



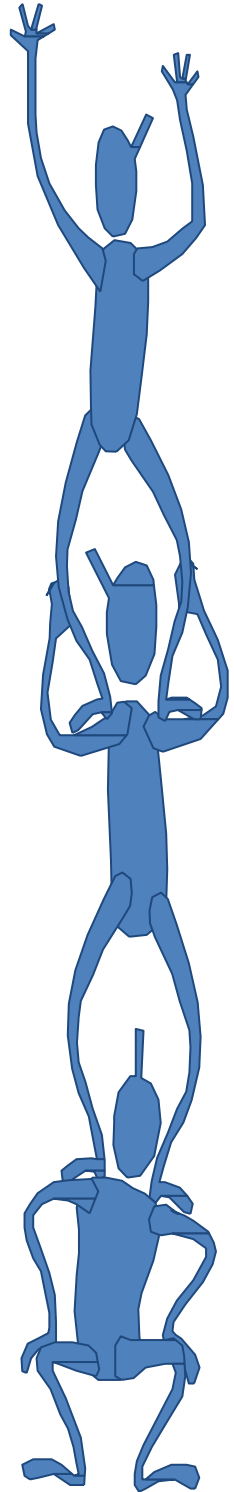
2023-24

Parents Handbook

SUPPORT FOR PUPILS:

When your child joins Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur, care and support will be provided in a number of ways:

- A Form Tutor who will offer help in settling in to the new school and its routines and expectations.
- A Year-Group Co-ordinator (Head of Year) and Senior Staff who will always be available for discussions with parents.
- Homework and Revision clubs
- Subject-specific Clubs – e.g. Mathematics.
- Focused support in Literacy and/or Numeracy
- Two parents' evenings to discuss issues such as settling in, friendships and any specific support or attention, which is needed.
- SMART targets are set and progress towards those targets are discussed every half-term with the Form Tutor.
- Encouragement to join extra-curricular activities– e.g. the Year 7 Choir, rugby and netball tournaments, as well as whole school activities.
- Merit and Prize schemes in order to provide incentives, increase motivation and raise attainment.



Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur Year 7 Curriculum

2023

We are delighted to share the provision for Year 7 (September 2023) and as a school we are very proud of what we offer for our young people. Our curriculum includes a wide variety of learning experiences and enrichment activities designed to achieve the Four Purposes of the curriculum, which is to develop our children and young people into being::

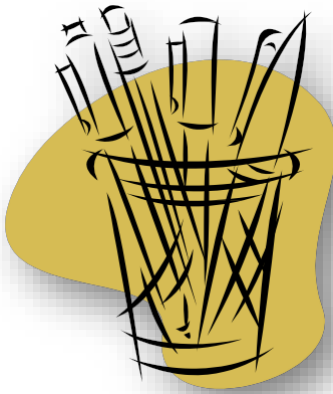
- **Ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives**
- **Enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work**
- **Ethical informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world**
- **Healthy, confident individuals who are ready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

We are determined to provide a continuum of learning that ensures our young people build on the strengths and foundations laid by our excellent primary school partners. By borrowing and developing Foundation Stage and KS2 pedagogical skills and strategies and adding teachers' subject expertise, together we will secure the foundations and structure to develop effective lifelong learners and prepare our young people for their future.



Year 7 Curriculum Plan (2023)

	Synopsis
Amser Aur	A programme of clubs with a focus on engaging creativity, giving wider experiences and developing interpersonal skills with a particular focus on Mental and Physical Health and Wellbeing. The clubs take place on Friday afternoons for extended two-hour sessions. Pupils have the opportunity to choose the clubs they wish to join during the year.
Celfyddydau Mynegiannol / Expressive Arts	Pupils will be taught by Drama, Art and Music performance specialists with an emphasis on cross-sectional collaboration on a common theme / output. It focuses on delivery/product at the end of the year. We aim to invite parents to come into the school to celebrate creativity in the Summer term.
Cymraeg / Welsh	A contemporary course that looks at ethical, philosophical aspects to develop identity and encourages their linguistic development to inspire pupils as learners of the Four Purposes . There will be close collaboration between the work carried out in English and Modern Foreign Languages to develop pupils' Literacy and Communication skills.
Dyniaethau / Humanities	Humanities lessons provide exciting opportunities for pupils to explore and explore human experiences in their own region and the rest of Wales, as well as in the wider world discovering their heritage and developing a sense of place and belonging. The Humanities cover history, geography and religion learning about their past, present and future.
Iechyd a Lles / Health and Wellbeing	This is a course that develops Health and Wellbeing in a more holistic way – looking at the physical aspects and understanding of nutrition and what we eat in order to live healthily. There will also be an emphasis on mental health, balance and healthy relationships. The focus here is firmly on developing healthy and confident individuals but responding to the principles of all four purposes.
ITM / Modern Foreign Languages	Pupils will be introduced to French for two terms and Spanish for one term with an emphasis on developing connections between languages. We aim to develop a local, contemporary, real-world and Welsh connection to inspire pupils as learners of the Four Purposes.
Mathemateg / Maths	By developing a local, contemporary, real-world and Welsh connection to inspire pupils as learners of the Four Purposes, learners will develop resilience, as well as experience a sense of success and enjoyment as they overcome the challenges that arise. The focus on developing mathematical and logical activities will teach the learners and challenge the young people not to be afraid of unfamiliar or complex problems
Saesneg / English	A contemporary course that develops local, real and Welsh identity, understanding and connections to inspire pupils as learners of the Four Purposes . There will be close collaboration between the work carried out in Welsh and in Modern Foreign Languages to develop pupils' Literacy and Communication skills.
STEM	STEM is a subject based on the idea of educating learners in four distinct disciplines - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. STEM at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur will integrate the four disciplines through a range of practical, challenging and fun challenges. The focus will be placed on developing the principles of the Four Purposes and subject disciplines within a local, Welsh, real-world context. The focus will be on inquisitive investigation, prediction and understanding fundamental phenomena and the basis they lay in understanding our universe. There is a focus on weaving digital skills into the work with a focus on data handling and modelling.



Equipment

Basic equipment for Year 7 pupils will comprise a geometry set (compass, two set squares, 300 mm ruler and protractor), pencil, ink pen or ball-point, coloured pencils.

Pupils are advised not to bring expensive items to school.

The use of Tippex (or similar solvent), felt pens, mobile phones, music players/digital devices are not allowed.

ClassCharts App

The software will record your child's achievement, dedication and approach to learning. The timetable, homework, contact with the personal tutor and day-to-day information in real time will be on the app.

School Hours

The school week is organised into 60 minute lessons with five lessons a day. The day also incorporates registration and assembly time, break time and a lunch hour.

Time	Mon - Thursday	Time	Friday
08:45 - 09:05	Registration	08:45 - 09:05	Registration
09:05 - 10:05	Lesson 1	09:05 - 10:05	Lesson 1
10:05 - 11:05	Lesson 2	10:05 - 11:05	Lesson 2
11:05 - 11:20	Breaktime	11:05 - 11:20	Breaktime
11:20 - 12:20	Lesson 3	11:20 - 12:20	Lesson 3
12:20 - 13:20	Lesson 4	12:20 - 13:15	Lunch
13:20 - 14:15	Lunch		
14:15 - 15:15	Lesson 5	13:15 - 15:15	"Amser Aur"

Attendance

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR					
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
190 DAYS FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION EACH YEAR	10 days absence 180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	19 days absence 171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	29 days absence A term missed 161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	38 days absence 152 DAYS OF EDUCATION	47 days absence 143 DAYS OF EDUCATION
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not fair on your child. Court action!	



ABSENCE

An explanation for all absences must be given, whatever the duration. It is essential that the school be informed of any absence, by either letter, telephone (01639 502895) or e-mail (YsgolBroDurUwchradd@npt.school). No explanation will result in an unauthorised absence being recorded.

Pupils must make every effort to be punctual for registration (8.45 am). Late arrivals are recorded. Pupils arriving after registration has closed must sign in at the School Office. Parents are strongly urged not to take pupils out of school for term-time holidays.

School Buses

Pupils are conveyed to school by contracted vehicles and all transport arrangements are made by the Local Education Authority Transport Section (01639 763333) who will inform all parents of the route and times of arrival at the various pickup points. It is suggested that pupils should be at these points five minutes before the scheduled times.

Should a pupil miss the bus at the end of the day, he or she must report to the School Office.

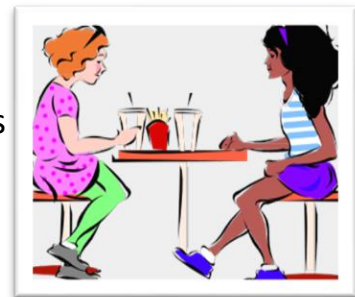
All pupils must carry their bus passes daily.

The Local Authority's School Transport guidelines state clearly that any pupil who misbehaves on a school contract vehicle may lose his or her right to free travel.

A copy of the Authority's booklet A Guide to Transport on School Buses is available from the School Office.

School lunches

A mid-day meal is provided at the school and all pupils are urged to partake. Meals are served on a Cafeteria System and pupils have a choice of 'healthy eating' menus. Pupils pay daily for their selected choice of menu.



£2.90 daily will buy a balanced, nutritious and healthy 'set' meal, although pupils may wish to pay less or more than this sum. Pupils may bring sandwiches with them to school to eat during the mid-day break.

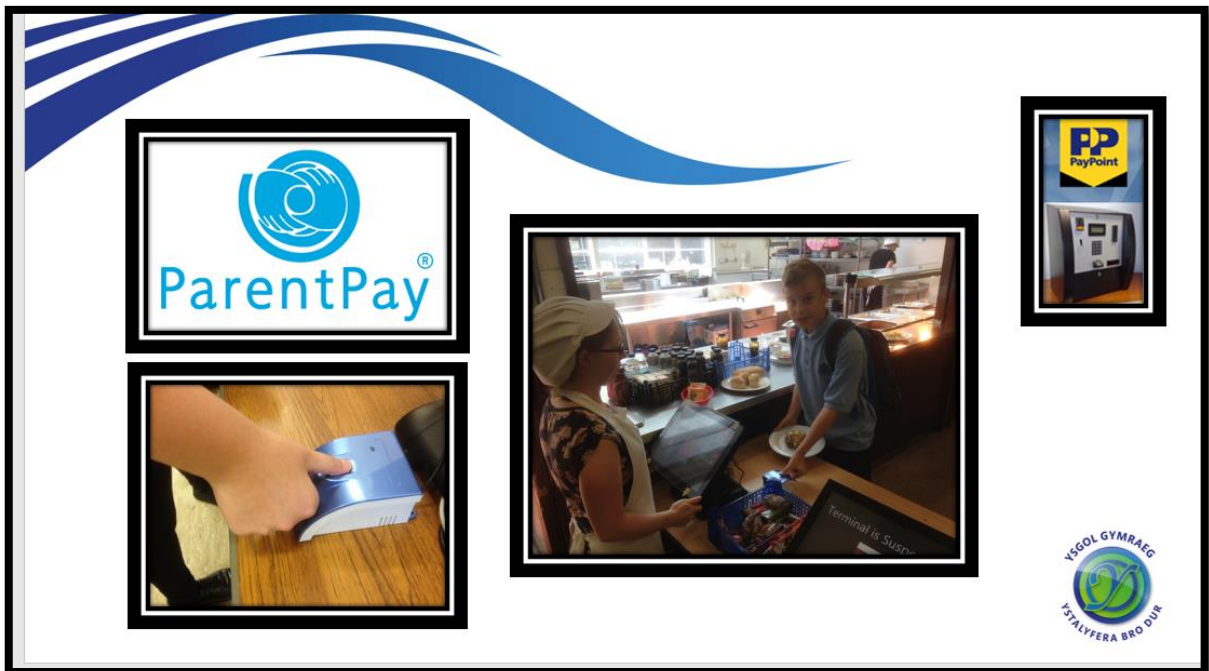
Toast and other small, healthy items are on sale during mid- morning break.

Free School Meals

Forms are available this online on the Neath Port Talbot website.

<https://www.npt.gov.uk/1317>

Parent Pay



We use a Biometric cashless catering system provided by the Trust-e Cashless system, Nationwide Retail System Limited. This system means that students and staff no longer to pay for school meals with cash. Instead they purchase their meals and snacks simply by presenting their Biometric finger code at the tills! The system also reduce queues at lunch time, and provides anonymous free school meals to pupils.

You will be able to put money on your child's account on line using a debit or credit card e.g.visa.

A Biometric consent form must be completed by parents in order for pupils to use the system.



School Uniform, Resources and Equipment

School Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear full school uniform. All items of clothing should carry the child's name. Parental support is requested in order to ensure that all pupils wear the correct school uniform.



School colours: Emerald Green, Royal Blue and Black

GIRLS

WINTER UNIFORM	
Jumper:	Official Royal Blue ('Jerzees') 'V' neck with school logo; first name embroidered on jumper
Trousers:	Black, plain, straight leg. Not jersey, no decoration or or flares, no crops. No fashion trousers
Skirt:	Black 'school' skirt. Not more than 5cm (2") above the knee. No 'fashion' skirts allowed.
Tie:	Blue and green
Blouse:	Plain light blue cotton, long sleeved (no 'fashion' blouses)
Tights/Socks:	Black
Shoes	Black. Heels no higher than 4cms (1.5"). No trainers.
Coat	Plain black coat
Summer term wear	
Official school polo shirt - pale blue with school logo; Black skirt / trousers or school official shorts with logo.	
Girls Physical Education and Sports Kit	
In the Gymnasium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' school sport top • Navy blue or black cycling shorts or shorts • Trainers
On the Playing Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' school sport top • Navy blue hockey skirt or skort or shorts (skorts cannot be worn as the school summer uniform) • Navy socks with school logo • Blue or black tracksuit (in cold weather)
A tracksuit may be worn, if desired, for all outdoor activities.	

WINTER UNIFORM	
School Jumper	Official Royal Blue ('Jerzees') 'V' neck with school logo, first name embroidered on jumper
Trousers	Black
Tie	Green and blue
Shirt	Plain light blue cotton, long sleeved
Socks	Dark grey or black
Shoes	Black. No trainers.
Coat	Plain black coat
Summer term wear	
Official school polo shirt - pale blue with school logo; black trousers or official school shorts with logo.	
Boys' Physical Education and Sports Kit	
In the Gymnasium, Athletics, Fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys' school sport top • Black shorts • Trainers
On the field, Rugby, Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversible rugby shirt • Navy shorts • Rugby boots • Navy sock with school logo • Blue or black tracksuit , Navy ½ zip jumper with school logo(in cold weather)
Tracksuits may be worn, if desired, during all outdoor activities.	

PLEASE NOTE:

Hair

Pupils are expected to adopt suitable and acceptable hairstyles at all times. No extreme fashion 'cuts' or colours are allowed. For safety reasons, pupils are advised to tie long hair back off their faces.

Earrings and body jewellery

We allow one stud in each ear. No body jewellery is allowed for school. Pupils will be asked to remove such jewellery.

Name-Tapes

It is recommended that names are sewn on each article of clothing

Where can you purchase our school uniform?

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur school uniform shop



Sportec is a local company based in Neath which stocks all items you require for school uniform and PE kit. You can purchase online or call at their shop at Unit 5 Abbey Road Industrial Estate, Neath, SA10 7DN.

The company's contact details:

<http://www.sportec.co.uk/contact-us>

Items can be delivered free of charge directly to the school or to your home address (nominal charge).



Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur Logo

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school has a full and varied programme of extra-curricular activities, which supports and underpins the formal curriculum. The Friday afternoon timetable (Amser Aur) will allow pupils to participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities of their choice.



The school will have a full programme of sporting and cultural activities. Homework Clubs and Departmental focus clubs also exist in order to improve pupil understanding and to accelerate progress.



Some of the sports organised and coached by the Physical Education Department include rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, cross-country, tennis, athletics, soccer, basketball, gymnastics, baseball, street hockey and badminton. The school is proud of its state of the art sporting facilities, which includes a Sports Hall, full international size astro turf pitch and a multi-use gaming area.

Pupils are encouraged to use the facilities provided centrally by the LEA in the arts (residential artists and authors), environmental education and sports.



Academic Year 2023-24

Term	Term Begins:	Mid Term Holiday		Term Ends
		Begins	Ends	
Autumn 2023	Friday 1 September (Inset Day)	Monday 30 October	Friday 3 November	Friday 22 December
Spring 2024	Monday 8 January	Monday 12 February	Friday 16 February	Friday 22 March
Summer 2024	Monday 8 April	Monday 27 May	Friday 31 May	Monday 19 July

Important Dates for Year 7

Date	Event
September 4	Yr7 Start of Term
October 18	Parents Evening with Year 7 Tutors
December 21	Interim Reports
April 25	Parents Evening with Year 7 Subject Teachers
July 12	End of Year Report



Contacting the School

Main Office: ysgolbroduruwchradd@npt.school

Year 7 Progress Leader
Miss Angharad Ellis
e-bost : ellisa137@hwbcymru.net

Assistant Headteacher, and Transition Co-ordinator:
Miss Kath Jones
e-mail: JonesK1228@hwbcymru.net

ALNCO: Miss Carys Hughes
e-mail: HughesC932@hwbcymru.net

Deputy Headteacher: Miss Sioned Jones
email: JonesS1954@hwbcymru.net

Head: Mrs Laurel Davies
e-mail: DaviesL1404@hwbcymru.net

Website: <http://www.ysgolystalyferabrodur.cymru>

Welcome to Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur. We look forward to working closely with you over the following years.



YMWUNWCH A NI - JOIN US

YD YN CARU RHINI AC ATHRAWON YN GWEITHIO GYDA'I GILYDD I WELLA ADDYSG I GYD YN CARU RHINI AC ATHRAWON YN GWEITHIO GYDA'I GILYDD I WELLA ADDYSG I GYD YN CARU RHINI AC ATHRAWON YN GWEITHIO GYDA'I GILYDD I WELLA ADDYSG I GYD



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YSGOL GYMRAEG BRO DUR

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Os oes diddordeb gennych cysylltwch a / If interested please contact: WilliamsonB6@hwbcymru.net