confidence to the Governing Body via the Head Teacher.

Access to Documents

As we operate an open door policy it is possible that all Parents/Carers can have access or sight of a range of documents within our school.

These may include:

- Documents on the curriculum.
- Aims and objectives of the school.
- Any published Estyn reports which refer to the school.

- Schemes of work used by teachers in the school.

The Head Teacher will supply parents and others on request with their own copies of the document to which they have access. In some cases, for reasons of copyright, schools will not be able to meet such requests. Parents and others wishing to obtain copies of crown copyright materials should apply to the Welsh Office (free publications or to HMSO priced publication).

All requests for copies should be submitted in writing two weeks in advance of the date when they are required.

Complaints

If you are unhappy about any aspect of your child's education curricular or pastoral please contact the Head Teacher. Most problems can be sorted out in school. If you are still unhappy, please contact the Chair of Governors. If you still feel unsatisfied, the LA can be contacted via the Link Officer. A formal complaints policy and procedure is available from the main office.

School Holiday Dates (2024-2025)

Autumn Term

Staff Training Days	02/09/24 03/09/24
Term Starts	04/09/24
Half Term Close	25/10/24
Half Term Open	04/11/24
Term Ends	20/12/24

Spring Term

Staff Training Day	06/01/25
Term Starts	07/01/25
Half Term Close	21/02/25
Half Term Open	03/03/25
Staff Training Day	28/03/25
Half Term Close	11/04/25

Summer Term

Half Term Opens	28/04/25
May Day (school closed)	05/05/25
Half Term Close	23/05/25
Half Term Opens	02/06/25
Staff Training Day	30/06/25
Term Ends	18/07/25
Staff Training Day	21/07/25