

# Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School



Bringing out the best  
in each other

## School Prospectus 2023-24

*'An inclusive, nurturing community, inspiring and  
celebrating bright futures for all.'*

**Discover Respect Persevere**

# Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School

## Prospectus 2023 - 2024

Headteacher: Mrs L. Tuffin

School Address:

Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School  
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SY21 7FA



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Local Education Authority

Schools Service

Powys County Council

Spa Road East

Llandrindod Wells

Powys

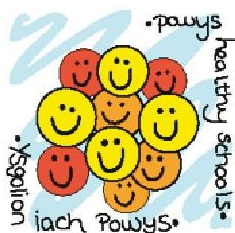
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Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School is an English medium, Voluntary Controlled Church in Wales primary school in the market town of Welshpool. We are very proud to be the first Passivhaus School in Powys! As an inclusive, nurturing community, inspiring and celebrating bright futures for all, we welcome you and your child and look forward to a long and happy association.





Dear Parent,

Welcome to Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School.

These are exciting times in education in Wales. Schools are being entrusted with the task of nurturing pupils to be “ambitious and capable, ethical and informed, healthy and confident, enterprising and creative”.

Church schools seek to provide their pupils with the highest standard of academic provision, rooted in values derived from the Gospel. Regardless of personal belief, however, all our pupils will be encouraged to explore such issues as justice, compassion, forgiveness, community, reverence, humility, gratitude, trust, perseverance, friendship and peace, seeing how such values can shape both their own lives and the communities in which they live.

So, a Church school knows that its mission is to educate; to educate for skills and knowledge, and the wisdom to use these in the service of humankind; to educate for hope and aspiration, based on a vision of humanity where we are all one family, beautiful in our diversity; to educate for community and living well together, understanding and respecting our differences while celebrating and strengthening all that unites us, and where faith can inform and encourage.

The staff and governors of the school will do all they can to ensure that every pupil will receive the support and challenge they need to grow and flourish to their own unique potential. The skills-based, content-rich, enquiry-led, experiential learning children will receive here aims to give them the best possible foundation on which to grow and develop as 21<sup>st</sup> century citizens of our nation.

With my very best wishes in Christ,



Gregory Llanelwy  
Bishop of St Asaph



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in each other

## A Message from the Chair of Governors

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It gives me great pleasure as Chair of the Governing Body to say a few words about our Church in Wales Primary School.

Our school seeks to promote the well-being of every person in the school. With each child in our care, we strive to develop self-esteem, support social development, stimulate the inquiring mind and plan for academic success. We as parents/carers, teachers and governors have the responsibility to ensure that all our children receive the best start in life so that they are able to achieve their full potential.

In March 2022 we had a very successful Estyn inspection and the school's support for young carers was described as "innovate and effective". Early in the year we were also visited by Deputy Minister for Social Services, Julie Morgan who spoke to staff and pupils about our exemplary work with Young Carers. And in May, our Eco Committee took part in the Climate Challenge Cymru project arranged by Eluned Morgan, Senedd Member for Mid and West Wales. We were fortunate to have Eluned Morgan visit the school to meet with the Eco Committee and to find out more about the work they were involved with. Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School were shortlisted as a finalist in the RSPB category! We have also received the Gold Quality Mark to celebrate and recognise our continued contribution to the Welsh Government's Food and Fun programme.



I would like to pay tribute to the head teacher, the staff, the pupils, and the board of governors, parents and carers who have worked to ensure that our Church in Wales Primary School is a happy and successful environment for our children. I wish you and your families well for the new school year.

Yours Faithfully,

*Francesca Jump*

Chair of Governors



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September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I feel truly privileged to be the headteacher of Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School. It is an honour to be part of this school and all that it means to the lives of our pupils and to the local community.

We are at an exciting time in education in Wales where, as a profession of teachers, we are contributing to a new curriculum for our pupils. It has always been my view that a curriculum for all our pupils should allow every child to benefit from personalised learning, it should ensure that no child is disadvantaged by poverty in any form, and should build on collective responsibility and a sound evidence base. It is my responsibility to build the capacity for a self-improving system, to draw on the best of existing practice within Wales and from elsewhere, and to embody high expectations where there are no limits on achievement for each individual child. As headteacher of a Church in Wales school, I have the privilege of doing so within a distinctly Christian context.

At Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School we have an excellent professional workforce with strong pedagogy based on an understanding of what works, and ensure that success is celebrated and excellence is recognised. Working together with the school community, we deliver a curriculum which is engaging and attractive to children and young people and which develops within them an independent ability to apply knowledge and skills; one that will be a passport to future learning.

When we were inspected by Estyn, our best practice was recognised and we were invited to submit a case study on our innovative work with Young Carers. In our final Estyn report it was noted that: *"Pupils' wellbeing is at the heart of the school and staff work hard to ensure that the school is a thoughtful and inclusive environment."*

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. L. Tuffin

(Headteacher)

## WHAT DO ESTYN SAY ABOUT US?

(March 2022)

“Pupils at Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School enjoy attending school. They are keen to talk to adults and speak confidently about how proud they are to be in their new school building. Pupils feel safe and well cared for, and they trust that adults will always support them through difficult times. Pupils have many opportunities to make decisions about improving their school and are delighted to work alongside school leaders to bring about change.”

“The school’s work in partnership with parents and support agencies is exceptional. Leaders think carefully about how to adapt the school’s provision to ensure better engagement with parents. For example, the school pastoral team organise courses that help parents to support their child's well-being and provide thoughtful aid to those who find themselves in challenging circumstances. Parents have a deep trust that the school is doing the right thing for their children and that staff will always act in their best interests and work with them sensitively, for example when supporting parents to develop effective behaviour management techniques.”

“Pupils' well-being is at the heart of the school and staff work hard to ensure that the school is a thoughtful and inclusive environment. This inclusivity is shown by the positive relationships between staff and pupils. Teachers, including those in the specialist centres, think carefully about how pupils learn best and employ a range of approaches to engage them successfully in their learning. All staff are developing their professional skills and knowledge together well. This enables them to adapt provision to best meet individual pupils’ needs. The care, support and guidance provided across the school community is exceptional and supports the school’s vision, to ‘bring out the best in each other’.”

“Pupil voice is a strength and most take full advantage of opportunities to be influential, for example through their work in a significant number of useful pupil voice groups. These groups include Worship Leaders who manage a ‘value points’ system that leads to rewards for good behaviour and Super Ambassadors who created a video to raise awareness of children’s rights. Most pupils feel that they are listened to well and that they influence the work and life of the school positively. They explore important values such as trust and compassion through the curriculum and demonstrate these qualities well throughout the day. Pupils know who to turn to if they have worries or concerns and that staff will provide them with the support they need. They know that they can rely on adults to deal effectively with any instances of poor behaviour. As a result of these positive attitudes and the work staff have done to create a strong nurturing ethos, the school is a calm and orderly learning environment.”

## Staffing

Headteacher Mrs. L. Tuffin

Deputy Headteacher Miss. W. Terry

### Teachers

Teacher Years 5/6 Miss. K. Jones and Mrs. E. Gregory

Teacher Years 5/6 Mr. G. Morgan

Teacher Years 5/6 Mr. A. Jones

Teacher Years 3/4 Miss J. Brighthouse

Teacher Years 3/4 Miss. V. Scott

Teacher Years 3/4 Miss. M. Kenny / Mr. L. Gregory

Teacher Year 2 Miss. A. Gittins-Evans / Miss. C. Parry

Teacher Years 1/2 Mrs. C. Gethin/Mrs. C. Evans

Teacher Year R/1 Miss. N. Barnes

Teacher Reception Mrs. L. Mills-Hogg

Teacher Specialist Centres Mrs. K. Pryce/Mrs. A. Gittins-Evans/Mrs. K. Corfield Waters/Mrs. T. Day

Teaching Assistants Mrs. C. Cooper Mrs. J. Ford Mrs. D. Lloyd Mrs. J. Oliver  
Mrs. K. Blecharyck Mrs. S. Bills Mrs. C. Gittins Mrs H. Lewis  
Mrs. A. Rzeszotko Mrs. Z. Thomas Mrs. A. Surmay

Teaching Assistants Specialist Centres Mrs A. Gittins-Evans Miss. E. Davies Mrs. R. Smith

HLTA Miss. G. Rolinson

Forest School HLTA Mrs. J. Ellis

Family Support Co-ordinator TBC

Pastoral Care Support Workers Mrs. S. Thomas Mrs. A. Holdbrook-Caunce Miss. F. Andrew

Secretarial Staff Mrs. A. Walton Mrs. C. Barker

### Breakfast Cub Assistants

Ms. J. Winter Ms. S. Baines Mrs. K. Jones

### Midday Supervisors

Mrs. H. Lewis Ms. S. Baines Mrs. G. Perry Mrs. K. Jones Ms. J. Winter

### Cleaning Staff

Mrs. C. Thomas Miss. J. Winter Mr. K. Whitehouse Mrs. T. Whitehouse

Pre-School 3+ Setting Staff Leader - Miss. A. Wygold Assistants - Mrs. H. Lewis Miss. E. Kerr

Flying Start Pre-School Staff Leader - Mrs. L. Simister

Assistants - Mrs. M. Roberts Mrs. S. Pinchera Miss. P. Dixon

## Our School Vision and Values

At Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School, we believe in *'Bringing out the best in each other'*. We are an inclusive, nurturing community, inspiring and celebrating bright futures for all. We achieve our vision through our strong set of values which link to our Christian ethos.

### **Discover**

In our school we grasp opportunities, take measured risks, and apply our knowledge and skills creatively. Our learning experiences encourage us to develop a sense of awe and wonder and nurture deep learning and curiosity about ourselves and our world through exploration, investigation, challenge, and play. We seek the unknown, relish diverse possibilities and take part confidently, making sure that we are ready to lead happy, independent, fulfilling lives. We encourage, nurture, and support each other to express our ideas and emotions, allowing us to connect and build meaningful relationships within and across the varied communities and groups we belong to.

### **Persevere**

We set ourselves high standards, seek and enjoy challenges, make links between our learning, and deepen our thinking. Learning experiences support us to develop a Growth Mindset with a 'can-do' attitude. We collaborate, communicate, and reflect upon our learning so that we become courageous, free-thinking, problem-solving, resilient people who are proud of our many achievements.

### **Respect**

Respect is at the heart of all our relationships. We show this through being truthful and honest, ensuring fairness for all and being thankful for the people around us and our environment. We promote a diverse and inclusive community where everyone's rights are respected, and trust is built. We connect with the world around us and beyond and have experiences of different cultures, communities, and societies so that we can help build a sustainable future for everyone. We treat everyone with kindness, expressing love, friendship, and empathy for the diversity of our school community and beyond. We experience a culture of being kind and forgiving, understanding that by doing this we improve the lives of everyone around us.



## Our School Culture and Ethos



### Statement of Religious Ethos

Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School is proud to be a Christian School, supported by the Church in Wales. As Christians, we are taught above all to love each other and we aim to put this at the heart of everything we do. We believe in every child as an individual and that caring for a child should go hand in hand with teaching.

The local churches in Welshpool have a strong connection with the school and share in worship and other events, whilst the Diocese of St. Asaph offers a wide range of support to Church in Wales schools across N. E. Wales. The school and the church work together to give the children a firm foundation of Christian values and to help them to develop their own individual faith and understanding. At Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School our Christian philosophy supports positive encouragement as the best way to encourage growth and improvement and so we proactively celebrate our pupils' achievements.

Our school has a set of values that are rooted in the Christian faith, supplemented by some core human values. These values are very important to us and have been chosen by pupils and their parents/carers, and by staff. We have 11 core values, and there is a focus on a different value each month across the school. Each value is the focus of our daily worship and the theme for circle times. Values are celebrated through our special certificates that are presented in Celebration Assembly on Fridays. Pupils receive a special golden sticker if the value is spotted in their behaviour either by one of their peers or by an adult. These stickers are then reflected in our special values jars, which, once full, result in a treat for the whole school! The pupils are asked for suggestions about what the treat should be!

Month	Value
January	Truth and Honesty
February	Love
March	Perseverance
April	Forgiveness
May	Respect
June	Justice
July	Trust
September	Friendship
October	Thankfulness
November	Kindness
December	Equality

### Our Fairtrade Uniform

We remain proud of our Fairtrade school uniform. We were the first school in Wales to open with Fairtrade uniform. We feel that we are upholding the values of fairness and justice, while sending an important message about global citizenship to the whole school community. Fairtrade cotton means that we can be sure that the farmers who grow the cotton receive a fair and sustainable payment for their crop. Their communities also receive a premium for projects such as building schools, hospitals, access to clean water and so on. Being “Fairtrade Cotton Certified” means that all parts of the manufacturing process of the Fairtrade cotton garments have been inspected and audited. By embracing school uniform made with Fairtrade cotton, our pupils are given the opportunity to learn all about the ethical trading story behind it and this supports the curriculum well, ensuring our learners are ethical informed citizens of the future.



New uniform can be purchased from the school and we have pre-loved uniform too, please ask in the school foyer for details.



### Our Healthy School

Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School is proud to have achieved the National Quality Award for Healthy Schools ensuring that all our pupils and staff have an embedded understanding of how to live a healthy lifestyle.

### United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child

At Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School staff place central importance on the seven core aims for children summarised from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These core aims form the basis for decisions on priorities within our provision for mental and emotional health and well-being. We have two Super Ambassadors and two deputy Super Ambassadors who are responsible for bringing the Rights of the Child to the attention of the whole school community. The seven core aims are that all children:

1. Have a flying start in life
2. Have a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities
3. Enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation
4. Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities
5. Are listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised
6. Have a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional wellbeing
7. Are not disadvantaged by poverty.

## Admissions

We follow the Powys Local Authority Admissions Policy and applications for a place at our school must be made through Powys Admissions: [Applying for a School Place - Powys County Council](#) Children are admitted in the September following their fourth birthday. Our admission number is 51.

Many of our children who attend our Happitots Pre-School setting subsequently move into full-time school easily, helped by our transition arrangements. Children who have not had prior contact with the school are welcome to arrange to attend one or two sessions before their starting date.



## Our Environment, Security, Health and Safety and Safeguarding

We ensure that the school provides a safe and stimulating environment in which our children can thrive. We are very lucky to live in such a beautiful area and we make the most of our local environment; our Local Area Plan highlights how we make links with the community. We have dedicated Forest School areas within our grounds and good sporting facilities. Risk assessments and are carried out for all off-site activities, Forest School sessions and for residential. All security, health and safety issues are dealt with in a timely way and all equipment and appliances are tested by the Council Statutory Testing Service. Staff are vigilant and the site is regularly monitored to ensure that safeguarding and health and safety arrangements are followed as per our Health and Safety policy. Fire alarms and other services are tested and maintained regularly, with fire drills carried out on a half-termly basis; appropriate fire evacuation notices are displayed. The school is regularly inspected by the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority and the Fire Risk Assessment is reviewed annually. A named governor oversees Health and Safety.

All visitors are required to sign in at the school offices and our Safeguarding Audit is reviewed regularly. Copies of the school's [Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies and Procedures](#) can be found on the school website. It is the responsibility of all adults to ensure that children are cared for and are safe from harm. We have named staff responsible for child protection (Mrs Lorna Tuffin and Miss Wendi Terry), as well as a named Governor with responsibility for child protection. From time to time, if we feel a child may be at risk, it is necessary for the school to liaise with Social Services, Education Welfare and the Police Service regarding child protection.

## Data Protection

The school complies with all current requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regarding information stored. If you require any further details please contact the school office. The latest Privacy Notice (dated September 2020) can be found on the school website.

## **School Parent/Carer Partnerships**

We like to form a partnership with parents and carers and we encourage them to take an active role in school life. This involvement includes:

### **Curriculum Support**

Outside of the school day, we encourage parents to take an active part in supporting work in school. This can take the form of hearing your child read, or assisting in finding out information to support your child in their learning. We inform parents/carers each half term of the topic to be discussed in class. Topics can be supported with books and materials from home and with parents/carers helping to undertake any home based learning.

### **Swimming**

Parents and carers can be invited to walk with us to the swimming pool. It is advisable for children to wear clothes that are easy to take on and off on swimming days and that are clearly labelled with the child's name. We comply with Powys County Council Swimming Policy and details of this are provided at the start of the academic year.

### **Reading**

Parents and carers are invited into school to help with hearing children read. Children also bring reading books home to share with parents and other family members during the evening; children also have access to an online library of books which are assigned to them by their teacher. A free book bag is given to all pupils as they start in Reception.

### **Parental/Volunteer Support in Classrooms**

We welcome parent/carers or volunteer support in classrooms, working with children under the direction of the teacher. If parents/carers or volunteers have special skills or experiences that would enrich the learning for the children, we welcome you to share these during the year when appropriate to our topics. A volunteer DBS check is needed in these circumstances.

### **Friends of the School (PTA)**

There is an active Friends of the School who work hard to raise much needed money and provide opportunities for staff, parents and friends to meet socially. All parents and carers are invited to be members of the group, but we understand that some people are not able to give the time to attend meetings. However we do hope every family will join us at organised events; we rely on every parent's support to make events a success and to make money for additional activities and resources for the children.

## **Support for Families**

The school has access to a Family Support Co-ordinator who provides support for all children and their families who attend this school. The aim of this role is to help bridge the gap between school and home so that key adults in your child's life can work together to enable your child to be happy and successful in their learning as well as emotionally secure and settled. Often issues and difficulties at home affect a child's learning, while experiences at school can also affect home life and a child's wellbeing. The Family Support Co-ordinator can liaise with all staff so that your child's emotional wellbeing and learning is paramount.

### **So, how the Family Support Co-ordinator help?**

They are able to offer impartial support, advice and guidance to parents/carers every day. All support is confidential, although concerns relating to the safeguarding of children will always be dealt with in accordance to the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. They may not have all the answers, but they will work with you to find them! The aim is to build strong relationships with you, working together so every child can be happy, thriving and fulfilling their potential here at Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School. They have a school uniform bank and a hygiene bank and are able to offer free financial advice and signpost you to any other services that you may find useful.

The school also employs Polish Teaching Assistants who work with families to aid transition where English is an additional language. Please let us know if you need this service. These staff also work alongside the children in school to support them in their language development.

**If in doubt – please ask!**

## **The School Day**

School session times are 9.00am to 3.15pm for all pupils. Children enter their classes through their classroom door with doors open from 8.50 to allow plenty of time for a prompt start at 9.00. Children are dismissed at the end of the day from their class to their parents/carers; you can nominate another authorised person for pick up on your admission form. It is vitally important for safety that the school is informed when another person is picking up your child. Older pupils may walk home alone if permission to do so has been granted by their parents/carers.

## **Breakfast Club**

A free Breakfast Club is open to all pupils from 8.00am, there is no need to book but you will need to complete a Breakfast Club contract with your child.. Children are encouraged to have a healthy breakfast of cereals or toast, with a drink; breakfast is served until 8.30 am.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**



Parents and carers are invited to support their children at concerts and assemblies, as well as with after school clubs. A range of after school clubs run throughout the year and are hosted by class teachers, teaching assistants, outside agencies or specialist leaders.

## **Contacting the School**

If you need to discuss anything with the headteacher or class teacher please contact us either by phone, or by asking for an appointment through the school's social media page.

## **Car Park, Bikes and Scooters**

The school site has a large car park, please adhere to the traffic management signs that are in place. Please drive slowly (5 miles an hour) around the car park. Please do not park in the drop off areas or on the pavements. The school also has three bike parks, which we encourage the children to use; please ensure your child wears a safety helmet. Year 6 undertake cycling proficiency lessons.

### **Christian Worship**

A whole school daily act of worship is shared with all pupils and staff and is based upon our Christian values. Every Thursday worship is led by Welshpool Churches Together. We regularly visit St Mary's Church in Welshpool for special services throughout the year. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children wholly or in part from collective worship.



### **School Meals**

Nutritious school lunches are cooked on site. The school operates a cashless system, which will be explained to you when your child starts school. Children can bring their own packed lunch. We politely request that lunchboxes are healthy and reflect a balanced diet. A leaflet about healthy lunchboxes is available in school and on our school website. From January 2024, all pupils in classes from Reception to Year 4 are entitled to a school meal. However, you may also qualify for free school meal funding which gives additional support with items such as funding for school trips. Free school meals forms are available from school and on the school website.

### **Attendance**

The Education Act of 1996 states that parents/guardians have a responsibility to ensure all children between the ages of 5 and 16 years **attend school on a regular basis AND on time**. The ONLY legally acceptable reasons for non-attendance are illnesses, medical appointments, and Religious Days of Observance. The Education (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2013 introduced Fixed Penalty Notices for regular non-attendance at school. The Welsh Government has required all local authorities to draw up and implement their own Local Codes of Conduct to ensure consistency in the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices. The code was implemented in Powys from 27 February 2015. The Welsh Government states that Fixed Penalty Notices are one option among a number of different interventions available to promote better school attendance. The introduction of these regulations is one part of the Welsh Government strategy to support improved school attendance across Wales.

### **Notices of Absence from Parents**

To meet the requirements of the Welsh Government, please contact the school on the first morning of your child's absence. If we do not hear from you we will contact you via telephone or text to determine the reason for absence. If we do not receive an appropriate reason, an unauthorised absence will be recorded for your child. Persistent problems regarding absence or lateness in school must be reported to the Education Welfare Officer, who will investigate on behalf of the authority.

## Contact Details and Home School Agreement

On entry to school you will be asked to fill in a registration form with all relevant details for your child, including health issues and two emergency contact telephone numbers. This is then updated annually each September but we ask parents and carers to notify us of any changes as they occur. A privacy notice comes with the registration form and explains how the school uses your data. To meet the requirements of Welsh Government, all parents are asked to sign our Home School Agreement. This agreement states the actions that the school will undertake to enhance our partnership with families. It also states what we hope we can expect from parents, carers and pupils.

## Holidays

Holidays in term time are discouraged as it disrupts the child's education. However, head teachers may authorise holidays during term time if a child's attendance is over 90% at the time of the application, and if the circumstances are deemed by the head teacher to be such that the holiday cannot be taken at any other time. We ask parents to complete a holiday form no later than 28 days before the planned holiday, so that we have a record of all such absences. **No holidays will be authorised during testing periods in the school calendar.** The dates of school holidays often vary from year to year. Advance notices are given in newsletters to parents; a list of dates for the current year is included in this prospectus, and is also available in the office. Term dates can also be found on the Powys website: [School Term Dates - Powys County Council](#)

## School Closure

During inclement weather, or circumstances affecting Health & Safety, the school may be forced to close. Parents and carers will be notified by text message; details will be on the school and Powys County Council websites: [School Closures - Powys County Council](#)

## Website

The school has an active and informative website, which is updated regularly and has copies of our weekly Newsletter as well as other useful information. The website celebrates the work and achievements of our pupils through its class pages. [www.welshpoolprimary.weebly.com](http://www.welshpoolprimary.weebly.com)





### **Illness**

If a child is taken ill at school we will contact you as soon as possible. Many illnesses can quickly spread through a group of young children and for this reason we ask you not to send your children to school if they are unwell. There are suggested periods of absence for certain childhood illnesses. An informative poster is available in school that sets out these recommendations. Please see separate notices for how the school deals with Covid-19 illness in school.

### **Incontinence**

The school expects that pupils entering Reception classes will be toilet-trained although there may be the occasional accident. The principle on which the school operates is that the parent/carer, not the school, is the primary carer for toilet training and cleaning up after incontinence incidents. For older pupils, if accidents do occur, then the child will be provided with a clean change of clothes and expected to change themselves in privacy. If there is a problem, the parent/carer will be contacted.

### **Medicines**

Children will be supervised when using inhalers for asthma and will be supported to administer the medication themselves. Staff will administer other medication as required for short term illness only on completion of a medical form. Please ask in the school office if this becomes necessary. Medication for long term conditions can only be administered after completion of a care plan, in conjunction with medical professionals.

### **Accidents**

Staff are experienced in comforting children who suffer the usual minor cuts and grazes at play or in games. All full-time members of staff have had First Aid training and there are three members of staff who have the full qualification of First Aid in the Workplace. Where serious injury is suspected, the pupil concerned will be taken to the Minor Injuries Unit at Welshpool Hospital or an ambulance will be called, with parents/carers being notified as soon as practicable. It then becomes the parents'/carers' responsibility to attend to the child. Any accident in school which results in a bump to the head will result in a call to the parent/carer and an information sheet will be sent home.

## Uniform

We have a school uniform of blue sweatshirts / cardigans with the Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School logo on.

- Navy sweatshirt with logo\*
- Polo shirt with school logo\*
- Plain grey/black trousers/ dress shorts (no jeans)
- Plain grey/black skirts/pinafores/blue gingham dress
- Plain dark shoes/trainers
- Cap during hot weather

### PE kit

- Plain black shorts or joggers
- Plain white polo shirt or t-shirt
- Black gym shoes
- Trainers



Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

\*The wearing of the school uniform is strongly encouraged by the Governing Body in accordance with the Welsh Government Guidance for Governing Bodies on School Uniform and Appearance Policies (015/2011). However, the Governing Body acknowledges that items with the school logo may be more costly and therefore, a plain navy sweatshirt or a plain white polo shirt may be worn as an acceptable alternative. Please remember that we have a school uniform bank and swap shop— please ask the Office for details.

## Charges to Parents and Remission of Charges

With some exceptions, the School is not permitted to make charges to parents for education within school hours or fulfilment of the Curriculum (although it can ask for voluntary contributions). Our general policy is that parents should **not** pay for their children to take part in special activities, and the school only asks for financial contributions as a last resort. This is in-line with our ethos that seeks to ensure equity for all our learners through our work with the Price of Pupil Poverty. In practice, for a residential trip for example, parent/carers are asked in advance to pay a charge, or if they prefer their child not to take part. The School only remits charges in circumstances in which it is required to do so by law (certain charges to parents in receipt of income support or equivalent). The School's Charging and Remissions Policy is available on request.

## **Equal Opportunities**

The School regards it as essential to provide all pupils with equal opportunities whatever their age, ability, gender, race, background or any other protected characteristic within the Equality Act 2010. It has Equal Opportunities and Equality Policies in place that can be requested from the School office. Consideration is given in particular to affording equal opportunities to boys and girls.

## **Disability Access Policy - Provision for Pupils with Disabilities**

We are committed to admitting pupils with a disability provided that both the School and the Education Authority can make suitable provision to accommodate their particular needs. The School has a Disability Equality Scheme and Access Plan in order to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the Curriculum.

## **Complaints**

Parents/carers are welcome to speak to their child's teacher or the head teacher if they have any concerns regarding the curriculum, religious education or other school issues. If the issues cannot be resolved then they will be referred to the Governing Body. The Governing Body recognises that it is important that concerns or complaints about the school are dealt with appropriately and aims to ensure that a concern or complaint is taken seriously and is dealt with quickly, fairly and thoroughly. The school's Complaints Policy and Procedure has regard to Section 29 of the Education Act 2002; Complaints procedures for school governing bodies in Wales – WG Circular No: 011/2012. A copy of the Policy and Procedure is available on the school website and in school.

If you have a concern about something that is happening, or not happening at the School, you are encouraged to first discuss this informally with the Class Teacher or Headteacher. We would expect that in 99% of cases the matter can be dealt with to your satisfaction, so that you will not have to make a formal complaint. If you are dissatisfied with these informal discussions, then a formal complaint following the Complaints Procedure should be lodged with the Head teacher who acts as "Complaints Officer". If your complaint is against the Head teacher, then you should complain to the Chair of the Governing Body, Mr Galahad Longshadow on 07415 472200.

## **Additional Needs**

We see pupils as individual learners and as such, every child will have individual needs and learning styles. Therefore, lessons are differentiated to ensure that all pupils can make good progress. Class teachers continually assess the progress of pupils and, if they feel a child is experiencing any difficulties they will, in the first instance, discuss this with parents/carers. They may then, in discussion with parents/carers, wish to refer the child to the school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO), who may involve another professional such as the Educational Psychologist, Physiotherapist or Speech Therapist to help assess the child's needs further and put in place a plan of action. Sometimes a child needs more specific help and, in consultation with parents/carers and the Local Authority, a Statement of Educational Needs may be drawn up. The Local Authority is then legally obliged to provide the means to meet the needs set out in the Statement. There is a register of pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) which fully complies with the ALN Code of Practice. All children on the ALN Register have Provision Maps to monitor progress which are set up by the Class Teacher on advice from the ALNCO. In addition to this, two Specialist Centres operated by Powys County Council but based within the school have spaces for up to twelve children each who hold a Local Authority IDP.

### **Lower School (Reception—Year 2) Specialist Centre**

Younger pupils with additional learning needs can access the Lower School Specialist Centre supported by specialist staff. By Year 2 we aim to provide some supported access to mainstream for pupils accessing the Centre. Admission to the Specialist Centre is through the local authority.

### **Upper School (Years 3—6) Specialist Centre**

Older children with additional learning needs can access the Upper School Specialist Centre. Here the emphasis is on small group or individual teaching, allowing children to focus on their basic Mathematics and English skills. Pupils work towards individual targets and regular liaison meetings are held between staff to discuss progress. Access to mainstream classes for up to 50% of teaching time is the expectation for the majority of pupils in the Centre. Admission to the Specialist Centre is through the local authority.

## **Aiming Higher Pupils**

The School encourages all pupils to achieve their full potential, to develop specific skills and talents and, if appropriate, to study to a greater breadth and depth. We believe that all pupils should be encouraged to Aim Higher and to understand that they do not have a fixed mindset or IQ. Therefore, the school identifies opportunities for pupils who would benefit from extending existing skills and developing talents.

## **Behaviour**

At Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School we consider good behaviour to be essential to good learning. However, we realise that many children may need support to develop appropriate behaviour, whether this is through a short-term intervention or through a longer-term support plan. Therefore, all staff are trained to use a range of strategies to support pupils in developing behaviour that is appropriate to the expectations of our school and which aids them in their learning.

## **Thrive**

The whole school uses the Thrive Approach to support behaviour management. This provides us with a way of looking at and working with the 'whole child'. Using it we are able to target intervention, not only on their education but on their well being and happiness. Thrive includes an on-line assessment tool which can be used by trained practitioners to ensure children meet their full social, emotional and educational potential. We are able to use the programme to assess and develop action plans for individual children. This ensures that as adults working with them we understand their individual needs and can ensure that they have access to most relevant interventions. Thrive has been devised by a multi agency team including, Teachers, Psychologists and Social Workers. It is centred around the science of brain development and is beneficial to all children whatever their age or capability. If we feel that your child would benefit from a Thrive Assessment we will contact you to discuss why and you will be asked to complete a consent form. The Thrive Practitioners will always be available if you should wish to have a chat.



## **Dina Rules**

The Lower School classes have a code of conduct known as the 'Dina Rules' and in each class these may be augmented by additional class rules. These reflect our positive approach and are framed in a positive way. Our positive approach to behaviour sets a high standard of conduct and encourages self-discipline. Where children are encountering difficulties in adapting to the expectations of the school, we will discuss issues with parents to develop a joint approach to overcoming them.

## **KiVa**

Kiva is an anti-bullying programme developed in Finland, which is part of an ongoing study into bullying and how it can be prevented and dealt with. Upper school children take part in a programme of activities in each year group, helping them to identify good friendship skills, what bullying is and how they can be part of the solution to bullying. The programme is highly interactive and makes use of drama activities and computer games to help develop the children's understanding of bullying.

## **Transition**

### **Transition into the Lower School (Reception—Year 2)**

Most of the children joining the Lower School will have had the opportunity to become familiar with the school by attending our Happitots pre-school. Happitots is a maintained setting and is the responsibility of the school's Governing Body. Transition visits are made in the term prior to starting full-time education in order that the children can begin to feel more familiar with the staff and the school routines. For example, the children are encouraged to stay for lunch on transition days so that the school hall does not pose any issues during their first weeks in school. Children who have not had this experience are welcome to visit prior to coming to school on a full-time basis.

### **Transition to the Upper School (Years 3—6)**

There are close links between the Lower School classes and the Upper School classes. Transition meetings are held between class teachers to ensure all relevant information is passed on and the children all spend time in their new classes in the summer term before they move up.

### **Transition to High School**

During Year 6, the children are fully supported in their preparation to transfer to High School and we have good links with all surrounding secondary schools. Teachers from Welshpool High School visit the Year 6 pupils throughout the year to get to know the children. Year 6 children also complete a work that ensure the High School have a good understanding of pupils' needs and achievements. Regular liaison between class teachers and the High School takes place. In the Summer Term, pupils spend two days at their chosen High School with all the other children that will start at the same time as them, allowing them to familiarise themselves with the next exciting phase of their learning. All of this ensures that the move from Primary to Secondary education is less daunting for our pupils.

## **Peace in Education Programme**

The Peaceful Schools Programme runs across the school to aid transition both between Lower School and Upper School and between Year 6 and Secondary school. Its aim is to create a peaceful atmosphere in schools where pupils treat each other with respect, work co-operatively, and resolve problems constructively. Pupils become aware of how people see things differently, the challenges of decision-making, and the potential in co-operation. Much of the work is done using a mixture of talking, sharing, exercises and games. Quiet periods and mindful breathing give pupils the skills to handle their own stresses, and stories help to focus attention on particular issues. Groups that participated in the basic programme can go on to train to be peer mediators in the school. The skills gained by pupils have been shown to contribute well to smooth transition at each stage in their learning journey.

## The School Curriculum

### Pre-school Provision

Pre-school provision is provided at Tinytots and Happitots. Tinytots is a 12 place Pre-school Flying Start setting for two-year-old children who have been identified through the health service, who may attend after their second birthday. Children aged 3 to 4 years-old may attend Happitots before starting full-time education; there are 16 morning and 6 afternoon spaces. A separate prospectus for the pre-school is available .

### Full-time Provision

Full-time education for pupils aged 4 and above commences in the September after their fourth birthday. Admission to school is handled centrally by Powys Local Authority Admission Department.

## Curriculum for Wales Summary

### Our Inclusive Curriculum

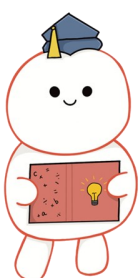
Our curriculum will raise the aspirations for all learners as set out in our values. As a nurturing, reflective school we have considered how all learners will be supported to realise the ambitions and aspirations of the four purposes. We have strong provision for ALN and a clear understanding of how we will meet the needs of different groups of learners.

### The Four Purposes

The four purposes are the starting point and aspiration for our school curriculum design. Our school aims to support all 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.

Our pupils have designed characters to represent each of the four purposes. Each character embodies the key ideas within its linked purpose. The characters give the children a fun, visual representation of the four purposes and help them to recognise connections between and across their learning experiences.



## **The statements of what matters**

Our curriculum will provide rich opportunities and authentic learning experiences to develop the key concepts, knowledge and skills as described in the statements of what matters and in line with the Statements of What Matters Code.

## **Areas of Learning and Experience**

Our curriculum will provide learning experiences through the 6 AoLEs of:

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

## **Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)**

RSE in our school makes use of best practice, evidence-based research that shows that working in a creative, co-constructed way with learners best reflects and supports their needs. We will embed RSE across all AoLEs and embrace the RSE guidance and the mandatory RSE Code, following the three cross cutting themes of 'Relationships and Identity', 'Sexual Health and Wellbeing' and 'Empowerment, Safety and Respect'. Our RSE provision is positive and empowering and will play a vital role in supporting all learners to realise the four purposes as part of a whole-school approach.

## **Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE)**

RVE is a statutory requirement of the Curriculum for Wales and is mandatory for all learners from ages 3 to 16. There is no parental right to request that a child is withdrawn from RVE in the Curriculum for Wales. As RVE is a locally determined subject, the agreed syllabus specifies what should be taught in RVE within the local authority and our curriculum will reflect this guidance.

## **United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child / Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Our school promotes knowledge and understanding of Part 1 of the UNCRC, and of the UNCRPD, among those who provide learning and teaching.



## **Careers and Work-Related Experiences**

Our curriculum incorporates careers and work-related experiences for all of our learners.



## **Welsh and Cynefin**

Although we are an English medium school, children are encouraged to learn Welsh from Tynyots through to Upper School, increasingly using words, phrases and sentences in games and a variety of activities. The Officer for Welsh visits our school to work with the teachers, to plan and support the activities undertaken with the children. We have several members of staff whose first language is Welsh and we use as much Welsh as possible throughout the school day and are aiming for our Silver Cymraeg Campus award. The children develop a sense of Cynefin (belonging) and are introduced to their Welsh culture and heritage via stories, poetry and drama, visits and outside speakers. Saint David's Day is a key celebration in the school year as is our school Eisteddfod.



## **Cross curricular skills**

Our curriculum will develop the mandatory cross-curricular skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competence. Our curriculum will enable learners to develop competence and capability in these skills and to extend and apply them across all Areas.

Learners will be given opportunities across the curriculum to:

- develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills
- be able to use numbers and solve problems in real-life situations
- be confident users of a range of technologies to help them function and communicate effectively and make sense of the world

## **Outdoor Learning and Curriculum Enrichment**

We believe in the importance of learning outside the classroom, whether this be within the school environment or further afield. All of our children will experience Forest Schools, local area trips, trips further afield and residential experiences during their time with us. Teacher planning makes the most of the outdoors to extend and scaffold learning, as well as mental and emotional health and wellbeing. Curriculum enrichment takes place beyond the school day and in school holidays.

## **Pastoral Support**

Our pastoral support is based on the hierarchy of needs, this includes ELSA, Thrive, Trauma Informed Practice and a bespoke Nurture programme based on the principles of Nurture UK.



## **Review and refinement**

Our school curriculum will be kept under review in order to respond to the outputs of professional inquiry, the changing needs of learners and social contexts and needs.

## Homework

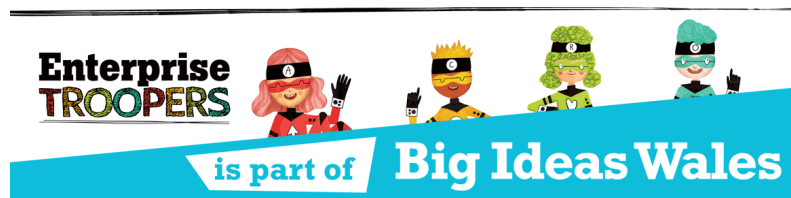
At the beginning of each term, parents and carers are provided with an introduction to the term's theme, chosen in discussion with the children. Included with this is a Home Learning Grid with a choice of 12 different activities, 2 activities for each Area of Learning Experience to be completed during the term. In addition to this, children will be expected to continue to practise their times tables and reading. If parents/carers would like to know how to support their child further, please contact your child's class teacher and they will be happy to help.

## Fundraising for Charity

Throughout the year the children organise fundraising events for various charities, such as Children in Need, Save the Children, Macmillan Cancer support, the Alzheimer's Society and Comic Relief.

## Entrepreneurial and Community Activities

All pupils at Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School will have the opportunity to develop their entrepreneurial skills. This is through participation in Enterprise Groups held throughout the year, often linked to our Friends of the School fundraising activities. The pupils will be given opportunities to make items for sale and devise simple business plans to show how well each of these items will sell. The pupils will create the advertisements for each item and decide when and where they would like to sell their products. Once sold, the pupils will work out the profit (or loss) on the items and the money is carried forward to new projects. Upper School classes also take part in the Young Promoters multi-agency project which sees them promoting and putting on a ticketed show for parents/carers and pupils to attend. This enables pupils to learn about the world of work and entrepreneurship, and also encourages them to develop literacy and numeracy skills in a meaningful, real world context.



All pupils will also be able to be part of the Dementia Friendly initiative that is established in the town. This will involve pupils visiting residential care homes where they will take part in activities with local residents in order to learn more about how dementia can affect peoples' lives and to provide support and care. These experiences will develop the pupils' awareness of citizenship and support the development of communication and social skills.



## Powys Term Dates

### 2023 – 2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR <sup>1</sup>

Autumn Term 2023	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Monday 4 September to Friday 27 October	Friday 1 September <sup>2</sup>	40 days
<b>Half Term – Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November</b>		
Monday 6 November to Friday 22 December	Friday 22 December <sup>2</sup>	34 days
Spring Term 2024	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Tuesday 9 January to Friday 9 February	Monday 8 January <sup>2</sup>	24 days
<b>Half Term – Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February</b>		
Monday 19 February to Friday 22 March		25 days
Summer Term 2024	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Monday 8 April to Friday 24 May		34 days
<b>Half Term – Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May</b>		
Monday 3 June to Friday 19 July		35 days

**Non-pupils days:** there will be three further non-pupil days, two in the autumn term and one in the summer term. Please check your school website for these details.

<b>Good Friday:</b>	Friday 29 March 2024
<b>Easter Monday:</b>	Monday 1 April 2024
<b>May Day Bank Holiday:</b>	Monday 6 May 2024
<b>Spring Bank Holiday:</b>	Monday 27 May 2024
<b>Royal Welsh Show:</b>	Monday 22 July to Thursday 25 July 2024

### Welshpool Cluster Training Dates (Non-Pupil Days)

- 18th and 19th September 2023
- 24th June 2024

Term dates can also be found on the Powys website: [School Term Dates - Powys County Council](#)

