



YSGOL GYNRADD AMEITHRIN STRYD SIORS

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Dydd Gwener 19 Medi 2025

Annwyl Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the third week of term, it's lovely to see the children well and truly back into the swing of school life. They've settled in brilliantly, and we've been making the most of the short bursts of sunshine—learning both indoors and outdoors whenever we can.

We'd like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of good school attendance. For children to fully benefit from everything school has to offer—academically, socially, and emotionally—it's essential that they attend every day. Regular attendance helps children build strong friendships, develop routines, and make consistent progress in their learning.

Please note that leave of absence and holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances, in which case supporting evidence will be required.

Reminder:

The Breakfast Club gates open at 8:30am and close promptly at 8:35am.
School day entrances open at 8:50am and close at 9:05am.

Please ensure your child arrives on time to avoid any disruption. Thank you for your cooperation.

APPLICATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

The online application system is now open for children starting secondary school in September 2026. Please scan the QR code to begin your application.

TRAFFIC

As we celebrate the return to school and all the excitement it brings, we kindly ask everyone to be mindful of traffic conditions during Breakfast Club drop-off and afternoon pick-up times. Whenever possible, please consider walking to school to help ease congestion.

To ensure the safety of all children, families, and staff, please avoid the following:

- **Double parking** – This blocks visibility, disrupts traffic flow, and can lead to frustration and unsafe situations.
- **Parking cars unsafely, such as on zig-zag lines and on pavements** – This creates unnecessary hazards and delays.
- **Reversing near the school gates** – This is particularly dangerous in areas where children and adults are crossing.

These behaviours are widely regarded as unacceptable and pose serious risks to others.

Every Child Matters, Every Day Counts

School Admissions 2026

Will your child be starting Nursery, Reception or Secondary school in 2026?

In Torfaen, there are a number of Welsh Medium, English Medium and Voluntary Aided (VA) Faith based Schools your child could attend.

Applications for school/nursery can be made online via our website. In submitting an online application, you will receive an instant acknowledgment that your application has been received and you will be notified of the outcome of your application via email on the decision date, rather than waiting for a letter in the post.

There is a deadline for making your application. If you miss this deadline or change your preference after the closing date, it may increase the possibility of not achieving a place at the school of your choice.

| September 2026 Admission Groups | Admission Round Commences | Closing Date for Applications | Decision Date |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Nursery | 9 June 25 | 18 July 25, 5pm | 15 September 25 |
| Reception | 13 November 25 | 15 January 26, 5pm | 16 April 26 |
| Secondary | 19 September 25 | 31 October 25, 5pm | 2 March 26 |

Scan the QR code now to view the application process!

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Additionally, please **do not block the school entrance**. At **8:30am**, staff members need access to the car park to begin their workday. Unfortunately, there have been instances this week where staff were unable to enter due to parked vehicles.

As drivers, we all share the responsibility of prioritising pedestrian safety. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep our school environment safe and welcoming for everyone.

LOST PROPERTY – HELP US HELP YOU

With nearly 400 pupils in school, it's natural for lost property to build up from time to time. Our staff work hard to ensure children leave with the correct clothing and belongings, but this becomes very difficult when items are not clearly labelled. Please take a moment to label all your child's belongings. When items are named, it's much easier for staff to return them quickly and accurately.



DYDDIADUR

| September 2024 | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| CHANGE OF DATE Monday 29th September | Year 6 visit to Pontypool Library |

| October 2024 | |
|--|--|
| Friday 3 rd October | Inset Day – school closed to children |
| Monday 13 th October | Poppy/Tulip visit to Pontypool Library |
| Monday 20 th October | Fire Service visit to Year 2 and Year 5 |
| Tuesday 21 st October | Aberfan Memorial Day Parent Consultations – PHONE CALLS |
| Wednesday 22 nd October | Flu immunisation day Parent Consultations – PHONE CALLS |
| Friday 24 th October | Nursery parent event – more information to follow |
| Monday 27 th – 31 st October | HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED |

COMMUNITY LINKS

Information Day
at
Serennu Children's Centre

Friday 17th October

Our Family Liaison Service is hosting an Information Day at Serennu Children's Centre

Some of the services attending are
Sparkle GPCN Citizens Advice Adferiad

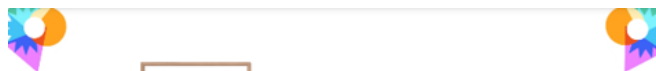
Time Slots:
9:30-11am

ABB.FamilyLiaisonOfficer@wales.nhs.uk

For more information, please email our team of Family Liaison Officers
ABB.FamilyLiaisonOfficer@wales.nhs.uk

sparkle
helps children with special needs
helping special children shine





Talks in Torfaen for Parents & Caregivers

Information Sheet for professionals

What is this project?

- Following the successful pilot of **Talks in Torfaen for parents & caregivers of secondary aged-children**, we are now piloting a new series of talks aimed at families of **nursery and primary school** age children.
- Talks will take place on Microsoft Teams and last for 1 hour.
- Talks will cover a range of topics that all aim to help parents & caregivers with supporting their **child's development** and **emotional wellbeing** (e.g. *supporting your child to have a positive relationship with devices, supporting your child's emotional wellbeing*)

How long will this project last?

This will be a year-long pilot and will consist of 3 cycles of talks.

Each cycle will consist of 5 talks that will take place on the same day and time every week for 5 weeks (see below).

Cycle 1: Autumn 2025 Cycle 2: Spring 2026 Cycle 3: Summer 2026 (after Oct half-term) (after Feb half-term) (after May half-term)

What would we like from you?

- We are asking if you can email flyers to the email addresses of parents & caregivers that you hold on to record in your nursery/school/organisation.
- If you have a social media account (e.g. Facebook) we would be grateful if you could advertise the flyers using that forum as well.
- We would also be grateful if printed flyers could be advertised in your reception area.

What happens when the project is completed?

We will analyse how many people attended each talk, and what the overall feedback was from those who attended.

We will gladly share a summary report of these findings with yourselves.

If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to get in touch with **Dr Charlie Cowtan (Clinical Psychologist)** who is taking the lead on this project as Borough Lead for Torfaen. Charles.cowtan@wales.nhs.uk



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AwistfloethCymru.org | AutismWales.org



#NotInMissOut

