

Prospectus

2025-2026



**Durand Primary and
Nursery School**
Ysgol Gynradd a Meithrin Durand

Welcome to Durand Primary and Nursery School

Croeso I Ysgol Gynradd a Meithrin Durand



Durand Primary School

Alianore Road

Caldicot

NP26 5DF

Telephone: (01291) 422296

Headteacher: Mrs Hannah Kilbourn

Chair of Governors: Emma Wilcox

Email: dur.primary@monmouthshireschools.wales

Website: www.durand.wales

Twitter: [@DurandPrimary](https://twitter.com/DurandPrimary)

Schoop ID: [9713](#)



Welcome to Durand Primary and Nursery School

Croeso I Ysgol Gynradd a Meithrin Durand

Dear Parents / Guardians,

A very warm welcome is extended to you and your child from all the Pupils, Staff and Governors at Durand Primary School. Here at Durand Primary we pride ourselves on being a 'School Family' with well-being at the core of everything that we do. I hope that you will enjoy being part of our school community and that your son / daughter will remember our school with pleasure and affection.

This prospectus is intended to introduce our school to you, providing you with information regarding our aims, administration, and general organisation. The prospectus should answer any immediate questions and offer details which should prove helpful throughout the academic year.

We believe it is important that as a parent / carer you feel welcome in school. Education is a partnership between home and school with a shared responsibility based on trust and mutual understanding. The co-operation and participation of parents with our school in the education of their child is positively encouraged. A good relationship between school and home builds a child's confidence, aids their learning, and helps them to fulfil their potential in all areas.

This is a happy vibrant school where all children will be given the opportunity of learning in a caring, supportive, and stimulating environment. We aim to give your child the opportunity to develop to their full potential intellectually, morally, socially, and spiritually.

Our welcome to you and your child is warm and on-going and we invite you as parents to support us in our work. We hope this prospectus gives you an insight into what school life is like for our children. Of course, the best way for you to get to know us is to come and visit. We welcome visits from all our parents and are always keen to hear your views. We want to foster close working relationships with all our families so that the children benefit from their time with us as much as possible.

Mrs Kilbourn, will be willing, as are the rest of the staff, to talk to parents at any mutually convenient time.

I wish everyone who is part of the Durand School Family the best of luck for the future –

AIM HIGH & BE AMAZING!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Hannah Kilbourn

Headteacher





Welcome to Durand Primary and Nursery School

Croeso I Ysgol Gynradd a Meithrin Durand

Dear Parents / Guardians,

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to reiterate our Headteacher's welcome to new parents and to thank existing parents for their continuing support. I am sure that you will find this latest edition of the prospectus useful and informative not only now but as the school year progresses.

We are very proud of Durand Primary School. Our staff are highly motivated, caring and professional in all aspects of education and under the leadership of our Headteacher, Mrs. Hannah Kilbourn. I am fully convinced our children will receive the help, guidance and support they need to in order to achieve their full potential.

All of the Governors actively support the Headteacher and school personnel in achieving the school's aims and objectives whilst constantly seeking to improve standards across the curriculum. As Governors we all have particular responsibilities and are frequent visitors to the school.

Our children's education is an essential foundation stone for the rest of their lives. We are committed to providing them with the highest standard of teaching and learning in a safe caring environment in which they will receive a thorough, rounded and totally enjoyable education during these their formative years.

We look forward to achieving this with your assistance and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lucinda Lund

Chair of Governors





Mission Statement and School Aims

Datganiad Cenhadaeth a Nodau'r Ysgol



'Learning Together, Achieving Together'
'Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Cyflawni Gyda'n Gilydd'

Vision Statement

We will provide the very best education for all members of our school community by nurturing well-being, recognising all learners as individuals and having high expectations throughout our curriculum.

Aims

The community of Durand aims to:

- Encourage and equip our learners with the knowledge, skills and experience to thrive as Welsh citizens in an ever-changing world.
- Ensure our learners have developed the appropriate skills to be literate, numerate and digitally competent, as well as being able to contribute in the language of Welsh and show an appreciation of international languages.
- Develop healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.
- Create a learning environment that will develop ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Encourage our learners to be enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.
- Develop ethical, informed citizens of Wales ready to take their place within the wider world.
- Promote an ethos where all pupils and staff feel happy and confident to further develop their learning.
- Encourage everyone to respect individuality and difference in others and to respect and care for the environment in which they live.
- Work in partnership with parents, carers, governors and other professionals to develop and sustain positive relationships, both within school and as part of the wider community, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and a valued member of our Durand School community.



Our School Staff

Ein Staff Ysgol

Senior Leadership and Management Team

Headteacher	Mrs H. Kilbourn
Acting Deputy Headteacher	Mrs K. Gordon
Inclusion Manager	Mrs J. Dunn
Professional Learning Manager	Mr W. Marangon

Teachers

Mrs J. Dunn
Mr W. Marangon
Miss L. Collins
Mrs C. Sisson
Mrs L. Johns
Mrs S. Perry
Mrs L. Wilton

Higher Learning Teacher Assistants

Mrs K. Sheldrake

Teaching Assistants

Mrs K. Hooper	Mrs S. Edwards	Mrs V. Norminton
Mrs A. Davies	Mrs B. Hunt	Mrs D. Chappelle
Mrs A. Wakelin	Mrs J. Voss	Mrs L. Hart
Mrs R. Higgs		

School Administrator

Mrs M. Salisbury

Caretaker

Mr J. Lane

Senior Midday Supervisor

Mrs L. Adams

Midday Supervisor

Mrs K. Chaplin

Kitchen Staff

Supplied by MCC

Cleaning Staff

Supplied by MCC Facilities Department



Our Governing Body

Ein Corff Llywodraethol

The full Governing Body meet at least twice each term and more often if special meetings are called. They are very supportive, involved and committed to the progress and development of Durand Primary School. They actively demonstrate this through their attendance at meetings, their individual contributions made at sub-committee meetings and their involvement in the day to day activities in the school. All governors attend regular training events which are organised by the Education Achievement Service Governor Support team.

The Governing Body sends out an Annual Report to parents which summarises its work and that of the school in the previous twelve months. One report per family is supplied.

The current membership of the Governing Body is shown below.

Chairperson of Governors:	Mrs. Emma Wilcox
Vice Chairperson:	Mr. Henry Higgins
Local Authority Governors:	Mr. John Woodfield Mrs. Lucinda Lund Dr. David Price
Minor Authority Governor:	Mr. Rob Wilsher
Community Governors:	Mr. David Johns Mrs. Maria Stevens
Parent Governors:	Mrs. Emma Wilcox Mr. Paul Wakelin Mr. Lee Norminton Mrs. Fiona Marsh
Teacher Governor:	Mrs. Lisa Wilton
Non-Teaching Staff Governor:	Mrs. Melanie Salisbury
Headteacher:	Mrs H. Kilbourn
Clerk to the Governors:	EAS Governor Services



Session Times and Term Dates

Amserau Sesiynau a Dyddiadau Tymhorau

	Nursery Morning	Reception – Year 2	Year 3 – Year 6
School Starts	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am
Morning Session	9.00am – 11.30am	9.00am - 12pm	9.00am – 12.10pm
Afternoon Session		1pm - 3.10pm	1pm - 3.10pm

Daily Collective Worship: 10.15am – 10.35am

Breaks: Morning – Whole school – 15 minutes

Afternoon – Reception – Year 2 – 10 minutes

Our gates are opened at 8.50am for drop off straight to class via their external door by 9am and will be opened once again at 3.05pm for pupils to be collected at 3.10 pm.

There will be staff members available at the start and end of the day to help.

At the end of the school day, teachers will dismiss all pupils from their classroom doors.

During school hours children are not permitted to leave the school site. If your child needs to leave school during school hours parents /carers must inform the school office and come to the security buzzer gate to collect them from a member of staff.



Term	Start	Half term start	Half term end	Term end
Autumn	Monday 01/09/2025	Monday 27/10/2025	Friday 31/10/2025	Friday 19/12/2026
Spring	Monday 05/01/2026	Monday 16/02/2026	Friday 20/02/2026	Friday 27/03/2026
Summer	Monday 13/04/2026	Monday 25/05/2026	Friday 29/05/2026	Monday 20/07/2026

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 1st May 2026

School closure for Teachers' Inset Training – 5 Days. Welsh Government have allocated an additional INSET day currently for the implementation of the new curriculum (6 days in total). Parents will be notified of training days when teachers must be present in school and children are off school.



Attendance

Preseanoldeb

Attendance

There is a proven link between attendance and attainment at school. The significance of school attendance must not and cannot be underestimated, particularly for those children and young people who show signs of disaffection or unhappiness. Promoting positive behaviour and excellent attendance is the responsibility of the whole school and wider community. All children should be at school, on time, every day the school is open, unless the reason for absence is unavoidable such as illness. Schools have a legal duty to publish attendance figures and to promote attendance. Equally, parents have a legal duty and responsibility to ensure that their children attend school on a regular basis.

Parents are politely reminded that if their child is absent from school, it is necessary to notify the school on the first day of absence and to explain fully the reason for the absence. A message can be left, before 9.30am each day, on the school's designated absence line by telephoning 01291 422296 or alternatively you may wish to send us an email at dur.primary@monmouthshireschools.wales Failure to do so will result in the absence being recorded as "unauthorised." The school must be informed of the absence by the start of the morning /afternoon session. A phone call home will be made to check in, if no contact has been made.

Persistent, unexplained absence will be reported to the Education Welfare Service. In some cases, the Local Authority will impose a fine on parents for their child's non-attendance at school.

Late Arrival

Persistent late arrival is unacceptable. It causes severe disruption to the day to day organisation of the school. Late arrivals will have to proceed to the buzzer entry gate at the end of the fenced pathway, a member of staff will electronically open the gate once identity has been verified. Persistent late arrival will result in a referral to the Education Welfare Service.

Exclusions

Exclusions may unfortunately have to be used very occasionally for serious offences such as –

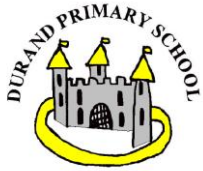
- Behaving in a dangerous way which puts their own or other's Health & Safety at risk
- Behaving in a physically confrontational manner towards staff, pupils and visitors
- Assault on a member of staff / another pupil

Permanent exclusion is an option only if fixed term exclusions and all other measures have failed and the pupil continues to undermine the work of the school to the detriment of other pupils.



I really love the outside space by our classroom so we can do our work outside.'

Year 6 pupil



Communication

Cyfathrebiad

Communication

It is very important that parents feel involved in school life and we, as a staff, want to make sure your children are happy and doing well. One important way of doing this is by keeping in touch.

We use the following methods for communicating with our families:

Schoop

Here at Durand Primary our main way of communication to all parents / carers is via an app called Schoop. This is a one-way push messaging system and is our main channel for sharing information with our families. It is an easy and effective app to use. **Our Schoop ID number is 9713**. You will receive notifications, important alerts, information about school events, newsletters, calendar dates and much more. The system is also linked to our website: www.durand.wales

Please share this information with **everyone** who needs to be kept informed about our school - Parents, carers, grandparents, childminders etc.

Newsletters

Regular newsletters are sent out via Schoop and can also be viewed on our school website. Please read these as they contain important information and dates for your diaries.

School Website

There is a lot of useful information for parents on our school website – www.durand.wales

Twitter

We use twitter to celebrate all the wonderful learning that takes place in our school. You can follow us on [@DurandPrimary](https://twitter.com/DurandPrimary)

Email

Our Teaching staff can be contacted by email during normal school hours using their hwb email address. However, you may not receive an immediate response due to their teaching commitments.

Parent Engagement

Parent consultations are held twice a year and are a great opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and raise any concerns with your child's teacher. We also hold 'Sharing Learning Events' twice a year. This is a fun, informal opportunity to come into school and share what your child has been doing. Annual reports are sent out to parents at the end of the academic year, after which parents have the option to discuss these too.

Complaints Procedure

The majority of issues raised by parents, the community or pupils are concerns rather than complaints. At Durand Primary we are committed to taking concerns seriously at the earliest stage. We hope that the school can resolve any issues that parents may have. Therefore, any concerns in the first instance should be made to the class teacher then the Headteacher if necessary. It is hoped that in most cases problems will be dealt with at this level. If the complaint at this level cannot be resolved you may wish or be asked to follow the school's formal complaints procedure.

Our School Complaints Procedure is available from the school office on request or can be found on our school website.



School Uniform

Gwisg Ysgol

We have a school uniform that we actively encourage pupils to wear as we believe our uniform adds to the ethos of the school assisting with good behaviour and fostering a strong feeling of belonging amongst the children. School uniform is worn by all the pupils.

Our main school colour is red.

School uniform consists of the following and can be obtained online at www.myclothing.com



White Polo Shirt

Grey Skirt / Pinafore dress / Trousers / Shorts

Red Sweatshirt / Fleece / Hoodie / Cardigan

Red gingham dress in Summer

Black footwear

Physical Education

Indoor:

Black Shorts

House t-shirt – Wye/Blue, Monnow/Yellow, Severn/Green, Usk/Red

Outdoor:

Dark Tracksuit / Joggers and warm jumper / Sports Jacket

House t-shirt – Wye/Blue, Monnow/Yellow, Severn/Green, Usk/Red

Change of Trainers

Swimming

Swimming Costume / Trunks

Swimming Hat (optional)

Towel

Goggles (optional)



Physical Education (P.E.) is a compulsory curriculum subject and therefore all pupils are expected to participate in P.E. lessons unless a letter or medical certificate from a doctor has been received in school. Verbal reasons from a pupil are not acceptable. Pupils will be expected to wear the appropriate P.E. dress to school for all P.E. lessons on the day that they are timetabled for this.

Marking Clothes

Occasionally children lose or misplace articles of clothing. Please help us to locate them easily by **marking all garments** clearly with their full name. Rucksacks, bags, lunch boxes etc. can all look very similar and should also be clearly marked for identification.

Outdoor Clothing

We regularly use the outdoor environment for learning and always attempt to allow the children to play outside during breaks. It is therefore advisable to send them to school well wrapped up against the elements during the **winter** months and protected from the **sun** in the late spring / summer.



Jewellery

Jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces and Smart watches should not be worn. If children's ears have been pierced, only stud type earrings should be worn. This is an essential safety precaution. **Earrings must be removed for any physical activity** e.g. sport and swimming. Members of staff are not allowed to remove earrings. Parents of children who cannot remove their own earrings should remove them before the children attend school.

Normal timekeeping watches of a reasonable size should only be worn by older pupils who can tell the time. School staff will not be required to waste valuable teaching time searching for lost items which are the responsibility of the child.

Valuable Items

Valuables such as jewellery, toys and other personal equipment should not be brought into school. The school and the Local Authority cannot take responsibility for any mislaid or lost items.



'I love school. I like coming to school to see all my friends. My school is fun!'

Year 5 pupil



Charging

Gwisg Ysgol

Charging and Remission

It is widely recognised that many educationally valuable activities have been, and will continue to be, dependent upon financial contributions in whole or part from parents. Without that financial support the school would find it extremely difficult to maintain the quality and breadth of educational provision provided for pupils. The contributions for these activities are made on a voluntary basis and no child will be excluded from any activity if a parent chooses not to make the voluntary contribution requested. However, if there are not sufficient voluntary contributions for the activity to be viable then it will be necessary to cancel the event. We will endeavour to keep the costing of such activities as low as possible and to ensure as far as possible that all children are able to take part irrespective of their circumstances.

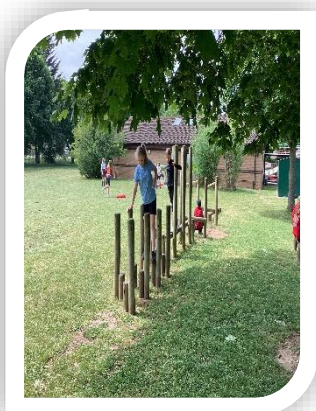
We would ask any parents who find themselves in difficulties in contributing to these to contact the School Administrator so that arrangements may be made for payment over several weeks, and possibly assistance in occasional cases. These matters would be considered on an individual basis.

All additionally financed activities should have relevance to the educational aims for the pupils learning.

ParentPay

In line with all Monmouthshire County Council's policy to be cashless we use ParentPay for all payments to school. ParentPay is an online secure e-payment method accessed via the ParentPay website. (see details below). Parents are given a unique Username and Password in order to register for an account once your child has started with us in school. The ParentPay service must be used to order school meals, breakfast club, pay for school trips, water bottles, swimming caps, and any other event or activity that requires a contribution during the year.

The website address is www.parentpay.com



'I like when it's the last day of school and you can feel good and your wellbeing is high, and you can have a relaxing weekend.'

Year 6 Pupil



School Ethos

Ethos Yr Ysgol

It is the aim at Durand Primary School that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all.

Our Core Values

Kindness, Respect, Curiosity, Ambitious

Relationships

At Durand Primary School we use a restorative approach that acknowledges the feelings, needs and rights of all parties in any conflict or potential/actual disagreement. With this restorative approach, we would define misbehaviour as harm done to the wellbeing of another, and in dealing with an incident we would want to find out how all sides are feeling and what they need to put things right. Where possible we believe in dialogue so everyone involved has an opportunity to communicate and cooperate with each other.

Children need to be able to trust that when agreements are broken there are processes in place to repair harm, ensure that those harmed feel safe and able to learn and support those who have broken agreements to ensure that there are no ongoing difficulties.

We believe behaviour is directly linked to relationships and inappropriate behaviour is defined in terms of the harm or potential harm that it causes others. Children are therefore encouraged to take responsibility to engage in thinking about their behaviour as a member of the school community, becoming active participants in establishing class agreements. From this, expectations are agreements, which are introduced as a formal protection of one's rights.

School Expectations:

The staff and children at Durand Primary School agreed the following school expectations as part of our 'belonging' curriculum:

1. Show kindness to one another
2. Respect everyone and everything.
3. Always follow instructions first time.
4. Strive to be the best you can be.



Curriculum

Cwricwlwm

Durand Primary School has made great progress in implementing the Curriculum for Wales. You can find a guide to the curriculum here: <https://www.theschoolrun.com/curriculum-for-wales>

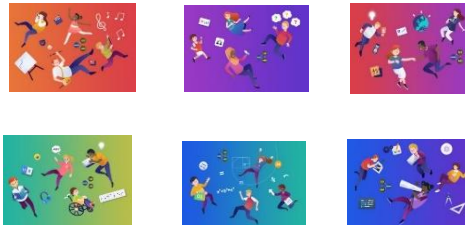
The Curriculum for Wales takes place through six Areas of Learning Experience (AoLE) with Four Purposes at its heart.

The 4 purposes are for our learners to become:

- 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, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

The 6 Areas of Learning Experience are:

Expressive Arts
Health and Wellbeing
Humanities
Languages, Literacy and Communication
Mathematics and Numeracy
Science and Technology



Progression Steps

The Curriculum for Wales is a curriculum designed as a continuum for pupils from the age of 3-16 divided into five progression steps. Within a Primary School learning is within Progression steps 1, 2 and 3 with Progression reference points at age 5 (Progression Step 1), at age 8 (Progression Step 2) and at age 11 (Progression Step 3).

As the children move from progression step 1 through progression step 2 and on to progression step 3 we continue to put great emphasis on developing thinking and learning skills. We aim to inspire and enthuse our pupils through a varied and interesting approach to curriculum areas. The children at Durand Primary School are developing the skills to become lifelong learners. Children learn better when their interests and fascinations are allowed to flourish, where they are encouraged to explore subjects in a variety of ways. Through a topic based approach, the AoLE's in the curriculum are delivered in exciting and innovative ways with pupil voice at its heart!

Expressive Arts

The Expressive Arts AoLE covers art, music, drama, film and digital media. As part of our Expressive Arts provision, we nurture and value the children's individual ways of expressing their ideas and feelings. Children are encouraged to play and think creatively and to also make choices in their learning. Children are inspired through activities such as drama, music, film and digital media. They are also encouraged to evaluate and refine their work as part of their ongoing development as a learner. Our Reception.



As we move through the progression steps children are able to experience music in a range of ways including listening, composing and performing. They are encouraged to sing, explore instruments and respond to pieces of music. From Year 3 on there is the opportunity for children to take part in peripatetic lessons for a range of instruments provided by the Gwent Music Service. As part of art provision our pupils are encouraged to express themselves through a range of mediums using a variety of tools. They use the work of other artists, the environment and their own imagination as inspiration for their work. We have a designated art room which pupils' access on a regular basis for creating pieces of art that are proudly displayed around our school.

Health and Wellbeing

We believe that Health and Wellbeing is the foundation on which we should build all of our learning. By nurturing the children's skills to work with and respect others, whilst developing their own sense of identity and self-esteem, we believe that we can achieve a happier, more positive learning environment. By developing their mental and emotional well-being we aim to develop confidence, resilience and empathy amongst our pupils. We believe that a child's physical well-being is essential to both their educational and personal development. We actively promote healthy eating, as part of the accredited "Healthy Schools" scheme and believe this should be coupled with a healthy lifestyle. Through activities such as dance, outdoor play, the children are able to develop fine and gross motor skills, spacial awareness and co-ordination. The children are able to grow in confidence whilst developing their ability to work both individually and with others. The E.L.S.A and Nurture approaches are also well established throughout our school.



Co-ordination, physical fitness and the importance of a healthy lifestyle are delivered through our Health and Wellbeing area of learning. We offer pupils a combination of outdoor games, gymnastics, dance and swimming. We also run numerous sporting after school clubs to further develop children's team spirit.

Our Year Six pupils go on an annual residential visit to an Outdoor Pursuits Education Centre. Here they can experience a range of activities such as canoeing and caving. It is an invaluable experience for our pupils.

We are also proud to be a "Healthy School", having gained several accreditations for our work on nutrition and healthy lifestyle.

Humanities

In this area we support and encourage children to make links between their own lives, the local community and the wider world. Children can explore other countries and their customs, as well as learning about people and events from the past. The children are stimulated and engaged through activities such as "Forest Schools", where we use our fantastic outdoor resources to support and enhance the learning experience. We have been highly commended for our Forest Schools facilities where children are encouraged to use the environment as a tool for learning. We also encourage pupils to investigate, explore and care for the world around them through a range of practical indoor and outdoor activities. We deliver a stimulating religious curriculum with strong emphasis on moral values and spiritual development. We engage in regular collective worship and celebrations throughout the year.



Children are encouraged to ask questions about and to explore people and events from the past. Roleplay is often used to develop empathy and bring time periods to life. This also helps children to gain a greater understanding about the world around them and how it is constantly changing.

We aim to develop a knowledge and appreciation of both the local area and the wider world. This includes learning about sustainable development and our responsibility to protect and preserve the environment. Children experience geographical skills including map reading and place studies. We look at the customs and cultures of people from other countries as part of our Global Citizenship and Multiculturalism studies.

Language, Literacy and Communication

Literacy and communication skills are fundamental to children's development. Our pupils are encouraged to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas in a range of ways. They are given stimulating opportunities to speak, listen, read and write for a variety of purposes. We recognise the importance of these skills and offer support to new parents, where required, to help their children at home with developing reading, writing and other communication skills. At Durand we are proud of both the Welsh language and culture. We believe that it is important that the children embrace this culture as part of their identity. We offer opportunities to speak, read and write through the medium of Welsh, whilst learning about the country, its history and its future. Our annual Eisteddfod is always a great success, where children enjoy creating Welsh artwork, writing and singing. Incidental Welsh is used as much as possible throughout the school day by staff and children to increase their confidence in speaking and understanding Welsh.



We place great importance on our LLC teaching at Durand School.

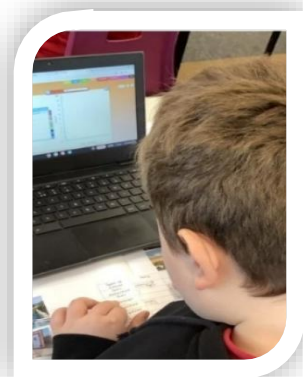
We strive to create a literary environment where children find pleasure in reading and writing for a range of purposes. Children have opportunity for example, to write stories, poetry and even cartoon strips as part of literacy lessons and across other subject areas. Children are encouraged to read daily, both at school and at home. They have access to a range of texts such as novels, poetry and play scripts to help maintain motivation and interest in both English and Welsh. We offer varied opportunities for children to develop their oracy skills, for example through discussion and debate. Children are encouraged to listen to people's opinions and

share their views tactfully. Listening skills and questioning skills are also developed as a tool for learning. In Progression Steps 2 and 3 we introduce International Languages in order to further develop our pupils as 'Ethically Informed Citizens'. As a Welsh primary school, we are proud to offer the children the experience of the Welsh language. Cwricwlwm Cymreig permeates the school curriculum, being integrated naturally in our day-to-day work. This also helps us to celebrate and explore the Welsh culture such as by studying Welsh artists, musicians and people in Welsh history.

Mathematics and Numeracy

In Mathematics and Numeracy we strive to develop a relevant, stimulating and authentic approach to the children's mathematical and numerical development. Children experience 'maths' through a range of "hands-on", investigative, engaging activities. By making our approach both practical and experiential, we feel that pupils gain a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. They can also develop life-long skills such as problem solving, reason and logic thus creating 'enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work'.

Building on the skills our pupils have acquired in Progression Step 1, the children begin to experience more investigational mathematics. Children are given the opportunity to solve mathematic problems and develop their mental maths strategies.



We endeavour to provide a hands-on, practical approach to maths, where appropriate. This helps to aid understanding and maintains a positive attitude towards the subjects. Children are provided with opportunity to experience 'real life' maths in order to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can later on in their lives.

Science and Technology

As Science and Technology becomes increasingly important in our modern world, we encourage our learners to develop their curiosity by asking questions about the world around us. Children are encouraged to use logic, evidence and creativity to explore and inquire through practical activities and discovery through a range of topics. We have a large number of iPads and Chrome books which the children have access to throughout the day. We also have new Active panels in each class which we use for interactive teaching and which the children are able to use.



We believe a good science education helps children to make sense of the world around them. Through our science delivery, we encourage children to question and investigate, to observe and to analyse. In our design projects we enable pupils to be inventive – to think of practical solutions to a problem and to consider how to the design of a product to make it more successful. Children are encouraged to research and discuss ideas, to plan and to refine ideas and then to test their work. They are able to safely explore a range of tools and techniques to achieve this. In the age of technology, we believe that children should have regular, appropriate access to tools such as the interactive whiteboards and digital devices. We have chrome books and iPads for group or class ICT skills lessons, which provides an exciting and interesting approach to learning. On our child-safe network, children are able to undertake their own research, record information and have access to valuable websites that help to develop their knowledge and understanding in curriculum areas. We also regularly teach our pupils the importance of the safe use of technology.

'I like coming to school for lots of reasons - playing with my friends, writing is fun, and I like planting as we have planted bean stalks and cress which we have already eaten! I also like helping my teachers.'

Year 2 pupil



Welsh

We celebrate our Welsh heritage throughout our curriculum and as part of annual Eisteddfod. We are very proud that every pupil has the opportunity to learn Welsh. Welsh is taught and spoken by all class teachers who have received specialist training and support to do so. Our Welsh Curriculum is split into Oracy, Reading and Writing. A greater emphasis is given to Oracy throughout all Year groups. Pupils are given opportunities to respond and communicate in Welsh in familiar situations. They are encouraged to use incidental Welsh throughout the day. Pupils will be given opportunities to see Welsh around them presented in an attractive and interesting manner. Writing will reinforce oral work, strengthen pupils' language competence and bring greater variety to classroom activity.



Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

A whole school approach to RSE is fundamental to creating high quality learning which helps us to create a safe school environment where pupils grow, learn and develop positive healthy relationships. We foster positive attitudes towards gender equality and healthy, respectful relationships which prepares our pupils for life within wider society.

Our RSE programme includes:

- Reception - naming body part and families
- Year 1 - similarities and differences between boys and girls
- Year 2 - healthy relationships and differences between male and female
- Years 3 & 4 - human life cycles and personal space
- Year 5 & 6 girls on matters of menstruation and associated hygiene issues
- Year 5 & 6 boys and girls on changes that occur in their bodies during early puberty and associated hygiene issues.

Sex Education is also taught through our Science curriculum, where pupils are expected by the age of eleven, to be able to label parts of the human body, know that living things reproduce their own kind, describe the main stages in the human life cycle and understand the process of reproduction in mammals.

Personal, Social and Health education lessons cover aspects of relationships, healthy living and keeping safe. Children's questions are always answered sensitively and in an age appropriate way. We encourage pupils to develop an understanding of their own emotional and physical development. The main emphasis is on relationships and will reflect the needs of the pupils as they develop.

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)

Within our RVE curriculum our religious education is of a broadly Christian nature together with the study of aspects of other faiths and religions. In addition, we aim to address our pupil's spiritual and moral needs and to encourage respect and consideration for others, irrespective of race, religion, disability, or gender. From September 2022 parents no longer have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from RVE education.

Collective Worship

All pupils are expected to take part in collective worship. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship.



Assessment

Your child will continually be assessed throughout their school life in all aspects of his/her development, personal, social and academic. Class teachers make assessments during normal classroom teaching situations and when marking children's work. From this, a variety of evidence is gathered about each child's progress and achievements in specific areas of learning.

The purpose of the assessment is to monitor progress, assess what each child has learnt and plan the next stage in his/her learning. Each child's language, mathematical and personal skills will be assessed during his or her first term in school. This assessment of the child's skills on entering school leads to a greater understanding of their abilities and needs. It enables teachers to plan appropriately for children's learning and to measure their progress in the first years of school.

Regular consultation meetings provide parents with up-to-date information relating to their child's progress.

Pupils in Year 2 to Year 6 will undertake online-personalised assessment in Reading and Numeracy, which contribute to teacher assessment.

Home Learning

We believe that home learning or homework is an opportunity for our children to consolidate and refine learning that has been taught in school. We recognise that 'home time' is an important part of 'family time' however home learning will assist in your child's progress. Completion of home learning will be encouraged and celebrated in school.



"We are lucky to have the chrome books because I love doing my work online."





Well-Being

Lles

The wellbeing of all children and staff at Durand Primary School is of utmost importance. As a school, we promote high levels of wellbeing and encourage children to have confidence, embrace new challenges and feel secure enough to take risks. We ensure all children display good attitudes to their learning, demonstrate high levels of engagement and sustain concentration on tasks. They are encouraged to develop the skills and ability to reflect upon their own learning and the learning of their peers. We expect all children and staff to show high levels of respect, care and concern for others.

The Belonging Curriculum at Durand Primary provides a wide variety of learning experiences which encourage children to communicate effectively, solve problems and develop their thinking skills. We are committed to igniting a passion for learning, creating the conditions to thrive, whilst growing together with the community.

Children are encouraged to continually express their views and opinions, which provides them with a real sense of belonging. Pupil voice is embedded in all aspects of school life and it influences the strategic direction of our school.

We recognise that children may face difficulties which can impact on their wellbeing. As a school, we work with parents and families to support children and fully believe in the importance of working as a team.

As a school we strive to develop community cohesion. We have an understanding that everyone is working towards equality of opportunity providing all children with a sense of belonging and similar life chances, regardless of their backgrounds. Through recognising and celebrating success, we encourage every child to view themselves as healthy, confident individuals.

ELSA

We are lucky enough to have access to a qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistant at Durand Primary who has been trained by Educational Psychologists to plan and deliver programmes of support to pupils who are experiencing temporary or longer term additional emotional needs. In ELSA we aim to provide support for a wide range of emotional needs including self-esteem; social/friendship skills; emotional awareness and regulation; and loss and bereavement.

'ELSA has made me so much calmer, telling people how I feel has helped and it's made me very happy.'

'ELSA has really helped me to get my worries out and it has made me feel more confident.'

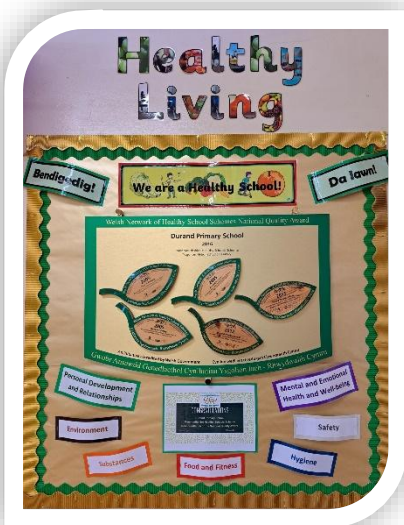
Two Year 6 pupils

Nurture

We have a designated Nurture room at Durand. Nurture provides a way of understanding and addressing the emotional and social development of all children. It offers interventions to meet the social and emotional needs of children at the developmental stage for their age. Children with gaps in their social and emotional development, can find it difficult to engage with academic learning. Nurture enables us to identify those gaps and to address them using relational strategies and arts-based activities. The Nurture room is based near the year 5 – 6 classrooms. It's a calm, and cosy room where individuals and small groups can spend time with a member of staff engaging in activities from an action plan.



Healthy Schools



We are very proud to be a Healthy School achieving all of our 'Healthy leaves' and being one of the first schools within Monmouthshire to have achieved the 'Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes National Quality Award' plus reaccreditation. The development of a healthy lifestyle is a high priority for our pupils and staff here at Durand primary school. Healthy eating is promoted through snack time, discussions about packed lunches, display boards and our excellent school meals.

The children are taught about healthy / unhealthy lifestyles through the school's Health and Well-being curriculum. Children may bring a healthy snack for their morning break. This can be a piece of fruit or cut up vegetables. Due to pupils with significant nut allergies we operate a **'No Nuts'** school policy.

Drinking water is available throughout the day with children encouraged to have a bottle of water in class with them. We have two water coolers that have been installed so that water is available to all pupils throughout the day. Free milk is offered to pupils in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2.

Breakfast Club

We open Breakfast Club every school morning at 8.00am. The cost is £2.00 per session and a place must be booked via Parent Pay. You can send your child for free between 8.30am – 8.45am, again this must be booked via Parent Pay. All bookings must be made by 3.00pm the previous school day.

Forest School

Our Forest School is an outdoor nature-based education process that is holistic and learner-led. It allows children to develop themselves through healthy engagement with risk, problem-solving and self-discovery, all within a natural environment in a hands-on and thoughtful manner.

Our children will attend forest school sessions every year in a 5-weekly block for an afternoon and in all weathers. On their fifth Forest School session they spend the whole day in the forest, this is our Fire day where they get to enjoy cooking on the fire.

The children learn to assess, appreciate and take risks, making sensible, informed decisions about how to tackle the activities and experiences they encounter. They're learning to be self-sufficient and take care of themselves, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Through trial and error, they learn to deal with failure and develop the resilience to keep trying, a vital skill in the classroom as well as outside.

Some of the activities that we offer in forest school are:

- Sensory walks
- Tool work
- Shelter building
- Knots
- Mini beast hunts
- Tree climbing
- Campfire cooking
- Woodwork
- Nature art
- Games like Hide and Seek
- Fire building and lighting
- Puddle and mud jumping



We introduce the use of tools in year 5 and 6. The most common tools we use in forest school are knives, bow saw, loppers, bill hook and an axe.

We demonstrate how to use them safely; we talk about what could happen if we didn't use them in a correct manner. We then observe closely and guide them as they learn to use them themselves. We gently correct if we see a potential danger and assist where required but we do take a step back and let them figure it out in a safe space.

The children's safety is paramount during forest school sessions. All leaders have a Level 3 Forest School qualification, which covers essential safety training and risk assessment.



'Fire Day is my favourite part of forest school. I love toasting marshmallows on the fire and getting to have hot chocolate and bacon sandwiches. We get to climb trees and that makes me feel really brave. I really enjoy that we have the freedom to choose our own activities, by best one is building dens.'

Year 5 pupil

Sensory room

At Durand we have prioritised the development of our sensory room, promoting relaxation, reducing anxiety, enhancing focus, and supporting emotional regulation for individuals of all ages, particularly those with sensory processing difficulties. It provides a controlled environment where individuals can explore and interact with various sensory stimuli, fostering development of both motor and social skills. The sensory room is available to all pupils who need the space.

'I love everything about the sensory room, the spinning chair and the eggs are my favourite!'

Year 2 pupil



Extra-Curricular Activities

We offer a range of extra-curricular activities. Some clubs are age specific and will be limited to maximum numbers for health and safety reasons.

Please note these activities must not be relied upon for childcare as they are run by staff and may be cancelled.

Sporting Activities and Events

As a school we have a great sporting tradition. In the past we have had very successful football, netball, rugby, cricket, gymnastic and swimming teams who take part in competitive events both locally and within the wider region. We aim to offer a wide range of sports to our pupils to enable them to have as many experiences as possible whilst they are with us.

Swimming

All the children from Year 3 up to Year 6 have swimming lessons as part of our physical education curriculum and attend Caldicot Leisure centre weekly for half a term or a term each academic year depending on which year group they are in.

Pupil Voice

In our school we believe in giving children as many opportunities as we can to take responsibilities, to lead and to act as role models to others across the school. We encourage all pupils to be actively involved in making both class and whole school decisions. We have six main groups that act as Pupil Voice leadership groups, with Year 6 pupils heading up each group. Positions on our Pupil Voice groups are highly sought after, and badges are worn with pride.

Our School Pupil Voice Groups are:

- School Council
- Sport Ambassadors
- Wellbeing Warriors
- Eco Committee
- Healthy School Team
- Language Leaders

We also have Year 6 pupils who take on the roles of House Captain and House Vice-Captain for our four school 'houses' – Monnow (Yellow), Severn (Green), Usk (Red) and Wye (Blue).

By engaging in effective pupil participation, we enable our pupils to develop the skills needed for life-long learning.

'I love that Durand has opportunities to be a House Captain and on the School Council.'





Equality

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Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

At Durand Primary School we recognise that pupils learn at different rates and have different needs. Some pupils have barriers to learning meaning their needs are additional to and different from their peers and require particular action by the school. We believe that all pupils, including those with Additional Learning Needs have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum which is accessible to them, and to be fully included in all aspects of school life.

We aim to identify ALN as they arise. Under the supervision of the Headteacher and the ALNCo, pupils identified as having ALN will have achievable targets set which will be reviewed regularly by the class teacher and shared with parents. Teaching staff carefully monitor the development of pupils in their care and take steps to ensure that pupils with additional learning needs are given every opportunity to make educational progress. Children with such needs are sometimes supported by a teaching assistant in class or may be withdrawn from class to take part in an intervention programme.

The school may involve outside agencies to assist with the appropriate assessment of pupils' needs and in developing programmes of support for those pupils such as Educational Psychologists, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists etc. In some cases, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be put in place to support the pupil with their learning.

Durand Primary aims to provide an inclusive and equitable system where the needs of all learners are met. The aim is to develop successful, independent, and resilient learners able to thrive in the 21st century.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding and well-being of all our pupils is of paramount importance to us. All staff who work at Durand Primary School have had safeguarding training that equips them to recognise and respond to child welfare concerns. Any concerns are passed to the Designated Person for Safeguarding who follows strict guidelines, laid down in law, as to how to deal with any issues raised.

The designated person is Mrs Hannah Kilbourn, Headteacher

The deputy designated persons are Mrs Katie Gordon, Acting Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Juliet Dunn, Inclusion Manager and Mr Will Marangon, Professional Learning Manager.

Children Looked After (CLA)

We work in partnership with Monmouthshire County Council and other Local authorities who act as corporate parents for Children Looked After. We have a duty to safeguard and promote the education of Children Looked After. We aim to provide a safe and secure environment, where there is a belief in the abilities and potential of all children, including those who are looked after. We support our Looked After Children and give them equal access to every opportunity to achieve their potential and to enjoy learning.

Equality for All

At Durand Primary School we are committed towards working towards equality for all regardless of age, race, disability, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and to the creation of an inclusive culture in which every individual, regardless of ability and background is enabled to participate and is valued as a member of our school community. We promote positive approaches to difference and foster respect for people of all cultural backgrounds.

Anti-Racism

Durand Primary School is an anti-racist school and we are committed to addressing racism in any form. We aim to work with our children and community to be actively anti-racist as we do not believe that not being racist is enough. Racism, in any form, is not tolerated at our school. All pupils and staff have the right to be treated with respect and to feel safe, regardless of their ethnic background or identity. If a racist incident occurs it will be thoroughly investigated and dealt with. Help and support will be provided to all involved. Our Belonging Curriculum is developing as an anti-racist curriculum so that we are actively learning and teaching to decolonise our curriculum, be culturally competent and disrupt cycles of inequality.



*"I like using the tools"
Reception pupil.*

"Our teachers always help us when we are stuck"

Year 5 pupil.





Health and Safety

Iechyd a Diogelwch

School Security

The security of pupils and staff is paramount. All external gates are locked from 9.05am to 3.05pm. Anyone requiring access to the school site during the day will need to enter through the visitor's car park and proceed to the buzzer entry gate at the end of the fenced pathway. A member of staff will electronically open the gate once identity has been verified. Visitors are requested to report to the office on entry into school site to sign in. A door security system operates in the main office area.



Fire Drills

These are carried out on a regular basis so that children know what is expected of them in the case of an emergency.



Toilet facilities

We have toilet facilities for both boys and girls in all areas of the school. In addition, there are disabled toilet facilities within our Nursery and within the main school building. All our facilities are fitted with wash hand basins, hand wash foam/soap and hand dryers. All toilets are cleaned daily by our cleaners.

Health Matters

We have a close working relationship with our designated School Health Nurse who is available for parents to contact if you have any concerns about your child.

Medication

If your child is well enough for school, but requires medication, then we ask parents/carers to arrange the administration of medicines around the school day. If this is not possible, then we ask the parent to come to the school to administer the dosage. If the parent is unable to come to the school but medication is essential an adult delegated by the parent should attend to administer. Parents or carers of children who require asthma inhalers should provide a labelled inhaler with written instructions of how to administer in an attack. This also applies for Epi-pens. A medical form will need to be completed by parents.

Accidents and Illnesses

If your child complains of feeling unwell or meets with an accident, our hope will be to contact you. We ask parents to give details on a form provided of addresses and telephone numbers which may be used in these circumstances. Please let us know if your information changes during the year. Mobile telephone numbers change frequently, and it is vital that we have the most recent number. When contact cannot be made at home or with representatives, the child will have to remain in school until contact can be made. Serious illness and accidents will be dealt with by contacting the emergency services.



Admission to School

Derbyn i'r Ysgol

Admissions

Starting Primary School is one of the most important events in a child's life. Children start school in Reception class at the start of the academic year in which they reach their fifth birthday.

Admissions to Durand Primary School are arranged by Monmouthshire County Council in line with their admission policy. If you wish to apply for a place at any Monmouthshire Primary School applications are made online through the Monmouthshire County Council website. If you wish to speak to someone in relation to admissions, you can contact Monmouthshire County Council's School and Student Access Unit on 01633 644644.

Prior to application parents are welcome to visit and view our school at a mutually convenient time.

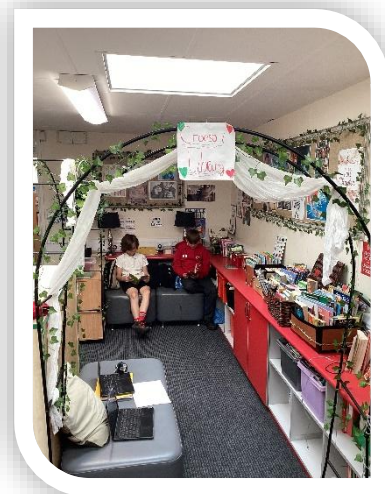
Transferring between Schools

If you decide to move your child/children between schools during the academic year you will need to apply for your preferred school by contacting Monmouthshire County Council's School and Student Access Unit on 01633 644644.

Transition

At the end of the summer term each year our Year 6 pupils transfer to Caldicot Secondary School unless parents, carers or guardians have applied for their children to receive Secondary School education in another school. Applications are made online during the Autumn term by visiting www.monmouthshire.gov.uk

Caldicot School works closely with us to ensure a smooth, happy transition from primary to secondary. The children have a range of transition experiences which include Virtual meetings via Teams, Virtual subject lessons, an actual day visit to Caldicot school, evening visits with parents' carers plus other activities.





Home School Agreement

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The staff and Governors of Durand Primary School believe that a strong partnership between school and parents is essential in the best interests of every child. We expect all parents to support the home school agreement. Any parent who expresses a wish to be excluded for this initiative must indicate this in writing to the Head teacher and Chair of the Governing Body.

School Responsibilities:

- To provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment for pupils.
- To provide a challenging teaching and learning environment for pupils to reach their full potential and beyond.
- To keep parents informed of progress through regular letters, meetings and reports.
- To inform parents of learning and behavioural problems.
- To encourage pupils to have respect for others and their surroundings.
- To encourage parents to discuss concerns and participate in school life.
- To keep parents informed of school performance.

Family Responsibilities:

- To ensure regular and prompt attendance.
- To ensure that the child is properly equipped for learning.
- To inform the school of medical or special circumstances which may affect the child.
- To support the school's behaviour policy and ethos.
- To encourage the child by talking and listening with the child about school.
- To support the child with reading and homework and ensure that it is returned within the timescale.
- To attend relevant meetings in relation to pupil progress.

Pupil Responsibilities:

- Be kind and caring to one another.
- Be friendly, polite and use good manners to everyone.
- Respect our school environment.
- Always be honest and truthful.



We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Durand Primary School to learn and achieve together.