The image shows the exterior of the Ebbw Fawr Learning Community building. The building is a modern, multi-story structure with a mix of grey brickwork and large glass windows. The central entrance area has a sign that reads "EBBW FAWR LEARNING COMMUNITY" and "CYMUNED DDYSGU EBWY FAWR". In the foreground, there are cherry blossom branches with white flowers, and a paved area with yellow markings that say "SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR".

**Ebbw Fawr  
Learning Community  
Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr**

**Year 7 Prospectus  
Prosbectws Blwyddyn 7**



# Our Learning Community



## Welcome from the Headteacher Croeso o'r Prifathro

### Dear Parents and Carers Annwyl Rieni a Gofalwyr

I feel proud and privileged to be the Headteacher of Ebbw Fawr Learning Community; an award winning 3-16 campus with state of the art facilities providing a truly modern and inspirational learning environment for your children.

At every point from Nursery to Primary, from Primary to Secondary and from Secondary to the Learning Zone we will provide the best possible education, care and support for your child. Your child will be known and valued; this knowledge will travel with them as they grow. Thereby ensuring that they reach their full potential as independent learners equipped with the broad range of skills they need to lead successful lives in an ever changing world.

This prospectus aims to provide you with a flavour of our unique Learning Community, its ethos and values. We look forward to your child joining the school, if you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact us.



Melanie Thomas  
Headteacher – Prifathrawes

Learning to Achieve Together  
Dysgu I gyflawni gyda'n gilydd



# Ebbw Fawr 3-16 Learning Community - Cymuned Ddysgu 3-16 Ebwy Fawr

## Learning to Achieve Together

### Dysgu I gyflawni gyda'n gilydd

#### Whole School Vision: Gweledigaeth Ysgol Gyfan

##### Our learners – Ein dysgwyr

We strive to go the extra mile to ensure all learners feel safe, valued and happy in a caring and nurturing learning environment .

We are committed to developing ambitious, ethical, creative and healthy learners who are inspired to achieve excellence and fulfil their dreams.

We encourage all children to take responsibility for their own learning.

We encourage all learners to play an active role in our diverse community as educated, respectful, bilingual and confident individuals.

##### Our staff – Ein Staff

We are one body of 3-16 staff and believe that all staff are important in creating a successful learning community.

We are a dedicated, positive and highly supportive staff who are passionate and ambitious about our school and community.

Professional learning for all is at the heart of all that we do and ensures we strive to create a culture of continuing self-improvement to best meet the needs of all learners.

Staff take a pride in providing rich, meaningful and authentic learning experiences which ensures equity for all.

##### Our community – Ein cymuned

We believe that all learners should have a strong sense of who they are and a knowledge and love for their cynefin and country.

Our community is made up of learners, teachers, support staff, parents, carers, governors and wider stakeholders who strive to go the extra mile.

Our school is a positive, innovative and kind community where everyone feels welcome.

Our three key words and eight wider values are our basis for nurturing a safe and respectful learning community.

##### Our Cluster – Ein clwstr

Ebbw Fawr cluster believes that preparing our learners to be successful citizens of Cymru and the wider world is the responsibility of all our schools. Our learners all progress to Ebbw Fawr Secondary Phase and we will strive to work together so that they all learn within a common framework named locally as Cwricwlwm Enfys Glyn Ebwy. We believe that we have a responsibility to promote high aspirations and a determination to achieve so that our young people are prepared to learn throughout their lives and be successful in the communities they serve.

## The Ebbw Fawr Way

READY	Barod
RESPECTFUL	Parchus
SAFE	Diogel

## Learning To Achieve Together

### AMBITION

We have high ambitions

### POSITIVITY

We have a positive attitude

### RESPECT

We respect every member of our community

### RELATIONSHIPS

We form strong relationships with others

### PRIDE

We have pride in our local and wider community

### KINDNESS

We show kindness to others in our community

### TRUST

We trust others and we do the right thing at all times

### EXTRA MILE

We go above and beyond in everything we do



## Leadership Team Uwch

## Tîm Arweinyddiaeth

Mrs Melanie Thomas	Headteacher 3-16
Dr Scott Reasons	Acting Head of School Secondary
Mrs Marie Anderson	Business Manager
Mr Owen Mullins	Assistant Head Transition & Yr 7 / 8
Miss Hannah Webley	Associate Assistant Head Yr 9 / 10 / 11
Dr Beverley Timothy-Webber	Assistant Head Teaching & Learning
Mrs Carys Llewellyn	Head of School Primary
Miss Erica O'Connell	Assistant Head of School Primary



## Full Governing Body 2024/2025

## Corff Llywodraethol Llawn

### Community Governors

Mr Richard Barrett – Chair  
 Mr Rod Davies  
 Mr Darryl Tovey  
 Mr Mike Davies  
 Ms Nancy Keshy  
 Mr Clive Meredith  
 Mr G Humphreys

### Parent Governors

Mrs Joanna Evans  
 Mrs Ioana Mulligan  
 Mrs Sophie Dobbs  
 Mrs Emma Eades  
 Mrs Sophie Hodson  
 Mrs Sallie Jones

### Associate Governor

Mr Jon Mower

### LEA Governors

Cllr David Davies  
 Mrs Joanna Davies  
 Cllr George Humphreys

### Teacher Governors

Ms Vanessa Roberts  
 Miss Sarah Ford

### Staff

Vacancy

### Headteacher

Mrs Melanie Thomas

### Contact details for Chair of Governors:

c/o Chair of Governors, Ebbw Fawr Learning Community,  
 Lime Avenue, Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent NP23 6GL  
 Email: [contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk)







## Ebbw Fawr Learning Community

### Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr

## Term and Holiday Dates 2024/2025

### Dyddiadau Tymor a Gwyliau

#### **Autumn Term 2024 – Tymor 2024**

Friday 2 September 2024 – Friday 25 October 2024

#### **Half Term - 28 October - 1 November**

#### **Autumn Term 2024 – Tymor 2024**

Monday 4 November 2024 – Friday 20 December 2024

#### **Christmas - 23 December - 3 January**

#### **Spring Term 2025 – Tymor 2025**

Monday 6 January 2025 – Friday 21 February 2025

#### **Half Term - 24 February - 28 February**

#### **Spring Term 2025 - Tymor 2025**

Monday 3 March 2025 – Friday 11 April 2025

#### **Easter Holidays - 14 April - 25 April**

#### **Summer Term 2025 - Tymor 2025**

Monday 5 May 2025 – Friday 23 May 2025

#### **Half Term - 26 May - 30 May**

#### **Summer Term 2025 - Tymor 2025**

Monday 2 June 2025 – Monday 21 July 2025

#### **Inset Days**

Friday 2 September 2024

Friday 25 October 2024

Friday 20 December 2024

Monday 24 March 2025

Friday 23 May 2025

Monday 21 July 2025







## Timings of the day Amserau'r Diwrnod

### Primary Phase Cyfnod Cynradd Key Stage 2 Cyfnod Allweddol 2

Foundation Phase	
Breakfast club Latest arrival time for club is 8.20am	8.20 - 8.40
Bell rings	8.55
<b>Registration</b>	<b>9.00 - 9.10</b>
Morning session 1	9.10 - 10.45
<b>Break</b>	<b>10.45 - 11.00</b>
Morning session 2	11.00 - 12.00
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12.00 - 1.00</b>
Afternoon session	1.00 - 3.15
<b>End of the day</b>	<b>3.15</b>

Key Stage 2	
Breakfast club	8.20 - 8.40
Bell rings	8.55
<b>Registration</b>	<b>9.00 - 9.10</b>
Morning session 1	9.10 - 10.45
<b>Break</b>	<b>10.45 - 11.00</b>
Morning session 2	11.00 - 12.10
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12.10 - 1.00</b>
Afternoon session	1.00 - 3.20
<b>End of the day</b>	<b>3.20</b>

### Secondary Phase Cyfnod Uwchradd

Year 7	
<b>Breakfast Club</b>	<b>8.20 - 8.35</b>
<b>Registration/ Assembly</b>	<b>8.45 - 9.05</b>
<b>Period 1</b>	<b>9.05 - 10.05</b>
<b>Period 2</b>	<b>10.05 - 11.05</b>
<b>Break</b>	<b>11.05 - 11.20</b>
<b>Period 3</b>	<b>11.20 - 12.20</b>
<b>Period 4</b>	<b>12.20 - 12.50</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12.50 - 1.20</b>
<b>Period 4</b>	<b>1.20 - 1.55</b>
<b>Period 5</b>	<b>1.55 - 2.55</b>
<b>End of day</b>	<b>2.55</b>

Year 8/9	
<b>Breakfast Club</b>	<b>8.20 - 8.35</b>
<b>Registration/ Assembly</b>	<b>8.45 - 9.05</b>
<b>Period 1</b>	<b>9.05 - 10.05</b>
<b>Break</b>	<b>10.05 - 10.20</b>
<b>Period 2</b>	<b>10.20 - 11.20</b>
<b>Period 3</b>	<b>11.20 - 12.20</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12.20 - 12.50</b>
<b>Period 4</b>	<b>12.50 - 1.55</b>
<b>Period 5</b>	<b>1.55 - 2.55</b>
<b>End of day</b>	<b>2.55</b>

Year 10/11	
<b>Breakfast Club</b>	<b>8.20 - 8.35</b>
<b>Registration/ Assembly</b>	<b>8.45 - 9.05</b>
<b>Period 1</b>	<b>9.05 - 10.05</b>
<b>Period 2</b>	<b>10.05 - 11.05</b>
<b>Break</b>	<b>11.05 - 11.20</b>
<b>Period 3</b>	<b>11.20 - 12.20</b>
<b>Period 4</b>	<b>12.20 - 1.20</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>1.20 - 1.55</b>
<b>Period 5</b>	<b>1.55 - 2.55</b>
<b>End of day</b>	<b>2.55</b>

### Tutorial Time Amser Tiwtora

Ebbw Fawr's day includes 20 minutes tutorial time which is primarily used for assemblies and RSE. Ebbw Fawr is obliged to deliver a daily act of collective worship. If you have any concerns about this, on religious grounds, then please contact your child's tutor. Assemblies include the Learning Community's themes which are delivered by members of the Leadership Team, class assemblies delivered by students and celebration assemblies delivered by the Headteacher or other senior staff.



# Our Learning Community



## General Compulsory Uniform    Gwisg Gorfodol Gyffredinol

Please ensure that student clothing is clearly labelled

Year 7 – 11 Girls	Years 7 – 11 Boys
Purple blazer with logo	Purple blazer with logo
Plain black tailored trousers (no cling-style trousers/ leggings/combats/chinos/jeans/denim) or black knee length skirt	Plain black tailored trousers (no combats/chinos/jeans/denim)
Learning Community tie	Learning Community tie
White long/short sleeved shirt or white fitted/tailored blouse (not a polo shirt)	White long/short sleeved shirt (not a polo shirt)
If worn, belts must be black and plain	If worn, belts must be black and plain
Plain white or black socks or plain black tights	Plain white or black socks
Traditional plain black shoes (no logos/no trainers/no boots)	Traditional plain black shoes (no logos/no trainers)
Book/bag/rucksack - to safely carry school issued Chromebooks	Book bag/rucksack - to safely carry school issued Chromebooks
Optional for Boys and Girls Black / purple V neck jumper Outdoor coat or waterproof reversible fleece (NOT to be worn indoors)	

## Physical Education Kit & Equipment

Gwisg ac Offer Addysg Gorfforol

Girls' PE Kit	Boys' PE Kit
Black PE shorts or leggings	Black PE shorts
Purple sports top	Purple sports top
Trainers or appropriate boots	Trainers or appropriate boots
One piece swimsuit	Fitted swim shorts
Optional tracksuit top	Optional tracksuit top







## Uniform Policy Polisi Gwisg Ysgol

Our students take pride in their uniform and appearance and visitors always comment on how smart they look.

Our agreed policy is as follows:

- Coats are stored in bags
- Hoodies are not allowed
- Only one pair of stud earrings should be worn (No facial piercings are allowed including transparent nose studs)
- Hair colour and style is natural and not extreme
- Tailored trousers to be worn (Leggings & Jeans are not allowed)
- Skirts of appropriate length
- Plain black shoes (not trainers or Dr Marten boots)

Where students have a cultural or religious issue regarding certain items of clothing, jewellery or other items, it should be placed in writing to the Headteacher with supporting evidence.

Please note that where students do not comply with our uniform expectations, action will be taken through our sanction process and this may include being sent home to change or amend any non-uniform or associated issues, or being provided with the correct uniform from our uniform bank.

## School Clothing Grant Grant/efsm Dillad Ysgol

A Clothing Grant is available to assist families on low incomes with the purchase of school uniform for their children. To see if you are eligible for this please contact the Local Authority's Benefit Section on 01495 311556.

Alternatively, the school has a wide range of replenished and dry cleaned uniform free of charge.

Please contact us on [contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk) if you wish to receive any items.







## Attendance and Punctuality Presenoldeb a Phrydlondeb

Attendance at the Learning Community is a legal requirement and all parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that their children attend the Learning Community regularly and on time. Attendance is monitored carefully and interventions are put in place when the Learning Community's target is not being met.

Key points are:

- Tutors will monitor students' attendance weekly.
- Where progress is a concern, a team of staff including the Education Welfare Officer, the Head of Year, and Pastoral Managers will liaise with parents/carers.
- Parents/carers should contact the Learning Community daily about any absence.
- Holidays in term time are not authorised, however parents should continue to inform the school if they plan to take their child out of school during term time. Holidays will be recorded as "unauthorised absence".
- Medical appointments such as doctor/dentist visits should be made out of Learning Community time wherever possible.
- Where consultant/orthodontist appointments occur, students should only be absent for the appointment and not the whole day/session.
- Parents/carers will be contacted/invited in, to discuss any concerns regarding attendance and punctuality.
- Where progress continues to be a concern following intervention, more formal processes will be taken including:
  - \* Formal meeting with the Head of Year and Assistant Headteacher.
  - \* Learning Community Attendance Meeting with the Education Welfare Officer.
  - \* Fixed Penalty Notice issued.

We expect all students to arrive on time to lessons. As with attendance, where issues occur, interventions and sanctions are put in place, which are communicated to parents.

We are able to track students every lesson and can register them at any time of the day via our electronic registration system.

Full attendance is essential, wherever possible, to ensure that your child makes good progress. Research shows that children will not meet or exceed targets if their attendance is poor.

Every child should aim to achieve 100% attendance but, unless there is an unavoidable problem, 92% is the minimum. 92% attendance means that your child will miss no more than 1½ days in any half term.

Using our Callio System, parents will be updated termly on their child's attendance.



Our Attendance Target for 2024/2025 is **92%**



## Absence Absenoldeb

If your child is ill, please ring school (01495 354690) on the first day of absence and explain the problem and indicate a return date. If a member of staff does not answer the phone, please leave detail of absence on the voicemail.

Our staff will ring you if we don't know why your child is not in school. Please make sure that school has your current home and current mobile numbers. If we do not know why a student is absent, staff may visit your home to see what the reason for absence is. This is partly to make sure that you do not need any extra support.

Student Services will check Callio whether this is an authorised or unauthorised absence.

## Holidays Gwyliau

Parents should be aware that the Governing Body has adopted a policy which does not allow the Head of Secondary to authorise holidays in term time unless it can be shown that there are special or exceptional circumstances for requesting the leave of absence.

Please notify the school if you intend to take your child out of school for a holiday. This will always be recorded as an absence from school regardless of whether the absence is authorised or not.

## Medical Welfare Lles meddygol

Ebbw Fawr has qualified first aid cover for emergencies and accidents. However, our first aid staff are not qualified nurses. We work closely with a part-time Specialist Community Public Health Nurse who works on specific medical issues with identified students.

Where there is any medical illness or condition, parents/carers should consult their doctor as it is not our remit to diagnose or treat such conditions, other than following the stated medical advice from the practitioners involved.

It is important that parents/carers inform Student Services and the Tutor/Head of Year of any known medical conditions.





# Our Learning Community



## Safeguarding Diogelu Plant

Child abuse is a particularly sensitive issue and often involves, particularly for parents/carers, strong feelings and emotions. However, the Learning Community has a duty, in line with local authority guidance to act on any situation where abuse is suspected.

All Learning Community staff must report any such concerns to the Headteacher or designated teachers for Child Protection. The Learning Community will then follow local authority guidance for seeking advice, reporting or referring any such cases. This may involve contact with: parents/carers; social care team; police child protection team and other relevant professionals.

Parents/carers can seek advice from the Education Welfare Officer at the Learning Community or from the appropriate outside agency.

The Learning Community's designated child protection lead is Mrs A Champs. She can be contacted on 01495 369555 or [achamps@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:achamps@ebbwfawr.co.uk).

The Learning Community has stringent safeguarding processes in place for the employment and control of other adults on the premises.

All visitors must report to reception on arrival.

## Complaints Cwynion

Ebbw Fawr is committed to dealing effectively with complaints. We aim to clarify any issues about which you are not sure. If possible we will put right any mistakes we have made and we will apologise. We aim to learn from mistakes and use that experience to improve what we do.

If you are approaching us for the first time you should give us an opportunity to respond. If you are not happy with our response then you may make your complaint using our agreed policy which is available on request. Most concerns can be settled quickly just by speaking to the relevant person in the organisation without the need to use a formal procedure.

We believe that all complainants have a right to be heard, understood and respected. A copy of our Complaints Policy is available on the school website.

## Our commitment to you Ein Hymroddiad i chi

We will take your concerns and complaints seriously and, where we have made mistakes, will try to learn from them.

If you need help to make your concerns known we will try and assist you. If you are a young person and need extra assistance, the Welsh Government has established MEIC which is a national advocacy and advice helpline for children and young people. Advice and support can also be accessed from the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

MEIC may be contacted by freephone: 0808 802 3456, or text: 84001. This service is operated 24 hours a day. The Children's Commissioner for Wales can be contacted by freephone: 0808 801 1000 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm), text: 80800 (start your message with COM) or email: [advice@childcomwales.org.uk](mailto:advice@childcomwales.org.uk)





## Transport Trafnidiaeth

Transport arrangements are the responsibility of the local authority and they operate under the current policy shown below:

Under Welsh Government guidelines, councils have a statutory duty to provide free home to school transport for students who live more than three miles from their nearest suitable maintained secondary school. The guidance is that the distance should be measured using the shortest available safe walking route. However, Blaenau Gwent Council has a more generous policy than that set out in the Welsh Government guidelines. Blaenau Gwent Council provides free transport for secondary aged students who live more than two miles from their nearest suitable school. Therefore, the council assists with the provision of free transport for students who qualify under the policy.

If you wish to discuss this matter with Peter Butcher please contact him on telephone number 01495 355435 or by email: [peter.butcher@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:peter.butcher@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

## Travelling to and from the Learning Community Yn teithio i ac o'r Gymuned Ddysgu

Students are always representative of Ebbw Fawr Learning community. This includes journeys to and from school and time spent in the community.

We request that students treat members of the general public with the respect and good humour that is expected every second of the Learning Community day. We expect the very best behaviour on buses and in the community and that no litter is dropped.

Remember that the reputation of the Learning Community can be harmed by thoughtless or silly behaviour that may cause harm to people and property. The Learning Community will take action if this is the case.

## Cycles Beiciau

We have cycle racks available at school.

In the interest of both rider safety and the general public, we wish to emphasise the following:

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that a child's cycle is in safe roadworthy condition at all times. Parents/carers are strongly advised to ensure that their child wears appropriate and adequate protective clothing when cycling to and from Ebbw Fawr Learning Community (a British Standard approved helmet and reflective strips are recommended).

The Learning Community cannot accept responsibility for damage to or loss of cycles within the Learning Community grounds. All parents/carers are strongly advised to check they have appropriate insurance cover and provide a suitable security lock.







## Refreshments Lluniaeth

We operate a cashless catering system where food can be bought in the cafeteria using a 4 digit pin which is pre-paid. This will reduce queues at lunchtime and provide anonymous free meals to eligible students.

ipayImpact has been introduced to allow parents to pay online for school lunches, trips & visits. Individual login details will be provided to parents on admission.

Space is available for eating packed lunches. Food may not be consumed in classrooms or corridors or outside except in designated areas.

## Break and Lunchtime Amser Cinio ac Egwyl

All students are expected to remain on the Learning Community premises, including lunchtimes unless special permission has been given.



## Electronic Devices Dyfeisiau Electronig

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community suggests that students do not bring valuable items such as ear-buds and mobile phones to the Learning Community. However, should your child bring a device or phone then this must be turned off in lessons and in bags at all times.

Students have access to a telephone at Student Services should they need to contact home during the Learning Community day in an emergency. Parents needing to contact students in an emergency should do so via the Main Reception as opposed to contacting students on a mobile phone.

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community will not accept liability for any such item of equipment being lost or stolen on the school premises or during school trips.

Examination Boards will disqualify any student from all their examinations if they are found to have a mobile phone in their possession during an examination.

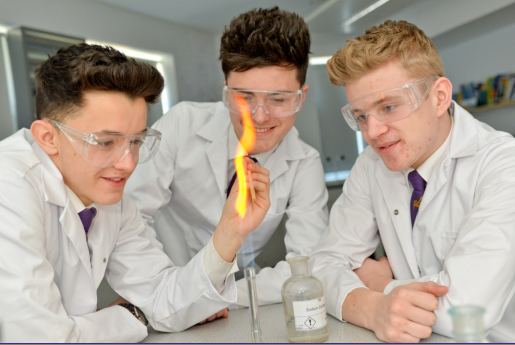
## Chromebooks Gliniaduron

As part of our drive to enhance the digital competency of our learners all students are provided with their own Chromebook device during their five years at Ebbw Fawr for use in class and at home.

This ensures that learners can easily access curriculum resources and carry out research when completing homework as well as having access to classwork if they are absent.

Each Chromebook will be accompanied by a charger and a durable case to protect the device. The learners are expected to charge the devices at home so do not need to bring the chargers to school. We understand that electricity prices have increased significantly recently but please be assured that the cost of charging a Chromebook amount to 3p/day.

To cover damage to equipment, we request a £5 payment to provide insurance for the device.



## Curriculum Structure Strwythur y Cwricwlwm

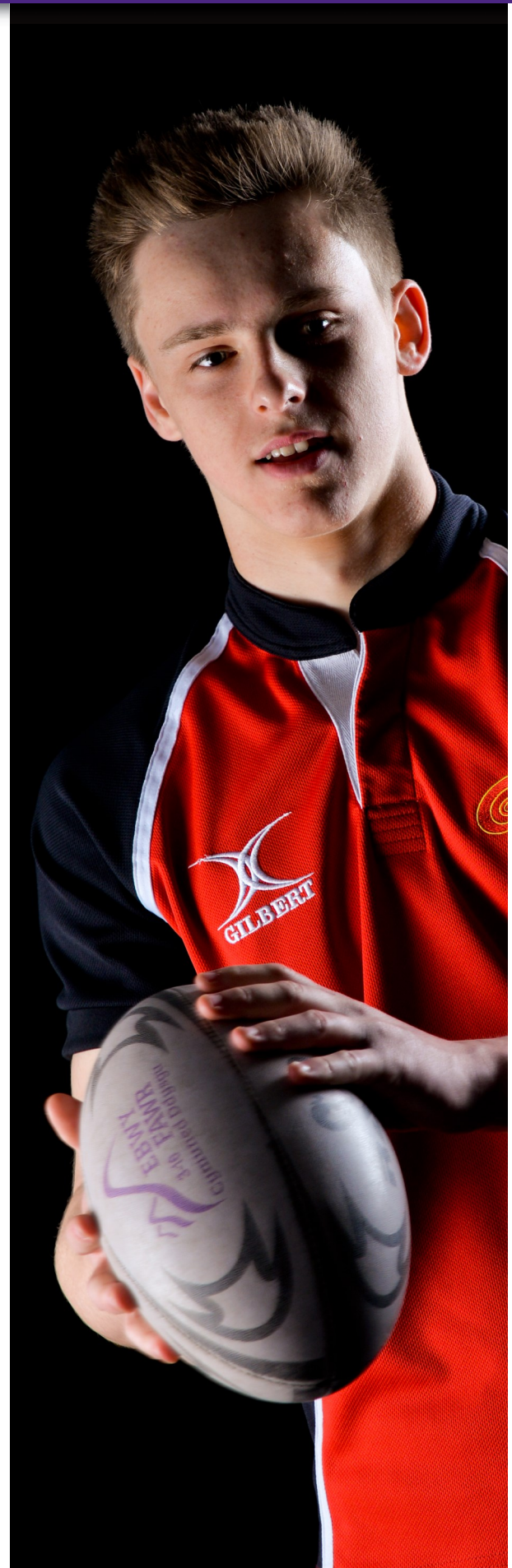
We aim to offer a range of experiences that will provide innovative and transformational opportunities for learning. The curriculum will develop students as independent, interdependent and confident learners.

All students are individuals and we are committed to ensuring that any and all barriers to learning are identified and removed, allowing every learner to reach their full potential.

Every effort will be made to ensure that no learner is left behind and equal emphasis will be placed on ensuring that all students including the more able, gifted and talented achieve to their full potential.

Our curriculum model will be based around both academic rigour and real life work based learning. The learning journey of each individual will be carefully constructed to suit the individual's preferred learning style and will involve the learner in planning that programme.

Students will be grouped in a variety of ways in order to best meet their individual needs. These will include: setting, banding and on occasions being taught as a form. We will pay particular attention to ensuring that children are taught appropriately for their ability and cater for their various needs by providing a range of different teaching approaches.







## Curriculum Cwricwlwm

Key Stage 3*	Key Stage 4 Common Core – all students study the following subjects	Guided Pathways: Students are able to follow a wide range of courses both vocational and academic which provide coherent pathways to post 16 education	
Art	English Language	Art & Design	Textiles & Fashion
Catering	English Literature	Catering & Hospitality	Sports Leadership
Drama	Mathematics	Construction	Workskills
DT - Product Design	Numeracy	Creative Digital Media	
English	Physical Education	Digital Technology	
Geography	PSE	Drama	
History	Religious Studies	Engineering	
Humanities Springboard +	Science (Single, Double or Triple)	French	
ICT	Welsh (Full Course)	Geography	
Maths		Health, Social Care & Childcare	
Modern Languages		History	
Music		Music	
Physical Education		Performing Arts	
Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)		Personal Growth and Wellbeing (PGW)	
Religion, Values & Ethics		Physical Education	
Science		Photography	
Textiles		Psychology	
Welsh		Sociology	

+ Nurture groups are taught combined Humanities to reduce their number of Teachers



## Student Ambassadors Llysgenhadon Myfyrrwyr

The role of Ambassadors in Year 11 is an important one and is a position of considerable responsibility. It provides opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and introduce new ideas into the Learning Community.

At our Learning Community, we recognise the potential in all of our learners, and as future leaders, we offer a range of opportunities and roles for students to become involved in leading others, influencing practice and helping to embed change.

We have a range of student leadership posts for students from year 7 – 11. Specific roles namely the Head boy and Head girl are targeted at specific groups.

## Student Senedd Senedd y Myfyrrwyr

Ebbw Fawr Senedd is the democratic forum for learners to actively engage with pupil voice and contribute to school improvement.

Our school Senedd prides itself on being inclusive, with representatives from all year groups and all equality groups. This allows an opportunity to reach out to the whole school to capture the wide views of learners for everyone to have their voice heard.

The Senedd Cabinet provides leadership and development opportunities to our students and the responsibility to make decisions which impacts on them.

The Senedd will play an integral role in our new Table Talk Tuesday where pupils can voice concerns and idea around a chosen theme. We value pupil voice at Ebbw Fawr and have made it our mission to ensure that we show we're listening by introducing our You Said, We Did initiative.

The Senedd Cabinet meets on a frequent basis to discuss current topics and issues and are always on hand to chat to students and list their opinions. If you would like to get involved, elections for Year 7 will begin in October.



## Wellbeing Lles

At Ebbw Fawr, we strive to ensure wellbeing is at the heart of our community. Having the wellbeing as a core value of our school not only improves morale and performance, but normalises conversations about health, whether physical or mental, enabling people to speak out sooner if they are struggling or worried about someone else. We recognise that, in the same way we all have fluctuating physical health needs, we all have mental health needs too.

Within Ebbw Fawr Learning Community there are a wide range of wellbeing support services available to students, which run alongside the traditional pastoral system, typical examples are SEAL (Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning), SAP (Student Assist Programme), LGBTQ+ groups, young carers, Inspire2achieve, bereavement support and the school counsellor. Access to such services is usually based upon pupil need which, in turn, influences the level and duration of support provided.

We wholeheartedly believe that a pupil's wellbeing is **just as important** as academic achievements. Mental health and wellbeing is undoubtedly linked to academic performance: **we don't neglect the first when pursuing the second.**



SPOT IT, SORT IT!

Spot it, Sort it is our new, discrete reporting tool for pupils experiencing, or witnessing concerns. Learners can use the app to report bullying, mental health, vandalism and harassment.

Typing can be easier than talking. Some pupils may find it easier to document concerns on an online form that to speak to an adult in person. All submissions to Spot it, Sort it are then followed up by staff during the school day, or if posted in the evening, the next available school day.

The tool is accessible in school and at home. QR codes are displayed across the school building, as well as on magnets given to pupils. There is also a link on the school intranet.







## Assessment and Reporting Aseidiadau ac Adroddiadau

Our school's curriculum is chosen to meet the needs of the pupils in the school.

Teachers routinely check that their curriculum is working and that all pupils are progressing.

Assessment is built into the school's curriculum and will be part of their everyday learning experience. Pupils will be working with their teachers to understand how well they're moving forward.

This is important to:

- help pupils see where they are in their learning and develop a clear understanding of what success looks like and how it can be achieved;
- help pupils plan their next learning steps;
- find ways to stretch or challenge pupils to learn more;
- spot any barriers to learning;
- help teachers see how well their class is progressing towards the curriculum;
- collaborate regularly with parents to share evidence of their children's progress and create engaging opportunities to further their learning at home.

The new curriculum is a journey which builds knowledge and skills over time. Assessment will be indistinguishable from teaching and learning and will be a part of every lesson. It will support individual pupils on an ongoing day to day basis as well as capture and reflect on a pupil's progression overtime.

There may be times when pupils will move forward quickly, other times progress will slow down and the teacher will need to make sure pupils understand a topic. Moving forward isn't always linked to their age. It won't happen in the same way and at the same time for everyone.

Pupils will move forward as their knowledge increases; their understanding of things gets deeper; their communication, physical and cognitive skills grow; their skills improve. They will show an increasing effectiveness as a learner, make connections across the curriculum with increasing independence.

Parents will receive information about their child's progression each term through either reports, assemblies and/or parents' evenings.

### **The assessments for Numeracy (Procedural), Numeracy (Reasoning) and Reading**

The purpose of these assessments is to find out children's strengths and areas for improvement so that their teachers can help them develop their skills.

Personalised assessments are taken on-line and are adaptive, meaning that questions are selected based on the responses to previous questions. This provides a tailored assessment experience for each pupil and will help all pupils develop their skills through understanding what they can do, the things they may need to work on, and their next steps. Pupils must complete the assessments once during the academic year.

After your child has completed a personalised assessment, their teacher can see feedback on their skills and progress which helps the teacher to plan the next steps for your child's learning.

## Rewards and Sanctions Gwobrwyau a Chosbau

There is a clear system for rewarding students in their academic, sporting and extra-curricular activities. These achievements are also celebrated during assemblies and at our Achievement Evenings.

We believe in working very closely with parents and carers to ensure that all our learners achieve their true potential. To develop our home to school relationships further we will be using a monitoring system called 'Class Charts' at Ebbw Fawr.

## Class Charts Siartiau Dosbarth

Class Charts is an App-based online application that enables students, parents, and staff to be involved in learning. The application allows students to view their timetable, any homework set and the supporting resources linked to it. This allows them to take ownership of their learning. Students can also see immediately, positive, and negative comments from a particular lesson.

Parents can also access the application to easily monitor attendance, homework submission, celebrate achievement and monitor any negative behaviour points or detentions. The school will also use the system to send important messages directly to groups of students,

## Parent Evening Dates 2024/2025 Nosweithiau Rhieni 2024/2025

21 October 2024  
28 November 2024  
06 February 2025  
27 March 2025  
08 May 2025

Meet the Tutor Evening  
Parent Evening Yr 8  
Parent Evening Yr 11  
Parent Evening Yr 9  
Parent Evening Yr 10



## Additional Learning Needs Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol

In order to meet the needs of all our students, we follow well defined procedures for the identification and assessment of children with additional learning needs. Parents are encouraged to speak to their child's class teacher or the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator, Mr Manuel Pelaez-Heras if they are concerned about their child's learning or behaviour. If we have concerns over learning needs parents will be advised and involved in regular discussions about their child's progress and about ways in which they can help at home. In the majority of cases, needs will be met by the subject teachers who will provide differentiated teaching within the classroom. In other cases, children are withdrawn on a regular basis to work with staff on a specific Intervention Programme for an agreed length of time.

## More Able and Talented Mwy Galluog a Thalentog

We have a dedicated member of staff responsible for more able and talented students whose role is to ensure that students are supported in their academic and extra-curricular provision.

## Summary of Charging Policy Crynodeb o Bolisi Brisio

The Governors have adopted Blaenau Gwent's policy of charging for Learning Community activities. Parents may be asked to contribute to optional trips out of normal hours, but curriculum based activities are provided free, or a basic voluntary contribution may be requested.

## Extra Curricular Activities Gweithgareddau Allgyrsiol

Students are encouraged to take part in the many extra-curricular activities which exist at Ebbw Fawr. There is a very strong tradition of music, drama and sporting excellence.

A variety of educational visits are organised which include, foreign visits, skiing, and field-work to support the curriculum as well as an extensive Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This involves completing four different sections: volunteering, physical activity, skills and expedition, all of which have their own challenges.

We are committed to a broad fund raising programme in support of local, national and international charities.

Events include:

- Hospice of the Valleys
- Children in Need
- Red Nose Day



## PTFA of Ebbw Fawr Learning Community PTFA Cymuned Ddysgu Ebbw Fawr

Ebbw Fawr has an active and supportive PTFA comprising of parents, staff and friends. The PTFA organises events for the students and parents to raise money and promote Ebbw Fawr in the wider community. The PTFA actively seeks new members and we would welcome you on to the committee.







## Admission to Ebbw Fawr Learning Community

### Derbyniad i Gymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr

Application forms are distributed by the local authority to all Year 6 students as part of the local Admissions Policy. Our admissions number is 207. These places are allocated on the following basis:

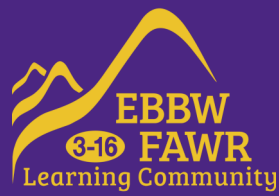
Students within the catchment areas will be offered a place, subject to the admission number not being breached. In such instances, places will be allocated in accordance with the Authority's over subscription criteria as follows:

- (i) Looked After Children will also be admitted to a chosen school outside of the normal admission round. The admission cannot be refused unless doing so would seriously prejudice the proposition of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.
- (ii) Students who reside within the school's designated catchment area.
- (iii) Children recommended for admission on medical grounds, supported by a Medical Officer or psychological or special educational needs reasons. These must be confirmed by the LEA's professional advisers.
- (iv) Children who have older siblings (brothers or sisters) living at the same household attending the school at the date of admission will be admitted in preference to those who do not;
- (v) Where there is more than one case as in (ii), priority to be assessed on the basis of those children closest in age to the elder siblings already at the school at the date of admission;
- (vi) After taking account of categories (i) to (iv), priority will be based on closeness to the school, measured by nearest available walking route. This will be measured on the Authority's GIS (Geographical Information System) database;

- (vii) Should admission to a school not be possible due to class size or other requirements, transport will be provided to the next nearest school with available places (subject to distance limits).
- (viii) When considering whether a child lives in a school's catchment area, the address considered is that of the parent or legal guardian, irrespective of a family's domestic arrangements, i.e. the address of another relative or child minder etc. must not be given. In certain cases it may be necessary to provide evidence relating to the child/ren in question, to show the home address of the child/ren.
- (ix) Subject to class size and other requirements, students resident outside the school's catchment area will be admitted if the admissions number of the school has not been exceeded. In the event of over- subscription from outside the catchment area of the school, the sub-criteria described at (i) to (iv) above will be applied to prioritise admissions.



For further information please contact Eleri Griffiths  
01495 355493



## General Information – Gwybodaeth Gyffredinol

**Headteacher:** Mrs M Thomas

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community – Secondary Phase  
Lime Avenue Ebbw Vale Blaenau Gwent NP23 6GL  
Tel: 01495 369555

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community – Primary Phase  
Strand Annealing Lane Ebbw Vale Blaenau Gwent NP23 6AN  
Tel: 01495 369550

Office hours: **8:00am – 4:00pm**

In cases of emergency, such as inclement weather we will notify parents via Class Charts and our web site. Parents will be informed how to use Class Charts on admission.

Website: [www.ebbwfawr.co.uk](http://www.ebbwfawr.co.uk) | Email: [contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:contactus@ebbwfawr.co.uk)



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