

**Welcome to
Porth Community School**



YSGOL GYMUNEDOL
PORTH
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Nursery Brochure
September 2022**

Aspire Together, Achieve Together

Welcome to our school!

Dear Families,

The Staff and Governors would like to welcome you and your child to our Nursery at Porth Community School.

We hope you find this information booklet is a useful guide to your child's first experience of school.

We look forward to working with you and your children as they take their first steps into our school.

Kind regards,

Miss Yvonne Jones
Headteacher



*...a fun place to
play and learn!*



Our Shared Vision

Our mission statement *Aspire Together, Achieve Together*, is fulfilled by us having the highest ambitions and expectations for our pupil's achievement, well-being and behavior.

We are committed to providing outstanding learning and teaching in a caring, safe, nurturing environment.

We want your child to enjoy their learning and the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities available whilst being challenged and supported to reach their full potential.

For some children, this is their first independent step beyond the home and we aim to help them gain self-confidence and maturity according to their individual needs and interests.

We acknowledge the support that parents give to the school and value the partnership between home and school.

We have something in common: THE WELFARE OF YOUR CHILD. If there is anything worrying you or your child, please do not hesitate to share the concern with us.

We hope that your child will be happy at our school and will gain many worthwhile and valuable experiences within our Nursery. We look forward to working with you for the benefit of your child.

Please enjoy your child's first experience of school. It is a most valuable stage in their development and will pass all too quickly!

Contact us

Our address: Porth Community School
Cemetery Road
Porth
CF39 0BS

Our telephone number: 01443 682137

E-mail address: admin.porthcommunityschool.rctcbc.cymru

Website: porthcommunityschool.co.uk

App: Piota Schools (select Porth Community School)



School Times for Pre-Nursery and Nursery pupils

The school day for Pre-Nursery pupils runs from 9.00am to 12.00 noon

However, staff normally open the doors to Nursery at 8.55am, ready to start the day.

When the doors open at 8.55am, a member of the Nursery team will meet the children at the side door, which is located to the right-hand side of the main entrance.

We would kindly ask all parents to leave immediately after bringing their child to school, in order to help them settle quickly.

Should you arrive after 9.00am, please can you use the school's main entrance and book in at the reception desk, where a member of staff will then walk your child to class.



People you will meet

Headteacher:	Miss Yvonne Jones
Head of Lower School:	Mrs Gillian Pennington
Foundation Phase Leader:	Miss Claire Wilkinson
Wellbeing Manager:	Miss Jordan Hollyman
Leaders of Learning in Nursery:	Miss Laurie Jones

During the year, the children may also meet other people in the Nursery, such as:

- NVQ students
- Work experience pupils from secondary schools
- Parent and adult helpers
- Teaching students
- Volunteers

Parking

We are fortunate enough to have a school car park that can be used by parents when dropping off and collecting their children.

However, when parking please remember that the safety of our children must take precedence over convenience.

Please can you ensure that you only park in the designated spaces and if there is no room in the car park, we respectfully request that when parking in the roads around the school, care is taken not to cause any obstruction.

Please be mindful not to obstruct the school gates, residents' driveways/garages and restricted areas.

We would also appreciate that you do not turn in the school gate way area.

We appreciate your co-operation.



Other Information

If for any reason you may need to bring something in for your child during the school day, such as a packed lunch or P.E. kit, please can you take it straight to our main reception area, where a member of staff will go and collect it for your child.

Please note that we will not allow any child to go home with anyone whom we do not know, or anyone under 16 years of age.

Parents will be expected to set a family password if an adult other than themselves will be collecting their child from the Nursery.

Please can you ensure that you are on time to collect your child. He/she may become easily upset if you are late. However, if you are going to be unavoidably late, please could you telephone the school as soon as possible.

If you need to collect your child early, please can you notify the class teacher, in writing, to ensure that your child receives the correct mark.

If you need to discuss something with the class teacher, please send a note in or see a member of staff on the door when you are dropping off or collecting your child. You will be expected to wait until all children have been received into class or excused from class before holding your discussion with the teacher.

The Aims of our Nursery

- In the Nursery class we aim to provide a secure, welcoming and happy atmosphere where children experience a variety of activities and the opportunity to participate in purposeful, structured and spontaneous play.
- Young children develop at different rates and in different ways. We know that children learn best from first-hand experiences appropriate to their stage of development.
- We encourage your child to make his/her own decisions and choices to enable him/her to become an independent learner.
- We introduce the children to the 'routine' of school life and to a new curriculum for Wales which will encompass six areas of learning experience. Further information can be found in the guidance attached.
- We aim to prepare your child for confident entry to the Reception class.
- We are eager to develop a good partnership between home and school, to extend and enrich the experiences your child has received at home.

Admission and introduction to the Nursery class

Your child's first day!

This is an important day for you and your child and we try to make this day as happy as possible for you all.

To try and make the transition as smooth as possible for you all, it would be extremely helpful if you could arrive at the school on time and have faith in the teachers to know that they will look after your child.

Children can sense a worried or upset parent and this in turn can cause them to cry when you leave – this is quite common for children but please be reassured that the majority of children settle down very quickly, once you are out of sight.

We will of course contact you immediately, if your child does not settle within a reasonable amount of time.

We want the children to feel part of Porth Community School as soon as they arrive. The very first visit in September will be a 'Stay and Play' session between 9.30-10.30am to allow opportunity to visit the classroom and meet the staff.

If you are worried about any aspect of your child's education and transition to full time school, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone and ask to speak with a member of staff.

If you have any family problems causing difficulties or upset, please let us know. All conversations will be treated with the strictest confidence.

School Uniform

All children are expected to wear school uniform:

Winter Uniform:	Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers White polo shirt Burgundy school jumper/cardigan Grey trousers White polo shirt Burgundy school jumper
Summer Uniform:	Yellow gingham dress or as above
Summer Uniform:	Grey shorts or as above
P.E. Kit:	Burgundy shorts or tracksuit bottoms White polo shirt

You can purchase all uniform requirements from Howells Sports in Tonypany, 42 Dunraven Street, Tonypany, CF40 1AL

Many activities in the Nursery can be messy, but aprons will always be provided.

Please ensure that every item of clothing is labelled clearly with your child's name – shoes as well!

Check your child's uniform every night and return any items not belonging to them.

Try to ensure your child's shoes have Velcro fastenings, rather than laces. This will help them to dress independently.

As many of the activities are outdoors please ensure your child is appropriately dressed each day. Don't forget warm coats and hats during the winter and sun cream and sun hats during the summer.

Health & Illness

In the case of absence, please telephone the school as early as possible and select option 1. This will immediately direct you to our attendance officer.

If you don't phone the school, you will receive a call to find out why your child is not in school.

For the health and well-being of children and staff, please keep your child at home if he/she is unwell. Poorly children do not concentrate, are lethargic and easily upset.

Children must not come to school if they are suffering from:

- High temperature
- Rash (unless doctor diagnosis is non-infectious)
- Impetigo
- Sickness/diarrhea

Other useful information can be found on the 'Choose Well' chart on the NHS Direct website.

Please note: Children with sickness/diarrhea must be well for 48 hours before they return to school. A child with chicken pox will be allowed back to school on advice from their GP and after the incubation period has passed.

If your child becomes unwell at school, we shall contact you so that he/she may be collected from school. **Completion of the admission form providing emergency contact numbers is imperative.**

Please notify us should any contact numbers change – we must have up to date information.

Asthma

Children suffering from asthma can receive their medication in school provided a pump is left at the school office and the school's medical form is completed. Ask your GP for a spare pump (labelled clearly with your child's name) that can be kept in the school's office. At any point during their time with us, if your child no longer needs their asthma medication, please let us know.

Allergies

Please inform us if your child has any allergies. Staff undergo regular training to support children with severe allergies. Your child can receive any medication prescribed by the GP provided this is left at the school office and the school's medical form is completed.

Head lice

Please keep a vigilant check for head lice and inform the school if you find any. Please don't be embarrassed or ashamed - head lice prefer clean hair! We need your co-operation in aiming to keep head lice under control. The school will insist on a child being collected from school should head lice be detected.

Accidents at school

Should your child be unfortunate enough to have an accident that we think needs hospital treatment, we will try to contact you.

If we are unable to do so, we will take your child to hospital and remain with him/her until you arrive. If emergency treatment is needed, we would entrust the medical professionals to make the appropriate decisions.

Child Protection

In extreme cases if there are concerns regarding the welfare or wellbeing of a child, we will seek advice from the Education & Children's Services Welfare Department and may refer immediately to the Social Services, Child Protection Department.

This strictly follows procedures as laid out in the Child Protection Act 1989. A copy of our Safeguarding policy is available from the school reception.

School meals, breakfast & snacks

Snacks

Milk/water are provided each morning and pupils are asked to bring a healthy fruit snack to school. Please ensure the snack pot or snack is clearly labelled with your child's name.

We are a nut free school so ask that you ensure no nut products are brought to school.

Please also inform us if your if your child has any food allergies.

Dinner money should be paid online via the RCT school dinner money page. Each pupil has their own 10 digit school meals reference number. These will be issued to you when your child starts having dinners. If you misplace this number, please ask for details at Reception.

If your child is entitled to free school meals, please obtain the necessary form from the school Reception.

Please notify the school immediately should your entitlement cease.



Breakfast club

We operate the Welsh Assembly's free breakfast to primary school children every morning from 8.10am until 8.50am (latest admission is 8.30am.) It would be advisable to ensure your child is fully settled in school and able to cope with a long school day. This would normally be the case once they are in full time Nursery.

Upon your first visit to the club, a registration form must be completed in order for your child to attend.

Learning in the Nursery

Our nursery classes are divided into distinct areas of learning where specific activities take place. Each area has its own importance and educational value. All these areas are visited by the children at some point during the week.

Role play areas

Children are provided with various clothes and props to simulate role-play, eg police hat, doctor's coat. These activities encourage free expression, imagination and language skills.

Construction corner

Children are given opportunities to use construction kits and building equipment to make and build models. Such activities help develop language, mathematical and scientific concepts.

Outdoor play

The children have access to the outdoors all day. The children use outdoor apparatus and climbing equipment daily to develop fine and gross motor control as well as encouraging skills such as sharing and taking turns. A warm coat is essential in the winter months as well as named wellies.

Mathematical tasks

Focused tasks that develop mathematical concepts in counting, sorting, matching, sequencing, measuring and shape.

Art and craft

The children enjoy many and varied drawing, painting, tracing and construction activities.

Story time

The children will have opportunities to listen to many stories, songs and poems. They will be encouraged to enjoy looking at and become familiar with books and acquire pre-reading and writing skills.

Music, singing and movement activities

The children are encouraged to experiment with sound and to develop confidence through creative and movement activities. Shoes with Velcro fastenings encourage the children to become independent in getting ready for movement activities.

Computer skills

The children use the class i-pads, Chrome books and Bee bots and the interactive whiteboard to develop early IT skills using a range of interactive educational apps.

Out and about

The children will explore the world around them, eg the weather and the seasons, and be encouraged to care for plants and animals in the environment. They find out about different occupations and the way in which we live.

Cookery

The children will frequently take part in cookery activities thus developing creativity and language/mathematical skills. Your child's teacher needs to be made aware of any food allergy or intolerance that he/she has.

Curriculum

Through careful planning, all children will have access to experiences and activities based on the 6 areas of learning and experience, as outlined in

the New Curriculum, for Wales document.

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

Themes and home tasks

Our work in the nursery is related to a cross-curricular topic. A new topic is covered each term. A snapshot will be sent out to parents each term with information relating to the topic and how you can help at home. Parents will be asked to help their child with home-school tasks. Children will be encouraged to talk about the task they completed at home.

School visits

During the school year, children in the Nursery will have the opportunity to visit places of interest in the locality. These visits support ongoing work in the classroom. Your assistance accompanying the children on these visits will be very much appreciated. We will ask parents for a contribution towards the cost of trips.



How can you help your child?

- Talk to your child positively about school and how much they will enjoy being here.
- Make sure that your child is fully toilet trained and can clearly ask to go there.
- Teach your child to flush the toilet and wash their hands.
- Label all coats, clothing and shoes with your child's name. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost items of clothing.
- Help your child to recognise his/her name.
- Encourage your child to dress and undress with the minimum of help.
- Give your child the opportunity to use crayons, pencils, glue and scissors at home.
- Ensure that your child does not bring sweets, crisps, toys or other personal belongings to the Nursery (unless requested by the class teacher).
- Outdoor play is an important part of your child's development. Please ensure your child has warm clothes in the colder months and is well protected from the sun in the summer.
- Ensure your child arrives on time every day. A child will miss valuable instructions if he/she is late. It is also unsettling for the rest of the class.
- Wherever possible, please support the PTA. We are always looking for new members.

If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Use of Social Media

The use of social media is a part of the way our modern society communicates.

When communicating information that relates to Porth Community School or any member of the school community, parents must consider the content and the context of any information they post.

Parents must be mindful that any materials published must in no way be deemed to be offensive or inappropriate, or perceived to be offensive or inappropriate to the school or any member of the school community. Parents should be aware that the school will contact the police should any of their posts be deemed offensive or defamatory in any way.



Pupil Name: _____

Please tell us about your child and return this section to school

1. Describe your child's personality in a few words.

2. What do they like to do most of all?

3. When they are playing with their toys inside what do they play with the most?

4. When they are playing outside what do they like to play with and do the most?

5. What is their favourite;
Story?
DVD?
Nursery Rhyme?
Television programme?
What technology do they use?

6. How do they react when they are unhappy?

7. Is your child afraid of anything or nervous around anything?

8. Tell us about your child's sleep patterns; do they sleep well and get a good night's rest?

9. What kind of food do they enjoy? Do they eat a wide range of foods?
Do they like fruit and drink water?

10. When did they begin to crawl; walk?

11. Would you say that your child has good concentration skills?

12. Have they got a special friend who they play with?

13. Do you have any pets at home to look after?

14. I do/do not give permission for my child to have their photo taken.
Any photos may be used in a school display, on the school app and website, unless otherwise requested.

15. Please complete the attached medical information form.

Parents Name _____ Signature _____