



Ysgol Eirias

academic prospectus

2024 - 2025

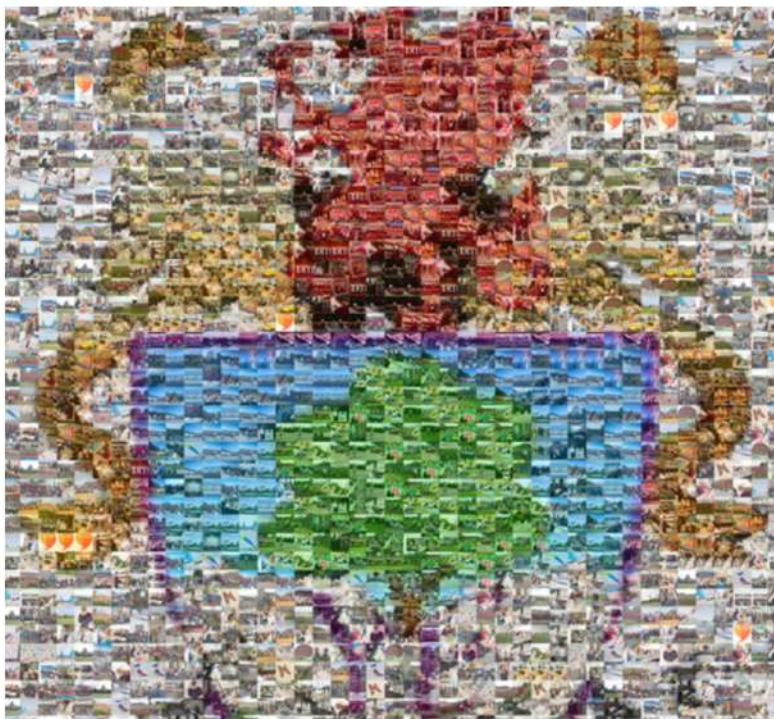


Cynnwys Contents

- 3 Croeso / Welcome
- 4 Vision of the School
- 5 Home School Partnership Agreement
- 6 Uniform and Appearance
- 7 Uniform and Appearance
- 8 Behaviour for Learning
- 9 What is KiVa?
- 10 The School Curriculum
- 11 Curriculum for Wales
- 12 The 4 Purposes
- 13 The 4 purposes explained
- 14 Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE)
- 15 Language, Literacy, and Communication
- 16 Health and Wellbeing
- 17 Science and Technology
- 18 Humanities
- 19 Mathematics and Numeracy
- 20 Expressive Arts
- 21 The School Faculty System
- 21 English Faculty
- 22 Drama, Media, Classics
- 23 Mathematics Faculty
- 24 Science Faculty
- 25 Cymraeg Faculty
- 26 Business and Communications Faculty
- 27 Languages Faculty



- 28 Technology Faculty
- 29 Humanities Faculty
- 30 Welsh Baccalaureate Faculty
- 31 Physical Education Faculty
- 32 PE Achievements
- 33 Sixth Form at Ysgol Eirias
- 34 ALN - Hafod
- 35 Inclusion - EPIC
- 36 Inclusion - Nurture
- 37 Pastoral Organisation & KiVa
- 38 Healthy Schools Scheme & Restaurant
- 39 Student Voice
- 40 Career Guidance
- 41 Relationship Education
- 41 R.S. and Collective Worship
- 42 Homework at Eirias
- 42 Equal Opportunities
- 43 General Information
- 43 Security, Health, and Safety of students and staff, Looked After Children
- 44 Report Writing
- 44 Bilingualism
- 44 Mandarin
- 45 Extra Curricular and Experiential learning
- 46 Extra Curricular and Experiential learning
- 47 The School and its Governing Body
- 47 Electronic Registration
- 47 Library and Homework Club
- 47 Holidays in Term time
- 48 Initial Teacher Education
- 49 School Charges and Remission
- 50 Admissions Policy
- 51 Complaints Policy
- 51 Documents available to Parents





Croeso!

Welcome to our Prospectus

Here at Ysgol Eirias, we are passionate about working together to ignite a spark of inspiration in our children and to support them to become the best versions of themselves, whatever their interests or ambitions. We believe that our children deserve a first-class education of the **head** (academic learning), the **heart** (social and emotional learning) and of the **hand** (learning practical skills, creativity and problem solving) and we strive to keep our children at the centre of our thoughts and actions.

We work very closely with our Primary Schools to ensure that the children experience smooth transition into Year 7. Activities for learners can be seen in our Transition Timeline and this is complemented by the strong links that the staff have across the schools. We have shared training events, curriculum meetings as well as leadership meetings on a regular basis.

Learning is an adventure, and we have a dedicated team of talented teachers and support staff who continue to research the very best teaching and learning strategies and genuinely care about making a difference in the lives of our children. They are passionate about their subjects and will guide your child every step of the way, inspiring them to think critically, to ask questions and to be curious. Our classrooms are dynamic spaces where curiosity is celebrated, and every question is an opportunity to explore and discover.

We are very proud of the ALN and Inclusion support in our school. The support provision was recognised by Estyn as a strength of the school and highlighted the extensive support that is available as well as the positive relationships that are fostered. There are dedicated staff supporting with additional needs, nurture, inclusion and wellbeing – you are most welcome to come and see for yourself!

But education at Ysgol Eirias isn't just about what happens inside the classroom, we have a whole range of exciting activities on offer. From sports teams to art clubs, music ensembles to science experiments, DofE trips to Ski trips and much, much more – there is something for everyone. These activities will help your child uncover their hidden talents, build confidence and develop new skills that will stay with them for life.

The school is extremely well resourced, and we are particularly proud of our sporting facilities. From the international standard hockey pitch and all-Wales Rugby training barn to the highly sought-after Athletics arena, we guarantee a high-class sporting provision for your child.

Ysgol Eirias is a place where friendships blossom and memories are made. We are a community that cares about your child's happiness, well-being and success. We succeed together!

A tour of the school is the best way to experience our caring, positive and energetic atmosphere first hand. Please contact us at any time of the year for a tour by clicking the booking form link on our website or by ringing us on 01492 532025.

Headteacher

Mrs Z Evans

Pennaeth

Gweledigaeth yr ysgol Vision of the school

Ysgol Eirias is a centre of excellence in learning where everyone is encouraged to reach their potential. We endeavour to equip the members of our school body with the confidence and skills to enable them to make a positive contribution to the world of work and in our local and wider community.

We have high expectations based on traditional values of good behaviour and mutual respect. Equity is important to us and as such, the quality of teaching, learning and support enable every child to achieve their potential. We are proud of a culture that cares for pupils' physical and emotional wellbeing and believe this to be critical to success in life.

Here at Ysgol Eirias we believe passionately in the development of our staff. High quality, personalised, Professional Learning supports all members of the team in ensuring the best possible experience both inside and outside of the classroom.

Mae Ysgol Eirias yn ganolfan rhagoriaeth ar gyfer dysgu ble annogir pawb i gyrraedd eu potensial. Rydyn ni'n gwneud ein gorau glas i roi'r hyder a'r sgiliau i aelodau o gorff ein ysgol i'w galluogi i wneud cyfraniad positif i fyd gwaith ac o fewn ein cymuned lleol a thu hwnt.

Mae gennyn ni ddisgwyliadau uchel yn seiliedig ar werthoedd traddodiadol ymddygiad da a pharch tuag at ein gilydd. Mae chwarae teg yn bwysig i ni ac felly, mae ansawdd yr addysgu, y dysgu a'r gefnogaeth yn galluogi pob plentyn i gyrraedd eu potensial. Rydyn ni'n falch o ddiwylliant sy'n gofalu am les corfforol ac emosiynol y disgyblion ac rydyn ni'n credu bod hyn yn allweddol ar gyfer llwyddiant mewn bywyd.

Yma yn Ysgol Eirias, rydyn ni'n credu'n llwyr yn natblygiad ein staff. Mae Dysgu Proffesiynol personol o ansawdd uchel yn cefnogi pob aelod o'r tîm i gael y profiad gorau posibl y tu mewn i'r ystafell dosbarth a thu allan.



Cytundeb partneriaeth cartref-ysgol Home School Partnership Agreement

For students to achieve success at school, it is important that parents, students and the school work together. Each party has an equally important role to play in this partnership.



The School will:

- Provide a safe, well ordered and caring environment
- Have clear aims and objectives for all students
- Endeavour to help your son/daughter to achieve his/her potential
- Demonstrate that each student is valued as an individual
- Keep parents fully informed

As a Pupil I will:

- Work to the best of my ability at school and at home
- Always try to get on with others within the school community
- Follow school rules
- Take a pride in my own appearance by wearing school uniform correctly
- Attend regularly and be on time to school and lessons
- Show a caring and courteous attitude towards others



As Parents/Guardians we will:

- Support the school in the standards it seeks to achieve.
- Help my/our child to take an interest in his/her work and help to sustain their effort and achievement
- Attend my/our child's Parents' Evenings
- Keep the school informed relating to matters which may be affecting my/our child's progress or attitude
- Monitor my/our child's progress through the student planner and exercise books and available data
- Ensure regular attendance and high standards of punctuality
- Ensure correct school uniform is worn

**Pupils are proud to be part
of the Ysgol Eirias
community**

Estyn

Gwisg ac Ymddangosiad Uniform and Appearance

At Ysgol Eirias we are very proud of our school uniform, and insist that it is worn as described below. We ask that parents take the responsibility for ensuring that their son/daughter is in the correct uniform each day.

Students who do arrive in unsuitable clothing may be sent home to change or loaned items from school stock. The final decision in any decision relating to uniform lies with the headteacher.

Items of uniform are available from many high street stores. The tie and jumper are available from Boppers Boutique, Woodlands Road West, Colwyn Bay and School Talk, Mostyn Street, Llandudno. Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding uniform.



Pupils in Years 7-11
(All items must be labelled/named)

You must NOT wear:

- Hoodies or sweatshirts or polo shirts.
- Trainers (except on timetabled PE days).
- Jeans, leggings, canvas type footwear, backless or open toed shoes, footwear that comes above ankle height.
- Excessive make up including false nails and false eyelashes or nail varnish.
- Nose studs, tongue studs, lobe stretcher.

School uniform is compulsory for all learners. The final decision in any matter relating to uniform lies with the Headteacher.

Please note: The school will not be responsible for valuable items brought into school.

The school operates a gender neutral uniform policy:

- Plain white school shirt worn with a school tie in house colours.
- Maroon jumper with school badge.
- Black full length plain trousers (not jeans, jeans style, skin-tight or leggings style) OR a plain black skirt of appropriate length.
- Plain black tights must be worn with skirts (as a guide tights should be 80 Denier or over). Ripped or sheer style tights are not permitted. Socks (of any length) are not permitted to be worn with skirts.
- Plain, flat, black leather type footwear. Footwear must be ankle height or lower and not canvas. Click [here](#) for examples of appropriate footwear.
- Plain appropriate topcoat.
- Hair should be neat and tidy and an even natural colour. No extreme hairstyles are permitted e.g., very short or tramlines.
- Religious headwear, if worn, should be plain black.
- For health and safety purposes jewellery worn should be kept to a minimum.
- Make up, if worn, should be natural looking.
- A strong school bag to carry equipment including pens, pencils, ruler, calculator etc.

During periods of extreme warm weather, learners may be permitted to wear PE kit. The decision will be at the discretion of the Headteacher and communicated clearly to parents/carers via Talaxy.



Pecyn Addysg Gorfforol PE Kit



Red sports T-Shirt with school crest

Red and black reversible long sleeved multi-sports top

Black shorts

Plain black sports leggings or black tracksuit bottoms

Black or white sports socks

Trainers



Red sports T-Shirt with school crest

¾ zip long sleeved black training top with school crest

Black shorts/cycling shorts (not 'hot pants' style) or plain black sports leggings or plain black tracksuit bottoms.

Black or white sports socks

Trainers



Ymddygiad ar gyfer dysgu Behaviour for Learning

We expect high standards of behaviour to be maintained so that all our students can work to their full potential. Our Expectations Code is clearly displayed in all teaching areas.

We celebrate achievement and success in many ways as we feel that praising students is the best way of encouraging them to do well. Everyone enjoys being praised. We therefore have a wide system of rewards which include:

- frequent oral and written praise
- positive marking
- referral to senior staff for recognition
- displaying students' work
- celebrating achievement through our email newsletter, website, social media and newspaper articles
- recognition of success in assemblies
- commendations and certificates
- termly prizes
- social events
- rewards trips and extra-curricular activities

EIRIAS Values:

Effort : Learners are supported to engage in tasks and aim to achieve the standards and targets set for them

Inclusion: Learners are supported to have good attendance and contribute to wider life of school

Respect: Learners are taught to respect staff, other learners, and themselves: they show this through positive attitudes and appropriate behaviour

Involvement : Learners are expected to come to school ready to be involved, both physically through well organised and bringing the correct equipment and mentally, through positive attitude

Aspiration: Learners should be ambitious and have high expectations of what they can achieve

Succeeding Together: Working with staff, fellow learners, parents and visitors to succeed together and achieve the overall mantra of the school



Unfortunately, sometimes students do not respond to such a positive approach and as a result sanctions are necessary. Consequences of inappropriate behaviour may include detentions, being placed on a monitoring report and withdrawal from privileges or from class. We strive to involve parents as early as possible and may invite you to school to discuss problems that develop.

For more serious offences a pupil may be placed in social inclusion as an alternative to an exclusion. Pupils placed in social inclusion will have minimal contact with their peers during this time and will be supervised while they complete work set by subject staff. Alternatively, it may be necessary to exclude a student from school for a fixed number of days.

Exclusion is never taken lightly but is always considered as an option when a student commits an assault or uses verbal abuse. The school works very closely with the Local Education Authority in matters relating to student exclusions.

What is KiVa?



KiVa is a research- and evidence-based antibullying programme that has been developed in the University of Turku, Finland, with funding from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture. The strong effectiveness of KiVa has been proven scientifically through a large national randomised and controlled trial as well as several different studies. KiVa is being used around the world and it is the world's most studied anti-bullying program.

KiVa is embedded into the Eirias pastoral programme and taught through Health & Wellbeing



How did KiVa get to Colwyn Bay?

- Founded in Finland 2006
- 2011 presented to School Improvement Officers in Welsh Government
- Small trial funded at Bangor University with (CEIT) Children's Early Intervention Trust Charity
- Since 2020 National Institute for Health Research funded an Evaluation across 4 areas of the UK including Bangor
- June 2021 – Conwy Local Authority have funded all schools to implement KIVA due to SHRN data
- September 2021 – Rolled out at Ysgol Eirias with Year 7 students
- September 2022 onwards - embedded in our curriculum taught in Years 7 and 9 and implemented across school



Cwricwlwm yr Ysgol The School Curriculum

"Curriculum for Wales focuses well on engaging pupils whilst simultaneously developing subject knowledge and skills"

Estyn Nov 22

We are a truly comprehensive school and strive to make the curriculum appropriate to the needs of all students, whatever their talents and abilities. It is designed to stretch the most able and to provide support for those needing additional help.

Year 7 8 and 9

In Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils follow the new Curriculum for Wales where these Areas of Learning and Experience are covered: Humanities, Expressive Arts, Science & Technology, Languages, Literacy & Communication, Health & Wellbeing, Mathematics & Numeracy

Please see our online Curriculum Summary for more details

Year 9

In Year 9 students are organised into bands and then within each band students are placed into sets according to ability where appropriate.

Students study English, Maths, Science, Welsh, French or German, Geography, History, RS, Technology, PE, Expressive Arts, ICT Skills Challenge and PSE.

Years 10 and 11

At this level of study we are trying to further broaden the options for students. Most will study GCSEs, some will take vocational courses, others may attend college for 1 day as part of the Alternative Learning Programme (ALP).

English, Maths, Science, Welsh, RS, PE, PSE, and the Skills Challenge are compulsory, but students do have some options to continue subjects from Year 9 or start completely new courses for example: GCSE PE, Business Studies, and Engineering.

The resources for all faculties are complemented by a well stocked Library, which also houses chrome books and the Reading Room.

Skills Challenge Certificate

The Skills Challenge Certificate is the core of the Welsh Baccalaureate and is a standalone qualification in its own right. All pupils will complete the skills challenge at Key Stage 4 and 5. The qualification comprises 4 components:

- Enterprise and Employability
- Community
- Global Citizenship
- Individual Project

These units make up the assessment of the Skills Challenge Certificate. When learners complete the Skills Challenge Certificate and achieve a GCSE C Grade in Maths or Numerary, and English alongside other supporting qualification at the relevant level. They will also achieve The Welsh Baccalaureate.

Years 12 and 13

Ysgol Eirias has a large VI form. Students need to apply for a place during Year 11. External applications are also invited.

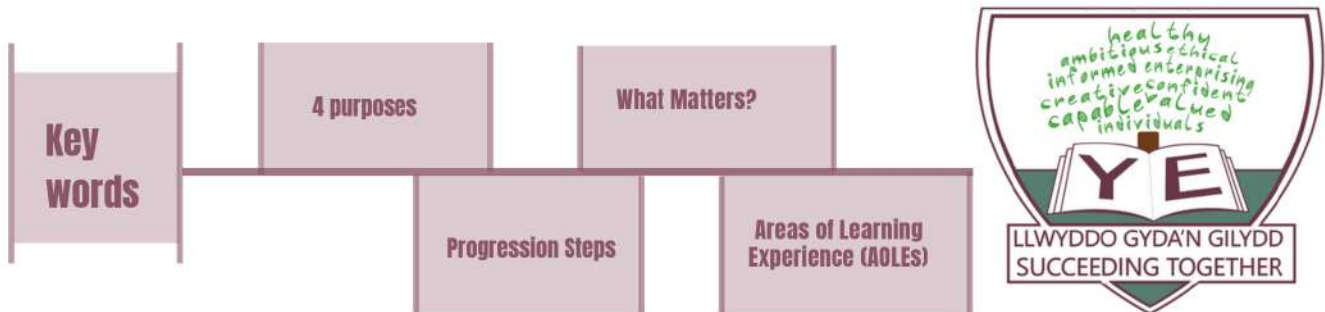
An excellent range of courses are offered: over 30 subjects including traditional A/AS level courses and vocational courses. Most of our VI form students go on to university.

Welsh is compulsory to 16 and popular as a post 16 option. We encourage pupils to use incidental Welsh wherever possible.

**"Pupils have positive attitudes to learning...
Teachers at Ysgol Eirias foster caring and positive relationship...
(There is) a calm learning environment"**

Estyn Nov 2022

Curriculum for Wales (CfW)



You may have noticed some time ago that we started using a new logo on all of our digital platforms, such as the school website, our social media platforms, and our letters of communication.

The idea was to take some of the more traditional aspects of the Eirias crest and to combine them with what we knew was on the horizon.

At Eirias we have been preparing, over the past 6 years, for the implementation of the **new Curriculum for Wales (CfW)**. We have collaborated, developed, and shaped our new curriculum through asking questions such as:

- **What Matters** when a child learns?
- What are the **purposes** of education?
- How do I see my child **progress** on their learning journey?
- What kind of **experiences** should my child have in their **learning**?

The tree in the logo takes important words from the **4 purposes** of the new Curriculum for Wales (CfW) to convey the seed and starting point of our learner's journey through their primary and secondary educations.

It's quite appropriate that many of our primary cluster have acorns to represent the start of a journey of growth to a strong and capable citizen.

We would like to take a few pages to illustrate what the 4 purposes are, as well as setting out our vision and direction so you know what the next steps of your child's education will look like at Eirias.

We have been working in collaboration with our Primary Cluster on the new Curriculum for Wales to ensure continuity and progression.

Many thanks to staff at Ysgol Cystennin, Llandrillo yn Rhos, Ysgol Nant y Groes, Ysgol Pen y Bryn and St. Joseph's.

4 purposes

The four purposes should be the starting point and aspiration for schools' curriculum design. Ultimately, the aim of a school's curriculum is to support its learners to become:

Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.

Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.

Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.

Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

healthy
ambitious ethical
informed enterprising
creative confident
capable valued
individuals

All our children and young people will be supported to develop as:

Ambitious, capable learners who:

- set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge
- are building up a body of knowledge and have the skills to connect and apply that knowledge in different contexts
- are questioning and enjoy solving problems
- can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English
- can explain the ideas and concepts they are learning about
- can use number effectively in different contexts
- understand how to interpret data and apply mathematical concepts
- use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information
- undertake research and evaluate critically what they find
- and are ready to learn throughout their lives

Enterprising, creative contributors who:

- connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products
- think creatively to reframe and solve problems
- identify and grasp opportunities
- take measured risks
- lead and play different roles in teams effectively and responsibly
- express ideas and emotions through different media
- give of their energy and skills so that other people will benefit
- and are ready to play a full part in life and work

Ethical, informed citizens who:

- find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views
- engage with contemporary issues based upon their knowledge and values
- understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights
- understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices and acting
- are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past
- respect the needs and rights of others, as a member of a diverse society
- show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet
- and are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world

Healthy, confident individuals who:

- have secure values and are establishing their spiritual and ethical beliefs
- are building their mental and emotional well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy
- apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives
- know how to find the information and support to keep safe and well
- take part in physical activity
- take measured decisions about lifestyle and manage risk
- have the confidence to participate in performance
- form positive relationships based upon trust and mutual respect
- face and overcome challenge
- have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can
- and are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE)

The Curriculum for Wales (CfW) consists of **Areas of Learning and Experience** that connect to the **four purposes** by supporting learners to become:

- **Ambitious, capable learners,**
- **Enterprising, creative contributors,**
- **Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.**
- **Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.**

Each **AoLE** makes a distinct and strong contribution to developing the four purposes, whilst also making connections with the '**What Matters**' statements it contains.

The '**What Matters**' statements and rationales

Each **AoLE** has a number of '**What Matters**' statements (between three and six), which will be mandatory.

Together, they span the breadth of the AoLE, supporting and complementing each other, making links with the **four purposes**, and setting out the big ideas in the **Area**.



The following six pages give an overview of each AoLE as it will be delivered as Eirias.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Language Literacy Communication

Vision:

What?

Our learners will develop a real pride in their own language, identity & the rich culture of Wales, as well as a greater respect and appreciation of other languages & cultures around the world. They will recognise the power of language to connect people & share ideas. We believe that this knowledge and passion contributes to strengthening relationships between people in an intercultural world. They will discover the pleasure of reading & find inspiration in literature.

How?

Our learners will develop the ability to make connections between languages and transfer skills to enhance their communication through a unified approach to the study of languages and vocabulary across the AoLE. They will be afforded a range of exciting opportunities to learn about their cynefin, their country & the wider world. They will experience a wide range of different types of literature to spark imagination and creativity. They will be encouraged to be empathetic of different points of view and embrace diversity.

Why?

We want our learners to become ethical, informed citizens of the world who are open and receptive to the richness of languages through their own experiences. We want them to embrace challenge & be bold in their contributions and to be confident and creative in their use of language and vocabulary.

What Will You Experience?

In **International Languages** lessons, we focus on developing your ability to communicate effectively in French/German. We also aim to enhance your knowledge and appreciation of culture by learning about the country and its people. To further enrich your language skills and awareness, you will have the opportunity to participate in Mandarin sessions with our Chinese Assistant.

Cymraeg a Chymraeg Bob Dydd: In Welsh lessons, you will develop their ability to communicate effectively in the target language whilst gaining an appreciation for the benefits of bilingualism. The lessons will also allow you to learn about Welsh culture and history which will help you gain an understanding of the Welsh identity. Delivered through dynamic and engaging lessons, we will achieve this aim and will therefore contribute to the Welsh Government's aim of securing the vitality of the language for future generations by 2050.

In **English** lessons we will focus on three main topics: Travel Writing, Myths & Legends and The Art of Rhetoric. Lessons will focus on reading, writing and oracy skills through these topics and will be enriched by a range of different Literature texts. You will have the opportunity to write in different styles and for different purposes, whilst improving literacy skills during our weekly reading lessons.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Health and Wellbeing

Vision:

What?

Our learners will acquire knowledge from a wide range of experiences to enable them to understand the importance of their physical, mental and social wellbeing on their present and future lives. Learners will be central to the promotion of positive wellbeing for all Ysgol Eirias stakeholders and will develop and appreciate the significance of key personal attributes such as self-confidence, teamwork, communication, leadership and empathy. Our learners will develop to be adaptable and resilient, able to overcome challenging situations and make the right choices to thrive through their school lives and beyond.

How?

Learners will be inspired to engage in a diverse variety of lessons in both indoor and outdoor environments. Our learners will be challenged to acquire, develop and refine their knowledge, understanding and practical skills from engaging in health-based physical activities, practical nutrition lessons, classroom-based pastoral lessons and traditional individual and team sports using our fantastic facilities and local environment. Extra-curricular opportunities will be provided for learners to further develop their interest, knowledge and ability to prepare and cook nutritious meals; in many sports and activities learners can further challenge themselves and advance their skillset. There are local community club links provided for additional involvement and development. Learners will be exposed to practical and theoretical decision-making situations where the consequences of their actions will impact upon either sporting performance or their life choices.

Why?

We want our learners to enjoy leading a healthy, active lifestyle and become role models for their peers, family, local community and beyond. Through a deeper understanding of the lifelong benefits of making positive lifestyle and nutrition choices, our learners will also be role models for the next generation. We are striving to ensure that every Ysgol Eirias learner is a healthy, responsible and compassionate individual who has the confidence and resilience to strive to achieve their full potential.

What Will You Experience?

In the Health and Wellbeing AoLE you will experience a wide range of practical and theoretical activities in a variety of environments ranging from food and nutrition workshops to Colwyn Bay beach. All lessons will have a strong focus about an aspect of your health and wellbeing, not only for the present but for your time as a member of the Eirias community and beyond to ensure that our learners become health, confident and responsible members of society.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Science and Technology

Vision:

What?

The Science and Technology AOLE aims to inspire our learners to be curious about the world around them, developing a contemporary awareness of how things work, are made and developed, whether man-made or produced from natural processes.

How?

Building on projects, practical experiences and a progression of skills, learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of local and national themes and uncover how our daily lives are influenced by scientific, technological and digital developments. They will explore the problems connected to these and the solutions applied to solve them.

Why?

Challenges will be wide-ranging and designed to trigger the imagination of learners, providing opportunities also, to explore and ask questions of the world around them. Through this, learners will be able to develop their capacity to apply their learning in science and technology and inform their thinking and action in both the physical and digital environment in which we live.

What Will You Experience?

STEM Projects: You will undertake a range of activities both paper-based and practical to solve a number of exciting real-life problems involving structures, the outdoors and even smart materials

Passive Amplifier: You will design and make your own Mobile Phone Passive Amplifier using traditional skills so you can listen to your music without needing a power supply. You will personalise it using innovative computer software and modern manufacturing methods.

Science: You will further your curiosity in the areas of body systems and processes, ecology, the environment and biodiversity. You will undertake a range of activities covering the topics of states of matter, separation techniques and acids and alkalis. You will also further your curiosity in the area of forces and energy through a range of activities, investigations and problem solving tasks.

Digital Technology: The Digital Technology element looks at how computing systems can help us solve real world problems. You will be using Office 365 applications, BBC:microbits and electronic sensors to research and analyse potential solutions, write algorithms and code programs. You will be challenged to both adapt existing code and write your own code from scratch using at least 2 programming languages. The module culminates in a learner-led project and a celebration of success.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Humanities

Vision: Confident, resourceful and inquisitive learners, inspired by the world, past, present and future.

What?

Our learners will become ethical citizens that recognise their place in their cynefin, Wales and the world. Our learners will be informed, self-aware citizens that will engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity. They will develop a solid base of knowledge and understanding of geographical, historical, religious, non-religious, business, and social studies concepts.

How?

They will experience awe and wonder and develop a sense of place and purpose through learning about the diverse, dynamic and interconnected world in which we live.

Why?

Through the Humanities curriculum our learners will develop a range of subject specific and higher order skills essential for the 21st century and to foster their lifelong love of learning.

What Will You Experience?

You will explore the links between the past and Wales in the 21st Century. We investigate the Roman Empires, the spread of Christianity, the British Empire and ethical dilemmas such as fairtrade and apartheid. We finish with a whole class debate covering all aspects of the learning journey.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Mathematics and Numeracy

Vision:

What?

We aim to improve engagement and learning, through mathematical fluency and a holistic approach. In fulfilling the four purposes we set high expectations for all and educate our learners in their quest to become healthy, confident, ambitious, enterprising, ethical, and informed citizens. Our goal is to develop their skills of resilience, quantitative analysis, and rational deduction in order to develop a mature understanding of the world around them. We shall strive to ensure all learners achieve their potential with the delivery of a broad and balanced mathematical provision. Through the key ideas and principles contained in the 'What Matters' statements this will support learners and the wider school community.

How?

Learners will receive an organised and structured programme of study, provided and facilitated by an experienced team of professional teachers.

Why?

The skills, knowledge and experience that all learners gain within this AoLE will equip them for lifelong learning

What Will You Experience?

In the Mathematics and Numeracy AoLE you will experience a rich and varied programme of study. You will develop your mathematical skills and learn how to apply them in a variety of settings. You will work towards qualifications in Mathematics, Numeracy, and Financial Studies.

Your progression in Mathematics will be organised around four key principles:

- You will learn about the number system. You will develop a thorough understanding of relationships between numbers.
- You will learn the language of algebra. This will enable you to express mathematical relationships in their most general form.
- You will learn about shape, space and measurement. This will lead you to a more advanced understanding of geometry.
- You will learn how to deal with information. This will improve your data handling skills and your understanding of probability.

Your teacher will guide you through a wide range of contexts in which mathematics is used to increase your skills, knowledge and experience.

Areas of Learning Experience (AoLEs) Visions and Experience Summaries for Eirias

Expressive Arts

Vision:

What?

The Expressive Arts AoLE aims to develop inquisitive, imaginative students that are able to explore the world around them.

How?

Expressive Arts will be delivered through a variety of creative means, engaging, motivating and encouraging learners within the subject areas of Art, Dance, Drama, Media and Music that include opportunities for developing their own creative talents, artistic skills and performing skills.

Why?

In producing, performing and sharing their creative experiences, learners will intrinsically develop their confidence, resilience, empathy and ambition via accessible yet challenging experiences in order that they can become ethical and informed citizens of the world. Learners will gain an understanding and appreciation of cultures and societies in Wales and the world. Engagement in Expressive Arts will equip learners with the skills to explore social and cultural differences through time and place

What Will You Experience?

Over the year you will have access to several subjects that fall under the category of 'Expressive Arts'.

In **Music** you will learn about music from other parts of the world, learn about music from Wales and compose music about a Welsh Monster. You will sing, play keyboards and percussion instruments, and listen to lots of distinctive styles of music.

In **Drama and Dance**, you will learn about drama and dance from a variety of cultures. You will create your own choreography and look at both devised and scripted dramas. You will also have an opportunity to learn about the technical aspects of the theatre industry; specifically, lighting, costume, and design.

In **Media**, you will study visual media, analysing how you interact with a range of media and eventually creating your own advertising campaign. You will explore printed, visual and film media throughout the year both looking at the theoretical aspect as well as the practical aspects. In your Art lessons, you will experience a range of exciting creative activities centred around a project theme. You will look at a diverse range of artists and respond to their work, you will explore a variety of media, materials and techniques in drawing and colour for making creative visual pieces to develop the theme of your project work and you will create work that showcases your art skills, creativity and talents.

Cyfadranau ysgol School Faculties

Ysgol Eirias has 10 Faculties, each led by an experienced Head of Faculty. Within each Faculty there may be a number of different departments, each with their own Head of Department.

Cyfadran Saesneg English Faculty

Comprising: English Language, English Literature, Music, Drama, Media and Expressive Arts



English and English Literature

The English teaching team is a dynamic energetic group who work hard to ensure the effective and innovative delivery of the English Curriculum. English is housed in ten main classrooms, all of which have an Interactive television which is used for PowerPoint, Internet Access and specific programmes designed for this technology.

The Curriculum in Years 7-9 offers a wide range of reading material from Shakespeare to Stoker, Almond to Zephaniah. Students will experience writing in a range of forms, from letter drafting to dramatic monologues.

They also have an opportunity to develop their oracy skills through drama, debate and presentations.

At GCSE Level, students have the opportunity to experience a wide range of literature as well as develop their personal and creative writing. They will study contemporary literature as well as more traditional texts, including poetry, novels and drama, and will continue to build on the skills in creativity and oracy that are developed at KS3.

At A Level, both Language and Literature are offered for AS and A2 students.

Music

The Music department is a vibrant department which makes full use of a range of equipment to develop students' understanding and skills. The course buzzes with opportunities to study and compose music.

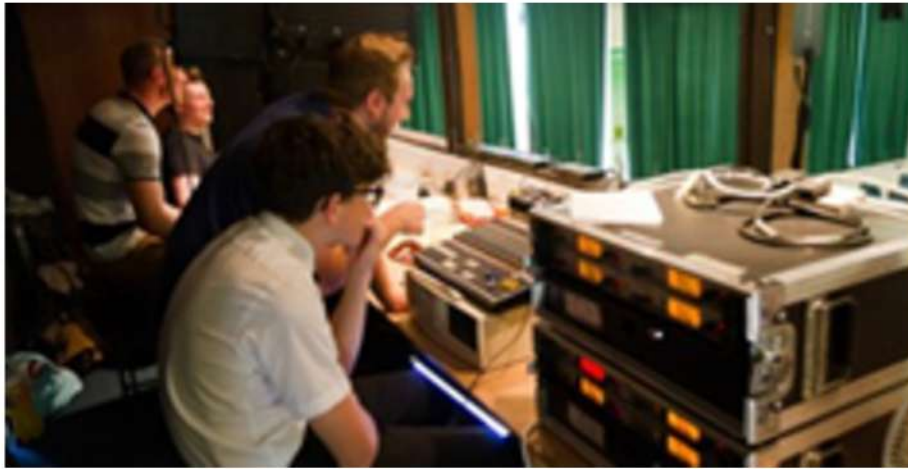
There is a team of peripatetic teachers who offer lessons in woodwind, brass, string, guitar, and singing as an extension of the Music curriculum.

In Years 7-9, students develop an understanding of a range of musical topics including Blues, Reggae, Film music and World music, whilst at GCSE and A Level, students build on their listening and appraising, performing and composition skills.

Aspects such as Classical music, Popular music and 20th Century music are studied at this level. Students have access to a range of instruments and can also use subject based computer programs such as Encore and Sibelius in the fully equipped ICT suite.

Expressive Arts

Exciting projects offered for Years 7, 8 and 9 which include the five aspects of Expressive Arts. Learners will be able to explore and experience, create and express, respond and reflect.



Drama

The Drama department is an active and energetic department offering both GCSE and A Level studies.

Students are given the opportunity to show their performance and technical skills during the course and are often involved in assemblies, concerts, musicals and plays for both paying audiences and for other year groups as revision. The students' devised and scripted pieces are often performed during an evening performance before their assessments take place.

A wide range of texts from Miller to Bernard Shaw to Sophocles are studied and performed and students have the opportunity to study various Theatre Practitioners and experiment with their unique directing styles.

Theatre trips are a vital part of the course and students can enjoy a variety of experiences from local amateur performances to West End musicals during the popular London weekend.

In addition to all the opportunities provided within the curriculum, the Drama department offers various extra curricular activities, including drama club for Year 7 and 8, rehearsal time for GCSE and A level as well as the rehearsals which take place leading up to a summer concert or musical.



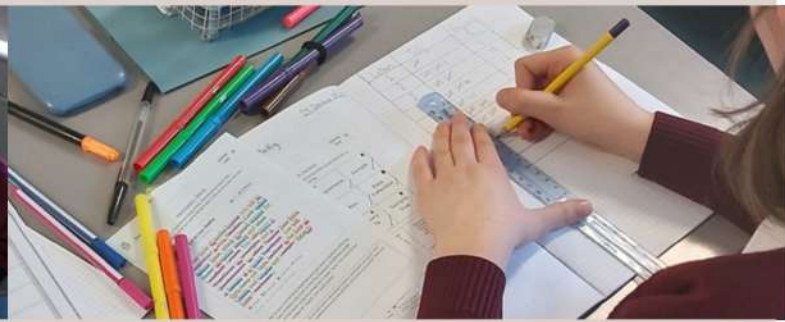
"Pupils take on leadership opportunities"

Estyn Nov 2022

Cyfadrn Mathemateg Mathematics Faculty

The Mathematics Faculty is composed of an experienced team of professionals with a wide range of skills, abilities, and experience who deliver high quality lessons to ensure each learner receives the best possible education in Mathematics and Finance.

With the use of the most up to date technologies in school and online, learners are able to access notes on taught lessons at home, download worksheets, take online tests and provide feedback to teachers on how they feel they are progressing through the course. Every teacher and learner has access to the Microsoft Teams package as well as dedicated online maths resources specifically purchased to help learners of all ages and abilities make progress.



GCSE Mathematics has undergone significant changes in recent years and now includes the delivery and examination of Numeracy and Mathematics qualifications.

In lower school the faculty follows a thematic curriculum designed for the new Curriculum for Wales. This develops students' deeper understanding of the subject and prepares them for GCSE studies, and a future in the real world.

There is a strong intake in Years 12 and 13 where the faculty has the expertise and experience to offer courses in Mathematics and Further Mathematics at A-Level for those who wish to continue their studies in this field. Preparation for higher education is provided as part of the programme.

Financial Studies are an important area of focus within the faculty. Lessons in Financial Literacy start in lower school, before learners are offered the opportunity to develop their interest further by opting to take up courses in Financial Studies developed by the London Institute of Banking and Finance at GCSE and A-Level.

The emphasis of the teaching is to try and tailor the course to suit each learner so that they have the confidence and tools to become a successful mathematician at Ysgol Eirias and beyond.

"Effective culture of reflection"

Estyn Nov 2022



Cyfadrn Wyddoniaeth Science Faculty

The Science Faculty is an energetic team of teachers specialised in Physics, Chemistry and Biology who endeavour to meet the needs of all students through the effective delivery of the Science curriculum.

The faculty is housed across ten well- equipped laboratories, all containing smart televisions. This enables the department to facilitate the integration of a range of modern resources into the delivery of the courses.



In Years 7 to 9, Science follows the Curriculum for Wales guidance in the Science and Technology Area of Learning Experience. Science is taught as an integrated discipline consisting of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and uses a practical skills approach. Students develop good integral skills and are able to present their findings clearly using scientific terminology.

GCSE offers the WJEC GCSE Double Award Science course and delivers a modern approach to Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students are encouraged to utilise their skills across all areas of work.

At A Level, courses are well subscribed, gaining excellent results across Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science. All A Level courses are achieved following the guidance of dedicated experienced staff.



Cyfadrn Gymreig Welsh Faculty



The Welsh Faculty plays an integral role in ensuring students at Ysgol Eirias appreciate and understand the importance of Welsh identity. The team is passionate about instilling a sense of pride in our students and to enable them to fulfil their potential.

At Ysgol Eirias, Welsh is taught as a second language with the option for more able students and those from Welsh medium primary schools to study an accelerated Gallop course.

Year 7-9 First Language

In Years 7-9, a range of topics such as leisure activities, the area, new technology and environmental issues are taught in a wide range of creative and dynamic ways. From writing emails and letters to group discussions and interactive presentations, all students develop essential skills which make them proficient communicators.

Year 7-9 Gallop Course

The gallop course ensures that students build upon their current fluency and maintains their passion for communicating through the medium of Welsh. Students are assessed using second language criteria through a specially designed curriculum aimed at maximising challenge and enthusing students who already have a high level of fluency in the language. Students study a range of topics such as extreme sports, prejudice and Welsh identity.

Year 10-11 Gallop Course

Students who have followed the gallop course in lower school may have the opportunity to sit their Welsh Second Language GCSE in Year 10 and study the Welsh Second Language AS Level in Year 11. This course of study offers sufficient challenge and ensures students achieve high fluency in the language.

Year 10-13 Second Language

Issues relating to Colwyn Bay, Wales and The World are central to the curriculum at GCSE level. The skills students have acquired in Years 7-9 are developed to encourage greater oral fluency and a more sophisticated syntax.

Communication in 'real' contexts is promoted and students are given the opportunity to practise their language skills in authentic situations. A knowledge and appreciation of Welsh heritage and culture is the focus at A Level.

Cyfadran Busnes a Chyfathrebu Business and Communications Faculty

Housed in a modern block, classes are taught by a dynamic team of highly-qualified and dedicated teachers. There are over 200 computers in the Faculty with access to the latest software through Office 365. All rooms have printers and most have scanners, whilst digital cameras, camcorders and recording equipment are also available. Support staff ensure the smooth running of the technology.



In Year 8, students have 3 dedicated Digital Skills lessons per week. This drops to 2 lessons per week in Year 9. Students will discover the basics of word processing, spreadsheets, databases, desktop publishing and PowerPoint presentations.

The emphasis in Years 7-9 is threefold: students are encouraged to develop their technical skills and become confident in trying out new features of the software; they will work on their layout and presentation skills to make their documents as professional as possible and they will learn and use key Digital Skills concepts.

A number of subjects are delivered in Years 10 and 11. A GCSE in Digital Technology is studied by many students. The course in Digital Technology is very practical and students develop their understanding of software encountered in Years 7-9, as well as being introduced to more sophisticated software packages. Other optional subjects include Business, Tourism and Computer Science.

The emphasis in these subjects is on developing the important skills of communication, analysis and evaluation, which help our students to become better decision makers.

Year 12 and 13 subjects are very popular and include Digital Technology, Economics, Health and Social Care Tourism, Computer Science and a range of Business courses. Many of our students continue their study of these subjects at university.

Enterprise thrives at the school with all students taking the Enterprise Skills Challenge in Year 10.

Formal debating is popular and teams have entered national competitions including the mock debate of the EU Council and the Stock Market Challenge.

A number of visits to companies can be undertaken to develop our students' understanding of the world of business and the importance of ICT. Links with local business provide design opportunities for students in ICT.

Visiting speakers are used to enhance the delivery of our subjects. Students on Tourism courses make visits to assess how tourism is managed and developed in a variety of locations as well as preparing a visit of their own. Economists enter a range of competitions, including the renowned Bank of England Challenge.

Cyfadrn leithoedd Languages Faculty

Comprising: International Languages (French, German and Mandarin)

Creative and dynamic delivery of the Curriculum is of the utmost importance within the Languages Faculty and all members of the team strive to instil in our students a passion for learning languages and an understanding of different cultures.

The faculty aims to provide a range of opportunities for students to communicate and extend their use of Language, aided by the use of new technology and cultural links.



Year 7-9

In Years 7-9, a range of engaging topics such as new technology, leisure activities, healthy eating and travel are introduced, and combined with opportunities for creative use of language.

Within the faculty, emphasis is placed on the communicative approach to language learning and students develop their skills through role plays and presentations, games, grammatical knowledge and exposure to authentic texts and audio visual resources.

All of our Year 7 pupils also have the opportunity to participate in Mandarin lessons as a result of our links with the Confucius Institute. They can develop their knowledge of the language and culture.

“(teachers set) challenging work and have high expectations of all pupils”

Estyn Nov 2022

Year 10-13 French and German

Having already acquired a working knowledge of the language, the focus in International Languages at GCSE level is to promote spontaneous speech and enable students to communicate effectively with native speakers in different contexts.

Our students are provided with the skills to manipulate the language confidently and gain a cultural insight into the country in which the language is spoken.

At A level, students have an opportunity to study cultural issues relating to modern society and analyse films and literature, as well as further extend the range & complexity of their language skills.

Links with Bangor University allow pupils to participate in master classes to further develop fluency and confidence.

Cyfadran Technoleg Technology Faculty

Comprising: Engineering, Food & Nutrition, Product Design, Health & Social Care and Child Care, Art, Graphic Communication, and Textile Design.

The Faculty is housed in a modern suite of subject specific rooms and workshops. Additionally an ICT suite including access to a 3D printer is used to extend workshop experiences.



In Years 7-9, Technology pupils undertake a range of projects from designing and making meals to electronic lights, from soft toys to passive amplifiers.

Art pupils will undertake projects based on artists ranging from Lowry to Jasper Johns and experience everything from painting to printing and sketching to 3D sculpture.

For GCSE pupils can opt for a large range of Technology based subjects including Art, Engineering, Food & Nutrition, Health & Social Care and Child Care, Product Design, Graphic Communication, and Textile Design.

In GCSE Product Design pupils will pilot projects in Year 10 before embarking on a major project in Year 11. In Engineering, students will run a major practical project in Year 10 using a full range of workshop equipment and machinery before continuing with further project work in Year 11.



Food & Nutrition involves investigative and practical coursework in both Years 10 and 11. Health & Social Care and Childcare students will undertake research projects in Years 10 and 11, developing their own Health Campaign.

Graphic Communication involves two substantial pieces of coursework over the two year course involving both hand drawn and computer designed Graphic work.

In GCSE Art pupils produce major units of work based on Human Form, Still Life and Landscapes.

In Textile Design they will construct creative interior products, fashion garments, and other textile products using complex methods of decoration and stitch.



Cyfadran y Dyniaethau Humanities Faculty

Comprising: History, Geography, Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics, Sociology and Psychology.

The Humanities Faculty plays a vital role in equipping young people for adult life. The Humanities subjects are concerned with people – how they live, their relationships with each other and the environment, and how human action and belief, now and in the past, have influenced events and conditions. An understanding of human societies helps us to make informed judgements about significant contemporary issues.

The Humanities teachers work together as an energetic and dynamic team to help young people develop an understanding of the social and cultural context of modern society and the range of possible futures in a world of rapid technological and cultural change.



History

In History, students learn about the development of Wales, Britain, Europe and the World using case studies from the Middle Ages to the 20th Century. The GCSE course offers a breadth of study covering Wales, Britain, and the USA.

Geography

The Geography curriculum is made up of both human and physical aspects, allowing students to develop an understanding of how humans interact with the environment, in an ever changing globalised world. Examples are drawn from Wales, Europe and the World to ensure that students have a balanced and contemporary view of local and global developments.

Religious Studies

In Religious Studies students are given an insight into the six main religions of the world, looking at founders of different faiths and places of worship. At KS4 all students study Core RS and Full and Short Course GCSE Philosophy and Ethics are offered. A consideration of Human Rights and Environmental issues are central to all that we do and we are committed to preparing students to live in a multi-cultural society.

Sociology

For naturally inquisitive and 'argumentative' learners who do not see the world in black and white terms, and are prepared to read widely, observe and research the world around us, this subject will enable them to see everyday life in a completely different way.

Psychology

The human mind is the most complex machine on earth, the source of all thought and behaviour. Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind. It is a multidimensional subject which includes many sub-fields of study such as human development, health, clinical, social behaviour and cognitive processes.

Underpinning all that we do is a commitment to equipping young people with the skills that enable them to become confident, autonomous learners. Field trips and educational visits play an important role in the Humanities Curriculum - both local and further afield.

Regular trips include:

- The WW1 battlefields
- Llanberis Slate Museum
- Imperial War Museum
- The Manchester Synagogue
- Liverpool Cathedral and Docks
- Iceland

Bagloriaeth Cymru Welsh Baccalaureate

The Welsh Baccalaureate is the flagship qualification of Wales. At the heart of the Welsh Baccalaureate is the Skills Challenge Certificate which comprises 3 challenges; The Enterprise and Employability Challenge,

The Community Challenge and The Global Citizenship Challenge. In addition, students must complete an Individual Project on a topic of interest to them.

To gain the full Welsh Baccalaureate students must also achieve a C grade in Maths Numeracy GCSE or Maths GCSE and English Language GCSE plus three other qualifications at the relevant level.

Attainment of the Welsh Baccalaureate is evidence of both academic achievement and the development of the essential skills that large employers and universities believe are vital to succeed.



Years 10 and 11

The Skills Challenge Certificate is delivered across a range of core curriculum areas.

The **Community Challenge** is embedded into Core PE, learners acquire the skills of linking to their local area, while considering the environmental impact of the pupils community.

The **Global Challenge** is delivered within core RS, starting in Year 9 and into the early part of Year 10. Learners consider the impacts of extremism on society, and develop their creativity skills through a raising awareness campaign for the issues they have considered.

The **Enterprise Challenge** is delivered by the Business Communications Faculty in one timetabled lesson a week in Year 10. Here learners will have the opportunity to work in a group to develop an innovative product and pitch their idea.

The Individual Project

At both levels of study students will complete an Individual Project relevant to that level, this is a research assignment that is student lead and can be on a topic of interest to students, ideally linked to continued study or future career aspirations.

The Individual Project is both challenging and exciting, allowing student to fulfil their potential. Recent lines of research have included an investigation into the working of the NHS and a report on the long term impact of Brexit.

Years 12 and 13

Two Advanced Skills qualifications run alongside, and enhance, the excellent pastoral programme delivered in the 6th form.

Year 12 are studying the new Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales qualification, giving them the opportunity to develop as global citizens and to contribute to the school in a community project whilst completing the Global Community Project. They are guided in planning for life after sixth form in their Future Destinations project before going on to complete their Individual Project in Year 13 to gain this A-level graded qualification.

Year 13 complete their Individual Project as the final part of their Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate where they choose a research topic of their choice linked to their future study or employment plans. This can be in the form of a dissertation, giving them valuable skills in preparation for university study, or they may make an artefact if they prefer.

Cyfadran Addysg Gorfforol Physical Education Faculty

The Physical Education faculty prides itself on the broad base of activities delivered by the specialist teachers during Years 7 to 9. A balance between team games, individual activities and Health & Wellbeing activities offers our younger learners the opportunity to develop existing skills and experience new activities alongside developing essential understanding for a healthy lifestyle.

The Faculty has a 4G Football/Rugby Pitch, a Gymnasium, a Health & wellbeing suite, an all-weather Hockey pitch, indoor and outdoor Tennis courts, an Athletics arena and an indoor multi-purpose training facility. We offer GCSE PE and KS5 Vocational Sport courses for students who wish to combine their practical ability with academic study of the subject.



Year 7 learners also study a Health and Wellbeing project as part of their PE lessons. In Years 8 and 9 learners will be given the opportunity to design their own programme of study with a choice of activities that they would like to experience each half term.

In Years 10 and 11, learners will design their own programme of study, focusing on the activities that they find enjoyable and challenging. Years 10 and 11 also offers new activities for the students, such as Volleyball and Badminton. The Faculty runs a varied extra-curricular programme which runs 4 days a week, 39 weeks of the year.

This programme is an extension of the curriculum, offering opportunities for the more able, motivated and talented to represent the school in many different sports, along with recreational activities for students of all abilities who are encouraged to attend.

"Extensive sporting opportunities promote pupils' physical health and a diverse menu of clubs help to expand their social and cultural experience and encourage their creative imagination."

Estyn Nov 2023

Our Aims:

- To enhance the health and well-being of every learner;
- To develop the physical literacy of all learners;
- To develop co-ordination and mobility through a structured and developmental programme of skill acquisition;
- To increase the awareness of each learner's own capabilities and an appreciation of individual differences;
- To develop a knowledge of safety procedures and an understanding of safe practice, including the need for rules and regulations;
- To acquire an appreciation of physical movement through participation, observation, analysis and evaluation of their own and others' actions;
- To provide opportunities for the development of cooperation, communication and creativity through structured and progressive problem-solving situations;
- To develop the ability to apply knowledge, skill and concepts appropriately and effectively in a variety of situations;
- To develop an appreciation of health, fitness and the benefits of an active lifestyle for a person's wellbeing;
- To promote lifelong involvement in physical activity for all.

Social media celebrating Physical Education at Ysgol Eirias

The PE faculty prides itself on the range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities that are available to learners of all abilities and experience levels. We are passionate about the physical, mental and social benefits of physical activity and promote lifelong involvement for the health and wellbeing of all learners.



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 29 Mar
6th form gymnastics group still going strong #wellbeing #yoga4teens @Eirias



Super day at the Conwy Nasuwt Athletics championships 🏆🏆🏆



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 23 May
Year 7 Health and Well-being lesson taking advantage of the weather and the setting in Parc Eirias. #mentalhealth #knowledgeispower #thenextgeneration @Eirias



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 24 Jan
We have broadened our KS 4 curriculum this year with the addition of a unit of Yoga. The feedback is very positive with focus on the wellbeing of our learners. Thank you to Sam Hare for her expertise. @Eirias #mindset #wellbeing



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 9 Mar
Great morning in Rhiw Bach mine and we then came out to the beautiful scenery above Cwm Penmachno. @nwoes @Eirias



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 28 Feb
Awesome day for group 4 today. They did their first black run. Huge progress from such a positive group. #gnarly @Eirias @HalsburySki



Chweched Dosbarth Sixth Form

At Ysgol Eirias we have a large Sixth Form housed in a purpose-built centre. It has a proud record of success including significant numbers of Oxbridge entrants and the school has been awarded top ten status by the Sunday Times a number of times.

The school offers a wide range of AS and Advanced Level courses as well as vocational courses. Some vocational courses may be combined with A Level courses.



Seren network and extra-curricular provision

The School actively engages in the Conwy and Denbighshire Seren Network. This provides our most able students to access opportunities to support their applications to the most competitive universities and courses.

For example, our students have attended seminars provided by Ysbyty Glan Clwyd for medicine, Oxbridge outreach events and residentials, university Open Days and subject master classes.

All students are given access to wide range of extra-curricular opportunities including university talks, a Higher Education Evening and UCAS Exhibition in the summer term of Year 12. We also have Skills Day, involving a wide range of activities to take students out of their comfort zone and build team spirit.

Alumni and guest speakers

As a large and thriving 6th form, we have the benefit of many alumni students who have gone on to a wide range of interesting academic and career paths.

We have invited many of our alumni students to come in to deliver interesting talks on subjects including:

- Studying and volunteering in the USA
- Life as an airline pilot
- Advanced Skills nursing
- Working for Google and Facebook
- Theatre direction
- A Turtle Conservation Project
- Studying Vet Science and Medicine
- Higher Apprenticeships in Engineering

This has enabled our students to gain insight into a wide range of pathways and build valuable links and work placement opportunities as a result.

AS and A2 Level Courses

A separate Sixth Form Prospectus is available [@eirias.co.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-prospectus](http://eirias.co.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-prospectus).

Applied Business	Drama and Theatre Studies	History	IFS Level 3 Certificate and Diploma
Applied Science	Economics	Mathematics	Financial Studies
Art	English Language	Music	
Biology	English Literature	Physics	
Business Studies	Environmental Science	Philosophy and Ethics	Cambridge Technical Level
Chemistry	French	Psychology	Health and Social Care
Classical Civilisations	Further Maths	Sociology	ICT
Computer Science	Geography	Cymraeg Ail iaith	Sport
Design Technology	German	Welsh Baccalaureate	

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion

Additional Learning Needs

Ysgol Eirias aims for all our students to reach their full potential. The whole school recognises the importance of the teacher's responsibility to provide high quality teaching for all using Universal Provisions and strategies in the mainstream classroom. We strive to ensure that there is inclusion for all. When a learner is not making adequate progress despite Universal approaches, then interventions to support learning may be put in place. All staff work positively to identify and support the individual learning needs of each student, with early identification being an important stage in this process. The interventions take place within our ALN and Inclusion resource areas and may take a short or longer-term approach. The resource area is made up of the following areas.

Hafod

This is a Local Authority resourced base for learners identified as having a Moderate Learning Disability. The placement in the base is written into a learner's Individual Development Plan however the ALNCo may also offer a temporary period of support when evidence shows that small group teaching is needed to benefit academic progress for an individual. Teaching supports the acquisition of basic skills needed in the classroom, development of self-esteem and confidence, social skills and provision of the essential skills required in daily life. During Years 10 and 11 the emphasis also includes the attainment of relevant qualifications and experiences to provide a smooth transition to post 16 education.



Inclusion

Eirias Pupil Inclusion Centre (EPIC)

EPIC is an area that support students who require emotional regulation, social or attendance support. Students will normally be placed in EPIC on a temporary basis where a bespoke package is designed for each individual student based on their needs. The focus is to support and mentor the learner to acquire the skills needed to help them access the mainstream environment. Many learners have hybrid support and for some this combination of learning environments is offered throughout their school journey. In

EPIC, learners can spend time on 'catch up work', revision and will take part in interventions offered individually or as part of a small group. In Years 10 and 11 there is the added opportunity to complete Level 2 qualifications which are more accessible. Students are encouraged to return to mainstream lessons as soon as they are able with ongoing support from EPIC and oversight by the Inclusion Manager.



Nurture

The Nurture base provides a haven for learners who may, for many different reasons, require a space to be able to express their emotions and be supported in a calm, private and understanding environment with a trusted adult. There are individual or small group interventions to support emotional and social development and to help learners process difficult or traumatic periods of their lives. All staff are trained in the interventions they run, and these are overseen by the ALNCo and appropriate external agencies.

Specialist Learning Support

A team of specialist teachers offer small group or one to one withdrawal support when Universal or short-term targeted interventions have not made the desired impact. The interventions are longer term and could include multi-sensory phonics, reading fluency, comprehension, writing skills, English support for learners with English as an Additional Language, handwriting, and numeracy support. Most learners receiving this high level of support will often have a diagnosed condition such as dyslexia, dyscalculia or neurodivergence however support is also given to learners who do not have an official diagnosis.

The ALN and Inclusion Team are fully committed to the success of its learners, and this was recognised in the most recent Estyn Inspection report (November 2022).

"Provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is a particular strength of the school. There is a staged approach to support, which is underpinned by positive relationships and strong values of inclusion. A well-organised and extensive support team enables the provision to be co-ordinated and tailored to meet the needs of pupils well. 'Hafod', the nurture room, allows pupils who require extra support to access individual or group sessions with a variety of specialist staff. This enables these pupils to engage positively with their education and develop self-confidence. The Eirias Pupil Inclusion Centre (EPIC) provides a safe and calm environment for pupils with emotional difficulties."



Pastoral Organisation

In order to support children moving from their primary school, we have appointed a Transition Co-ordinator whose role it is to ensure that their transition is as smooth as possible.

To help Year 7 settle in to school, they are mainly taught in a dedicated Homebase room. These rooms are situated near each other so that they have a Year 7 community feel.

The school is arranged by year groups from Years 7 to 13. There are dedicated form tutors within year groups for each form. It is usual for the form teacher to remain with the form group from Year 7-11 which allows strong links to develop. Each year group is led by a Head of Learning who is supported by an Assistant Head of Learning.

Whilst the Head of Learning for Years 12 and 13 remain static to facilitate links with universities, it is usual for the Head of Learning to remain with the year group to and move up the school together from Year 7-11.



KIVA is an acronym for 'Kiusaamista Vasteen', Finnish for Anti-Bullying.

The programme is based on robust research that shows how the responses of bystanders maintain and decrease bullying behaviour

The programme runs through primary and secondary school and aims to support social relationships in the classroom and school community as a whole.

The programme is taught in Years 7 and 9 and has universal actions, at both class and school level, and indicated actions that address confirmed cases of bullying.

There is a dedicated team of staff implementing KiVa.



Cynllun Ysgolion Iach Healthy Schools Scheme

Ysgol Eirias is a Phase 5 Healthy School and uses the national quality award guidelines as a tool kit for providing our students with the best possible foundation to lead a healthy lifestyle and enjoy their learning environment.

In accordance with the Appetite for Life measure, our restaurant offers students a variety of choices each day that are nutritionally analysed. Healthy eating is encouraged and promoted through meal deals and offers. Students who do choose to bring their own lunch are also asked to follow the government guidelines.

Our Student Voice is a proactive group that works closely with our catering team to ensure the food is tasty and meets the guidelines.

The menu has been adapted based on student feedback and taste test to develop the seasonal menus.



Restaurant Facilities

The school runs a cashless system, whereby parents can use the Parent Pay app or website to credit their child's account. Free school meal allowances are topped up automatically every lunch time. The restaurant offers students a range of different choices daily which is freshly prepared:

- A traditional counter offering a two courses meal. Examples being a roast dinner and apple crumble. Vegetarian options are also available.
- A pasta bar
- A Curry bar
- A grab and go counter for more convenience
- A sandwich deli, students can choose their own type of bread and sandwich filling and have it made up for them.

Special diets can be accommodated, please contact the head chef for details.

The average cost of a two course lunch is £3.10. Students who bring in a packed lunch eat in the school hall and may also purchase drinks, fruit and confectionary.

The restaurant is also open at break time to serve their breakfast/snack menu and allow students to top up their dinner cards if they are paying with cash.

Ysgol Eirias Student Voice

Student Voice works closely with the whole school, community, leadership team, governors and parents to help make Eirias a great environment to learn and develop life skills.

Student Voice meets every half term and is made up of students from all year groups. This includes 2 year group representatives as well as leaders from the Diversity, Environment, Learning, Publicity and Wellbeing teams. Any student can apply to become a member. We also have 2 members as part of the school's Governing body and the Conwy Youth council.

The role of Student Voice is to actively engage our learners as participants in their education and in making a positive contribution to their school and local community. Students are given the opportunity to play an active role within school, voicing their opinions and having their views taken into account in decisions that affect them.

This can range from improving mental health to deciding new staff appointments. Student Voice also helps students to develop their leadership skills, such as collaboration and communication and to encourage them to take responsibility for their decisions.

Students are also involved in a variety of other activities. This includes raising money for local and national charities, deciding canteen menus, and working with departmental leaders to shape and review our curriculum. Students also work as part of the Publicity team to produce the 'Eirias Chronicle'. This provides news every term on what's going on within school.

Student Voice gives learners the opportunity to ask questions and help shape our school and help it work in the community. They invite a range of visitors to meetings and meet regularly with the Leadership Team to discuss their concerns and ways to solve issues raised by the student body.

Student Voice is involved in a variety of activities with the local food bank, children's hospices through to new initiatives at school to help shape the learning experience here at Eirias.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors are a group of students, from various year groups, who have attended training on various areas to help support others. This ranges from mental health to healthy relationships. The students create resources for staff to share with form classes on various topics that promote wellbeing.

Rewards at Ysgol Eirias

The school aims to provide high standards of behaviour, self discipline and learning through positive encouragement and reward.

As well as praise in class and through written comments in exercise books, students are rewarded in a variety of ways.

Across the school, students collect achievement points for good work and behaviour and there are termly competitions among the tutor groups for the largest number of points collected.

Certificates for attendance are also awarded. Stickers are awarded for exceptional achievements.

Postcards are also used and are sent home to students on a termly basis.

"Pupils carry out their roles with enthusiasm and maturity and develop their personal and social skills successfully."

"The School Council has influenced teaching and learning through the 'Learning Provision Plan' by sharing their expectations of good learning experiences and how teachers provide support to meet their needs."

Estyn Nov 2023

Canllawiau Gyrfa Career Guidance

Career guidance and support is an important feature of students' experience from Year 7 – Year 13.

Building on self awareness and appreciation of skills, careers is an integral part of the Pastoral Programme with many additional opportunities as outlined below.

At Ysgol Eirias, we strive to enable students to develop careers awareness through their pastoral topics but also as related to their subjects.

The programme is designed to equip young people with the skills they will need in order to manage their working life, whether they leave education at 16, 18 or 21 so that they have the most up-to-date knowledge and understanding of working practices to make effective career choices

Our range of services includes:

- A pastoral programme of careers education, which provides opportunities to develop and apply the knowledge, understanding and skill necessary to make realistic career decisions;
- Identification of careers links in all Faculty (subject based) schemes of work and a developing interest in work related education;
- A dedicated Carers Wales advisor based in school 3 days per week;
- Individual guidance from independent Careers Wales staff;
- Access to Careers Wales online comprehensive personalised website for careers information, career planning and options selection;
- A school assigned business engagement advisor for enrichment activity.

“The school works closely with a range of external partners to provide helpful support for pupils”

Estyn Nov 2023

Sixth Form Careers

Sixth Form students have their own dedicated careers resource section within their excellent Resource Base facility which is well stocked and regularly updated, catering for employment opportunities, apprenticeships, scholarships and further education applications.

Periodicals, magazines and newspapers are additional resources to internet access.

There is a regular and current programme of opportunities to engage with employers, HE providers, subject and skills specific events.

The university entrance programme is described in the Sixth Form prospectus and students are individually supported by both Careers Wales and school staff at every stage of their application.

A supporting and successful service is provided for potential Oxbridge candidates involving appropriate and specialist expertise.

Addysg berthynas Relationship Education

In Ysgol Eirias we strive to ensure that all our young people have the knowledge and understanding to make decisions that will enable them to lead happy and healthy lifestyles, but also equip them with the skill set to question, evaluate and have the confidence to seek help in times of need.

Our PSE Programme has been designed to develop personal responsibility, self-esteem, respect and consideration of others through a formal manner lead by the pastoral team.

Health professionals will occasionally be invited into the school to help lead the students through the programme.

The PSE programme is updated every year to meet the ever evolving needs of our students, changes to the programme are made based on student feedback, results from our health and wellbeing survey, consultation with other professionals based in the community and parents. The scheme of work can be viewed via our website or upon request via the Head of Learning.

RVE, RS, and Collective Worship

All Years 7 to 9 students will be studying Religion, Values and Ethics. They will be working through lenses which include:

- How people live together in society,
- What makes us who we are as people,
- Communities and citizens living in a diverse world,
- How people respond to the deeper questions of life,
- How and why people have moral choices and how this influences their actions.

During Years 10 and 11, Religious Studies short course is a core subject but students can opt to take a GCSE in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics.

Religious and moral issues can be addressed through the Daily Act of Collective Worship in form time, or a whole year group can come together for a weekly assembly.

Assemblies provide opportunities where all students can relate to issues and morals regardless of their faith and religion.



Homework at Eirias

Homework is an integral element of the student's education and is set on a regular basis.

Homework is set using Microsoft Teams and will be posted by the class teacher for all learners.

Parental support in supervising the completion of such work is appreciated. Homework Club runs daily in the Library and is supervised by staff.



Equal Opportunities

The concept of equal opportunities is based upon the principles that each individual has the right to human respect and dignity.

Equal opportunities in practice involves recognising and responding to an individual's needs. It is implemented for the whole school ethos, for student development, for staff development and to fulfil our legal obligations.

Our aims are to be a fully inclusive school and to take reasonable steps to ensure that there are no discriminations against any student. For this to be in effect, we aim to encourage all in the school community to challenge stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice and develop confidence. Any form of harassment will not be tolerated and will be dealt with through appropriate action by a member of staff.

Equal opportunities does not mean treating every person in the same way. It means acknowledging and responding to individual needs and strengths allowing students to endeavour to fulfil their potential.

It is the responsibility of all staff to develop approaches which support and promote Ysgol Eirias policy, to maximise student development.



“an inclusive and supportive ethos”

Estyn Nov 2023

General Information

Students are expected to come to school with the correct equipment for each lesson.

General Equipment

Pens, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, pencil case, geometry set, calculator. A strong school bag will be needed to carry books and equipment.

All items should be clearly labelled with students name and form.

Prohibited items

The school will accept no responsibility for prohibited items brought to school such as mobile phones, cameras and other expensive items.

Anyone seen using these whilst on school premises may have the item confiscated and parents may be expected to collect the item.

Child Protection

Ysgol Eirias fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection within the All Wales Child Protection Procedures.

Occasionally, a young person may disclose that something has happened to them which suggests they are at risk of harm. When this happens school is required by law to inform the local Social Services Department who will, if necessary, investigate the matter. Naturally, school will inform parents of the concern unless in doing so the pupil would be placed at increased risk of further harm.

Security, Health and Safety of Students and Staff

The security gates and accompanying Maglock door releases, combined with internal and external CCTV, ensures the onsite safety of our school premises.

All visitors report to the main reception where they sign in and out, and are issued with a visitor badge for easy identification around the school.

Outside of lesson time students are supervised by staff at the start of school, at break, lunchtime, and as they leave school at the end of the day.

There are approximately twenty teaching and administrative staff qualified as first aiders.

The school makes every effort to ensure that the school environment is a safe one for everyone and has a comprehensive Health and Safety policy that is available on request

Looked After Children

Ysgol Eirias is a fully inclusive school and as such the Head, Governors and staff are committed to ensuring all students are provided with a quality education matched to their individual needs. This includes Looked After Children (LAC).

We are aware of the educational disadvantages faced by Looked After Children and understand the need for positive systems of support to overcome them. At Ysgol Eirias we constantly monitor the attendance, progress and achievement of our Looked After Children. Mr A Metcalf, Assistant Head, has responsibility for the oversight of Looked After Children.

Ysgrifennu Adroddiadau Report Writing

Students receive feedback from teaching staff on a regular basis, but parents will receive formal reports in two forms during the academic year.

The 'Termly Update' is designed to provide a snapshot of progress, and contains an indication of progress towards agreed target levels or grades, whilst the 'Annual Report' will in addition contain detailed written comments from each teacher and target areas for improvement.

All reports are electronically produced, draw on a wealth of assessment data and are specifically designed to involve parents in the education process. We use Talaxy as a platform for communication with parents.



Bilingualism

At Ysgol Eirias, we are proud of our Welsh heritage, culture and language. It's an integral part of our national identity. This is reflected in the Welsh we speak and hear around school and this will enrich everyone's experience of living in a bilingual country. We strive to give every student the opportunity to develop their Welsh language skills as we firmly support the Welsh Government's vision of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Mandarin

Ysgol Eirias is one of Wales' Confucius Classrooms, which supports the delivery of Mandarin language lessons and teaches understanding of the Chinese culture. With a dedicated tutor to deliver Chinese within the school, our students have the opportunity to experience a range of activities and language learning journeys through lessons, after school clubs and trips. In 2016, Eirias students visited Xiamen University as part of their studies. Many of our students go on to gain valuable qualifications in the Chinese language and benefit from the opportunities this brings.

"a caring and inclusive community"

Estyn Nov 2023

Extra Curricular and Experiential Learning at Ysgol Eirias

Ysgol Eirias offers an extensive range of forever increasing extra-curricular activities for our pupils to get involved in. Sports clubs and fixtures take place across the academic year with a choice of activities to attend each night of the week. Our pupils are able to enjoy the use of our incredible facilities including: Hockey AstroTurf, Indoor and outdoor Tennis Courts, 2 x full size 4G pitches, indoor 3G Barn, athletics track, performance gym and more.

In addition, we offer a range of alternative activities after school including Cooking Club, Tech Club, Photography Club, Choir, Orchestra, Drama Club, Homework Club and more. Pupils are encouraged to attend as many extracurricular activities as possible to enhance their physical, social and mental wellbeing.



One of many competitive sporting fixtures played on our full size 4G pitch.



An introductory cricket session for our Year 7 learners delivered by Cricket Wales in the indoor Barn facility.

Here at Ysgol Eirias we believe that learning is derived from experiences both in and outside of the classroom. We work closely with Careers Wales to provide opportunities for our learners to engage with local and national employers. Local, national and international trips take place every year to enhance learning experiences for our pupils. We are proud of our Duke of Edinburgh provision which offers pupils the chance to gain skills and qualifications in the Bronze, Silver and Gold award.



We are proud of the continuing growth and pupil involvement in our Duke of Edinburgh award programme.



A beach clean up pupils took part in at Colwyn bay beach. Ysgol Eirias recently adopted a stretch of the beach to help maintain part of our local community.

Llwyddo gyda'n gilydd Succeeding together



Our Year 9 pupils were lucky enough to experience a full week working with and learning the skills necessary to become firefighters



Our annual Ski Trip which provides our pupils with a fantastic opportunity from beginners GB standard learners.



Learners experiencing the Sports Science facilities at Bangor University prior to making their University applications.



Our annual languages trip to Berlin – Allowing learners to experience a taste of the German culture whilst using their language skills learnt in lessons.



To see more of what we have been up to recently head over to our Social Media channels:

Instagram: @ysgoleirias @experienceeirias

Facebook: eiriashighschool

Twitter: @eirias

All clubs:

- Badminton Club
- Basketball Club
- Hockey Club
- Football Club
- Netball Club
- Rugby Club
- Gymnastics Club
- Fitness Club
- Gospel / Choir
- Orchestra
- Drama Club
- Dance Club
- Film Club
- Cookery Club
- Clwb siarad Cymraeg (Welsh speaking club)
- Homework Club
- Engineering Club
- Our Environment Club
- Young Enterprize Club
- Clwb Enfys
- Mandarin Club

The School and Governing Body

The school is proud of the effective working partnership between its senior staff and the Governing Body. The Chair of Governors is Mr. Kerry Jones. If you wish to contact him, please do so using the school address.

Student Manager

Our Student Manager is Mrs. Rowlands whose role includes supporting Heads of Learning and Deputy Heads with student pastoral aspects such as uniform, punctuality and attendance.

Mrs. Rowlands supervises the school referral area dealing with student behavioural, social and medical issues and relaying this information to parents where appropriate. If you wish to make an appointment with Mrs. Rowlands regarding any issues, these can be made through Reception.

Electronic Registration

Registration of students at Ysgol Eirias is conducted electronically over the school's wireless network during every lesson and at the start of the morning session.

This allows for prompt information exchange between teaching staff and the pastoral teams within the school so that issues relating to attendance and punctuality can be identified quickly and addressed effectively.

Support is given to students with attendance below 90% through the involvement of various agencies at the discretion of their Head of Learning.

Library and Homework Club

The Ysgol Eirias Library has a wide range of materials and offers a Homework club for Years 7 and 8 after school in the Library. BOOST is available for Years 9-11.

- Open until 4.15pm Monday to Thursday
- Open until 4.00pm Friday
- Pupils must bring work with them

Holidays in Term time

At Ysgol Eirias we do not approve of holidays taken in term time. We feel very strongly that the benefits of a holiday taken in term time are far inferior to the benefit of the education that we provide.

The staff at Eirias work hard to ensure the effective delivery of all aspects of the students' education, and it is not possible to catch up on this once missed, despite any efforts made to copy up.

We are not obliged to authorise holidays and will certainly not authorise holidays under the following circumstances:

- Where attendance of the student is less than 96%
- Where the student is not accompanied by the parent or guardian
- Where holidays are close to or include examination periods
- Where the time exceeds 10 school days

Initial Teacher Education

The school is a centre for Initial Teacher Education. The structure of the course requires the majority of an Associate Teacher time to be spent in school.

The management of the ITE programme at Eirias seeks to provide a supportive environment and a quality training package in which Associate Teachers can develop their skills. Each Associate Teacher is assigned to a subject mentor under the overall guidance of the Principal or Lead Mentor. The Associate Teachers in the teaching practice blocks are supported by a framework of supervision and guidance.

Regular lesson observation and feedback ensure an ongoing dialogue and encourage self reflection.

Associate Teachers to take responsibility for their progress through reflection and target setting.

Ysgol Eirias is proud to be a Lead Network School for Caban: The North Wales ITE Programme.

Other development opportunities include Step into Teaching, Developing Teachers and Middle Leaders courses. These courses are run in-house and are designed to support teachers in their ongoing development.

The school is also part of the 'IRIS' community: a staff development system that enables staff to securely record their teaching in order to improve and develop practice.



School Charges and Remission

The Governing Body is required by the Education Reform Act, 1996, section 449-462, together with the Welsh Office Circular 4/89 to establish a Charging Policy that conforms to the requirements of the legislation.

General Principles

No charge can be made for admission to Ysgol Eirias.

No charge would be made for entry into any recognised public examinations provided the students have been prepared within the school. If, however, the student fails to attend, or fails to prepare for such an examination without good reason, the parent or guardian may be charged the examination fees.

Charges will be made where students wish to re-sit examinations.

Voluntary contributions may be requested by the Governing Body to cover the costs of any visit/activities in school and outside of it, provided these experiences fall outside the National Curriculum

Where charging is permissible, in accordance with the legislation, the Governing Body may use its discretion whether to make any charge.

In practical subjects or project work, a charge for materials or ingredients may be requested in cash or kind, on the condition that parents or guardians have agreed in advance, and that they wish to own the finished artefact/product. Students should not be excluded if no contribution is made.

Where school property has been damaged, payment may be requested.

Music tuition is paid through Parent Pay.



Admissions Policy

Application for entry to Year 7 at Ysgol Eirias

Application for Year 7 entry to Ysgol Eirias should be made by completing the application form provided. The number of intended admissions for Year 7 is 239. For information on admissions you can contact our Admissions Officer through reception.

Where applications exceed the number of places available, certain criteria contained in the Admissions Policy Document will be applied to determine admission. A copy is available on request. Where admission has not been possible, parents or guardians may appeal through the Independent Appeals Committee.

Sixth Form

Students wishing to access courses at Ysgol Eirias Sixth Form must meet certain entry requirements.

The criteria are published in the Sixth Form prospectus which is available on request. In all cases a good attendance record during Years 10 and 11 education is expected.

Contacting Ysgol Eirias

Ysgol Eirias, Eirias Road, Colwyn Bay North Wales LL29 7SP

Tel: 01492 532 025

E-mail: general@eirias.conwy.sch.uk

Reception

Mon - Thurs 08.00 - 15.45

Friday 08.00 - 15.15

Parents who wish to send an urgent message to their child may do so by telephoning Reception and the message will be passed on.

Absences

In the event of a student's absence please inform the school Attendance Officer on the day of absence. This should be followed by a note when the student returns to school.

We also require a note if parents wish their child to leave the premises during normal school hours.



Complaints Policy

Of course we hope there are no complaints, but if you do have any concern please contact the school as described below:

If any parent/student has a complaint, it must be addressed to the Headteacher, who will endeavour to respond as quickly as possible. Nevertheless matters requiring investigation may require a reasonable amount of time.

If the complainant is dissatisfied with the Headteacher's response, The Chairman of Governors should be contacted. If unable to deal with the issue directly, it will be referred to the appropriate Governors committee. The complaint must be submitted in a written formal complaint, specifying its nature as exactly as possible.

The Headteacher will consider urgent complaints as quickly as possible. In any event the Headteacher will inform the complainant within twelve school days.

Documents available to Parents

The 1988 Education Reform Act require schools to inform parents of the arrangements made for them to view documents relating to a variety of matters.

School policy documents can be found on the school website or by contacting the school.

DISCLAIMER:

The information contained in this Prospectus was correct at the time of publication.

Ysgol Eirias reserves the right to make changes in the best interest of maintaining high standards.





worklife support





Award for
Excellence



for Community
Service



Recognition of
Quality Award



Schools Curriculum Award



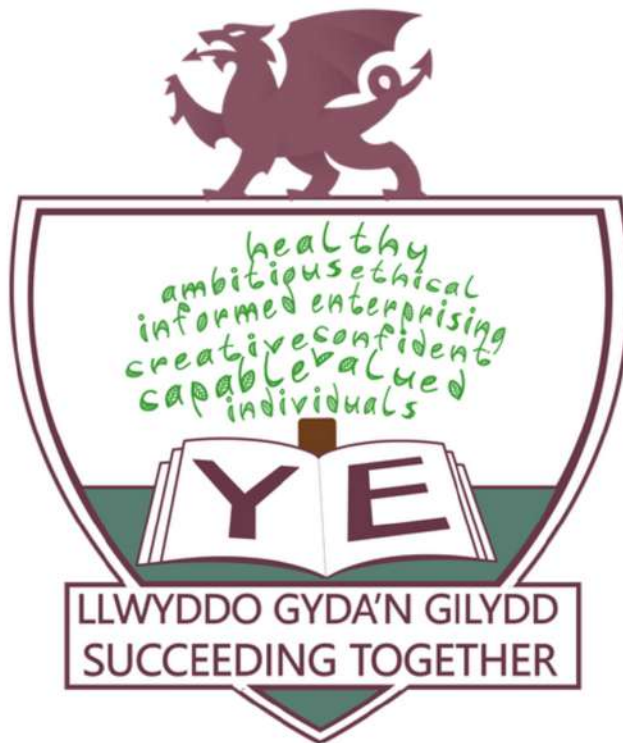
International
School Award
2011-2014



UK Winner
National Training Awards 2008



Ysgol Eirias



Ysgol Eirias,
Ffordd Eirias,
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