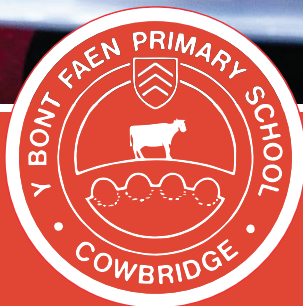
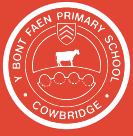


Y BONT FAEN PRIMARY SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2024



Inspire to learn
Ysbrydolwn i ddysgu

Inspire for life
Ysbrydolwn am oes



Inspire to learn

Welcome! Croeso!

Y Bont Faen Primary sits within the heart of Cowbridge and its community and is within the catchment area for secondary education at Cowbridge School.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum in a happy, safe and secure environment where your children can thrive in their learning and acquisition of skills, enabling them to build on these in their future lives.

Every child is valued and encouraged to reach their potential to develop into enquiring, independent and informed individuals.

Following our recent and highly positive Estyn inspection, I feel proud and privileged to work with such a committed and dedicated staff and your amazing children.

I hope you enjoy browsing our prospectus and if you require any further information or would like to visit, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Julia Adams, Headteacher



Inspired learning



Y Bont Faen Primary School provides an excellent quality English-medium education for children from Nursery to Year 6.

Well-established in the heart of the Cowbridge community, your child will benefit from a nurturing and supportive environment where pupils feel happy, valued and safe.

In 2023, Estyn recognised that our bespoke education programme excels in developing strong creativity skills and fosters independent, resilient and confident young learners.

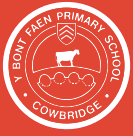
Our Inspire Curriculum promotes and develops pupils' thinking skills allowing them to make decisions, organise their learning and contribute effectively.

Through our high quality learning experiences, every child develops the skills and knowledge needed for a successful future.

At Y Bont Faen we work together to reach our full potential to become caring and confident life-long learners.

"All teachers have high expectations of their pupils. Together with support staff, they build strong and respectful working relationships."

- 2023 Estyn report



Inspire to learn

"Staff create warm and nurturing working relationships with pupils. As a result, all pupils feel safe and valued."

- 2023 Estyn report

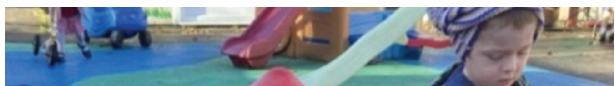


Big steps





“Staff create a welcoming, inclusive community where pupils relish learning.”
- 2023 Estyn report



Our large open-plan Nursery and Reception areas are the perfect introduction to school life for your little ones. Nursery is a nurturing, playful and caring environment run by our very experienced Early Years team.

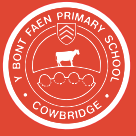
Children relish the challenge of learning through our purposeful, creative and imaginative curriculum, using techniques such as mark making and sensory play which capture and harness the most active of imaginations.

Not only do we have plenty of room for learning and play indoors, but we also have fantastic dedicated outdoor spaces to be enjoyed by the busiest of hands and minds.

Outside, the children love their own large, secure play area and also benefit from the rest of our extensive grounds, including our fabulous Forest School and outdoor classroom.

They may be the youngest, but they are still very much valued members of our school community, joining in whole school events, performing in Christmas plays and taking part in charity coffee mornings as well as enjoying the annual sports day.

We are extremely proud of our Early Years units and recognise that it is here where our children begin to develop a strong foundation of skills and knowledge, build their independence and, of course, make lifelong friendships.



Inspire to learn

Our curriculum

Our Y Bont Faen Inspire Curriculum is designed to equip children with a strong foundation of skills, knowledge and attributes that are relevant and meaningful to children's lives now and in their futures, following the four purposes of the New Curriculum for Wales: producing *Ambitious, Capable Learners*; *Healthy, Confident Individuals*; *Enterprising, Creative Contributors*; and *Ethical, Informed Citizens*.

Our curriculum is delivered through an inquiry-led learning model, using a wide variety of learning experiences to develop children's curiosity and critical thinking skills. Our aim is that children will leave our school as independent learners with the ability to direct their own learning, with good collaboration skills and self-belief, as well as a sense of social responsibility and an understanding of the wider world.



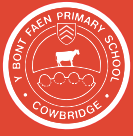


ALN

At Y Bont Faen, we believe that every pupil is entitled to the full range of curricular opportunities. A whole-school approach has been adopted in providing for all children who experience special educational needs at any time during their Primary years.

A child identified by the class teacher as needing extra help will have classwork differentiated as appropriate to their need. Where a child should continue to experience difficulty, the advice of the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) will be sought and, if necessary, an individual programme of work will be devised with input from parents, the child and their class teacher. If the child continues to experience difficulties, outside agencies may be consulted.

In addition to academic support, some of our staff are trained as Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs). The ELSA programme acknowledges that children and young people learn best when they feel happier, and any emotional needs are being addressed. Our trained staff help children learn to understand their emotions and respect the feelings of those around them. They can also support learners through difficulties such



Inspire to learn

Helping hands

Our older pupils love getting to know the youngest in our school to make them feel welcome and included in all aspects of Y Bont Faen life.

The older years regularly enjoy reading to our younger children or helping out on walks around our fabulous grounds. We feel these inter-year friendships are vital to creating a safe, happy, caring and nurturing school community.



“Throughout the school, staff consider pupils’ individual needs carefully and provide effective support.”

- 2023 Estyn report

Stay, play and learn



Starting school is not just a big step for your little one, it is a major change for parents and caregivers too. We understand how difficult it is to juggle the new routine of school alongside work, home life and other commitments. For this reason we are proud to offer a range of extra childcare options.

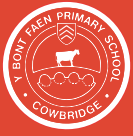
For Nursery pupils, there is our extremely popular Y Bont Faen Childcare Wraparound service so your child can stay in school all day until 3pm (at a cost or using childcare vouchers). This scheme limits any disruption for your child, ensuring your little one can continue on their learning journey whilst staying with their friends and teachers in a familiar environment.

We also have a Simply Out of School provision for all years so pupils can stay in school until 5:45pm (at an additional cost).

Plus we operate a daily Breakfast Club for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6 from 7:50am. This is free of charge and ensures all attendees have a full stomach ready for the exciting day ahead.

We are also covered by the Welsh Government's free school lunches scheme which is available from Reception to Year 6. Menus are changed weekly and feature a wide selection of hot and cold options catering for all tastes and allergies. Lunch choices are booked in advance online and freshly cooked in our 5* hygiene-rated kitchen.





Inspire to learn

At the heart of the community

Y Bont Faen Primary School has been at the heart of Cowbridge for more than a hundred years. Understandably we are proud to have developed incredibly strong partnerships with our fabulous community over this time.

Our children take an active part in local festivals which showcase our town, such as having our own float in the first Cowbridge Pride Parade in 2023, plus our entrepreneurial RotaKids working closely with Cowbridge Rotary to organise community events.

All our pupils benefit from taking part in regular experiences such as trips to the fire station, meeting with the local police, and trips to Cowbridge Museum. We also visit care homes, businesses and even universities to find out about the wider world outside of school.



“Teachers plan purposeful learning experiences linked to the local community, such as evaluating the accessibility of the town.”

- 2023 Estyn report





PTA

We are very lucky to have an extremely active and imaginative Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Our PTA volunteers work hard throughout the year, raising funds to provide resources that benefit all pupils and promote togetherness.

From the annual and much-loved duck race and cooking pizza in our outdoor cob oven, to Christmas fayres, Halloween discos, animal encounter days and a monthly lottery, our school wouldn't be the fabulous place it is without our generous PTA.



"They use the funding raised by the school's active parent teacher association and the time of volunteers to enrich the curriculum for all pupils."

- 2023 Estyn report



Strong partnerships

It is not just outside of the school walls that our pupils develop and benefit from strong partnerships. Years 3 to 6 have their own council groups who meet regularly to have their say on all aspects of school life.

Promoting an active pupil voice, your child could be a member of the Rights Council, Eco Council, Digital Council, Healthy Schools Council, Criw Cymraeg (which promotes the use of the Welsh





Inspire to learn



Open doors

We firmly believe that good communication with our families is vital. We therefore make it a priority to communicate with you regularly and always operate an open door policy should you have any questions or concerns.

Parents of younger children receive daily photos via secure purpose-built apps so you can follow their fun learning journey. We hold parent consultations and sharing days throughout the year where you can talk to teachers, see your child's classroom and have a look at their school books. Every week we issue newsletters detailing what your child has been learning in class and any particular topics they have covered. We also send out a weekly school newsletter which has upcoming dates for your diary.

Our teachers are also always available for an informal chat at the classroom door at the end of the day.

Healthy eating



Following the Welsh Government's guidelines, we encourage the importance of healthy eating from a young age. Therefore, in addition to bringing their own healthy snack, Reception to Year 6 pupils also have the option of paying weekly to choose from our fruit tuck shop at break times.

Nursery pupils also receive a variety of fruit and vegetables, often helping to prepare their healthy snacks themselves.

Creative hands, creative minds

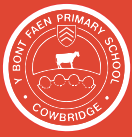
Creativity is a big part of Y Bont Faen life and we are proud that our bespoke Inspire Curriculum was identified by Estyn as being exemplary. As described in their report, your child will be “provided with extensive opportunities to be innovative, find solutions and use their imagination.”

We will help your child develop and implement their creative thinking by exploring a varied spectrum of the arts from performance and visual arts to hands-on painting and crafts using a vast range of materials and techniques.



“Notably pupils develop strong creative skills to produce imaginative work.”

– 2023 Estyn report



Inspire to learn

"Pupils feel safe and listened to and know how to seek advice when needed."
- 2023 Estyn report



After-school clubs

We provide a wide range of after-school clubs from Year 1. Examples include Games Skills, Code, Choir, Art, Drama and Dance clubs. The topics change from term to term and all clubs are free of charge.

An external provider also runs a successful after school club on the school premises daily from 3pm to 5:45pm (subject to an additional cost).



Fun events for all the family

Many events and activities are held on our grounds throughout the year, ranging from family pizza events to guest storytelling sessions and end-of-term parties with bouncy castles.

Another outdoor favourite is our annual sports day which is a whole school event much loved by pupils, staff and parents alike.

Our great outdoors



"The outdoor learning environment is used exceptionally well to provide a wide range of learning experiences that link to the planned curriculum."

- 2023 Estyn report

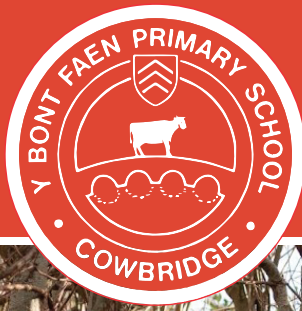
Getting outdoors is an important part of everyday life at Y Bont Faen Primary School. Your child will enjoy playing with their friends and engaging in numerous outdoor activities in our extensive grounds. Uniquely for a primary care setting, our site has a 400m all-weather surface running track, a hilly mountain bike track and an all-purpose sports pitch.

With so much pressure placed on youngsters from an early age, the benefits of being outside in the fresh air are well documented. And with the Welsh Government keen to see more in existence, we feel we are leading the way with our fabulous Forest School and outdoor classroom.

Our Forest School sees pupils immersed in nature in our conservation area. Here they can build dens, learn about the nature all around them, tend to our garden, grow and harvest vegetables from our polytunnel and produce chutney from fruit they have picked from our many diverse trees!

Your child will benefit from daily outdoor learning activities, PE sessions and playtimes which all add to enrich and enliven the curriculum taught in the classroom. Our pupils develop a considerable and conscious interest in our local and world environment, exemplified by our Eco Council and Environment Club.





Y Bont Faen Primary School, Borough Close, Cowbridge, CF71 7BN



01446 772374



ybontfaenps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



<https://ybontfaen.school/>



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