

Starting School

A Guide to Admission Arrangements and
Education Services

2026-27



Starting School

A Guide to Admission Arrangements and Education Services 2026-27

Please note, this publication is also available in Welsh.

Contents

Introduction	3
School Term Dates and Holidays 2026-27	4
Timetable for admissions to schools.....	5
School Admissions	6
Choosing a School.....	7
Welsh Medium Schools	8
Admission Limit.....	9
Oversubscription Criteria	10
Addresses.....	11
Multiple Birth Children (e.g., twins or triplets).....	11
Children of UK Service Personnel	11
Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Individual Development Plan.....	12
Waiting Lists.....	12
Primary Education.....	12
Reduction of Infant Class Sizes	13
Admission to an Early Years Placement at a Nursery School	13
Admission to Nursery School.....	13
Admission to Infant Schools or Infant Department within Primary Schools	14
Transfer to Junior Schools.....	14
Changing Schools/ School Transfers.....	14
Admission to Secondary Schools	15
Applying for a Place	15
Late Applications	15
Withdrawing Offers of Places	16

Parental Disputes	16
Sixth Form Admissions	16
What Happens if your Child is Refused a Place?	16
Registering your Appeal.....	17
Disability Discrimination	18
Usage of Accommodation.....	18
Admission Forum.....	18
Welsh Language Policy.....	18
The Teaching of Welsh as a Second Language in English Medium Schools	19
English Medium Nursery and Primary Schools.....	20
Welsh Medium Primary Schools	35
Voluntary Aided Primary School.....	37
3 to 18 School.....	38
Secondary Schools.....	38
Welsh Medium Secondary School.....	40
Special School.....	40
Secondary School Transfers.....	41
Early Years Introduction.....	44
Early Years Education - Introduction Guidelines for Parents	44
Are the Part Time Places Free?.....	45
How do I know the setting is a quality provider?.....	45
How will I know that my child is receiving appropriate Early Years Education?.....	46
How Do I Access the Scheme within a Non-Maintained Setting?	47
Childcare Offer for Wales.....	47
Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Day Nurseries	48
Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Playgroups – English Medium.....	48
Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Cylch Meithrin	49
Areas of learning and experience	52
What Matters.....	53
Assessment	54
Transition to Secondary School	55
Choosing Welsh Medium Education.....	56

What about before children start school and outside of school?.....	59
What if my child is currently in English medium Primary, and I want to move them to Welsh medium Primary?	59
The Teaching of Welsh as a Second Language in English Medium Schools	60
School Complaints.....	61
Making a formal complaint.....	61
Further Information	61
Other Learning complaints	62
Promoting inclusion, wellbeing and supporting children to learn	63
Safeguarding in Education	64
Immunisations.....	65
School Nursing	65
Family holidays during term time	67
Libraries.....	69
Adult Community Learning	69
Employment Support	69
The Youth Service.....	70
Free School Meals – A Guide for Parents and Guardians.....	71

Introduction

The aim of the Directorate of Education & Social Services is to secure equality of access through promoting and supporting the development of inclusive education and giving a commitment to providing quality education and services within available resources.

The information contained within this booklet relates to the school year 2026 / 2027 and is correct at the time of publication. Although published initially to comply with the requirements of the Education Acts 1980 -1998, and appropriate regulations deriving thereof, it also sets out details in relation to many aspects of education within the Caerphilly County Borough Council area.

Schools have their own prospectus, and parents are encouraged to speak with the Headteacher in order to gain further information about the school. The Education Officers within the directorate will also help whenever necessary.

It is hoped that the information on admissions and appeals arrangements, together with the information about each individual school, will assist parents when choosing a school.

The Directorate of Education & Social Services would like to assure parents that the Council will deal with each application in a fair and equitable manner, using the criteria outlined in the booklet.

Section 1 – Important Dates

School Term Dates and Holidays 2026-27

Start of autumn term and first day of the school year	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Start of autumn half term	Monday 26 October 2026
End of autumn half term	Friday 30 October 2026
End of autumn term	Friday 18 December 2026
Start of spring term	Monday 4 January 2027
Start of spring half term	Monday 8 February 2027
End of spring half term	Friday 12 February 2027
End of spring term	Friday 19 March 2027
Start of summer term	Monday 5 April 2027
Start of summer half term	Monday 31 May 2027
End of summer term	Friday 4 June 2027
End of summer term and last day of the school year	Tuesday 20 July 2027

In addition to the above dates, six staff training (INSET) days are available to be used at each schools' discretion. Parents should contact the school to determine when these are likely to be.

Timetable for admissions to schools

September 2026

Admission to Secondary School

Admission Forms available online	1st September 2025
Forms returned to LA	31 st October 2025
Parents notified of outcome	2 nd March 2026*

Admission to Primary School

Admission Forms available online	1 st September 2025
Forms returned to LA	12 th December 2025
Parents notified of outcome	16 th April 2026*

Admission to Nursery

Admission Forms available online	1 st September 2025
Forms returned to LA	13 th February 2026
Parents notified of outcome	End of May 2026*

**These dates apply to the outcome of on-time applications.*

Section 2 – Admission Policy

School Admissions

In line with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, subsequent legislative updates and Welsh Government's (W.G.'s) Schools Admissions Code, these admission arrangements will aim to ensure that:

Parents' preference for the schools of their choice is considered in the context of a legislative framework, which has regard to the provision of efficient education and the efficient use of resources.

Admissions criteria are clear, fair and objective, for the benefit of all children including children with special educational needs or with disabilities.

Local admission arrangements contribute to improving standards.

The Local Authority (L.A.) consults with neighbouring Admission authorities and co-ordinates arrangements, including the rapid reintegration wherever reasonable of children who have been excluded from other schools.

Parents have easy access to helpful admissions information.

The L.A.'s admission arrangements seek to achieve full compliance with all relevant legislation and guidance, including legislation on infant class sizes and equal opportunities (Equalities Act 2010, the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Welsh Language Act 1993) and take full account of the guidance in the Code issued by the Welsh Government.

The Equality Act 2010 and Caerphilly County Borough Council's (CCBC) Strategic Equality Scheme emphasises the legal general duty the Council and its partners have to:-

- eliminate unlawful discrimination.
- promote equal opportunities.
- promote good relations and mutual respect.

This Council will work actively against discrimination and seek to create equal access to its services for all; irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, language, nationality, responsibility for any dependents or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

Choosing a School

The entry of children to schools is controlled and administered by an 'Admissions Authority'. In the case of Community Schools, this is the Caerphilly County Borough Council (the LA). In the case of the one Voluntary Aided School (St. Helen's Roman Catholic Primary School) the Admissions Authority is the Governing Body of the school. Within the County Borough, each school has an area that it traditionally serves called the "catchment area". In line with legislation, LAs must allow all parents the opportunity to express a preference for the school they wish their child to attend.

Parents may exercise their right to express a preference at the following times:

- On admission to an infant school or the infant department of a primary school.
- On transfer from infant to junior school or infant school to junior department of a primary school.
- On transfer from junior or primary to secondary school.
- When parents wish to transfer their child from one school to another.

Parents may also express a preference for their child to attend a Voluntary Aided School.

Note - Pupils who reside within a defined catchment area of a school do not have an automatic right to attend that school. An application must be made, and the placements will be allocated in accordance with the Local Authority's admissions procedure.

The LA (in the case of Community Schools) and School Governing Body (in the case of Voluntary Aided) must comply with any preference, which is expressed, provided there is room within the school. However, the decision to admit pupils, must take account of:

- the overall provision of efficient education and efficient use of resources.
- whether it is a co-educational or single sex school.
- Section 87 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (and subsequent legislative updates and WGs Schools Admissions Code), which also allows an admission authority to refuse to comply with parental preference for a period of two years following a second or subsequent exclusion.
- where to admit would be incompatible with the duty to meet Infant class size limit of 30 because the admission would require measures to be taken to comply with those limits which would cause prejudice to

efficient education or efficient use of resources.

- The local catchment areas for schools providing primary education are normally grouped together to form a linked catchment area for each maintained secondary school

Note - Admission or attendance at the feeder junior/ primary school does not provide automatic entry to the chosen secondary school. All parents are required to complete an application at the appropriate time.

All schools within the L.A. aim to provide their pupils with an educational opportunity, which is best suited to each individual child. Some pupils will, however, have learning needs requiring special educational provision. In some instances, parents will already be receiving specialist support and guidance regarding the choice of school for their child.

All parents, however, are encouraged to discuss possible areas of concern with their local Headteacher who may then seek specialist advice.

Welsh Medium Schools

All of the above arrangements apply equally to Welsh Medium schools within the Authority.

Admission to Welsh medium primary schools is not dependent upon the parents or pupils being fluent Welsh speakers.

There are currently 11 Welsh medium primary schools within the LA whose catchment areas cover the entire LA's boundary and are not restricted to the catchment areas of the local English medium school. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni will provide Welsh medium secondary education to all CCBC resident pupils, subject to parental preference.

Admission Limit

All maintained schools will admit pupils up to their admissions number. A child will normally be offered admission to the school of the parents' preference unless applications exceed the admission number, when this occurs all applications for that school will be assessed against the oversubscription criteria.

The normal ages for admission to CCBC schools are:

Age 3/4 in Nursery;

Age 4/5 in Infant and Primary Schools;

Age 7/8 in Junior Schools;

Age 11/12 in Secondary Schools.

Note - You will need to submit an online application at each of the above stages.

Where you submit an application for your child to attend Reception at a Primary School, an application will not be required for them to attend the Junior phase. Likewise, if you submit an application for your child to attend Reception at Idris Davies 3 to 18 School, you will not need to submit an application for the Junior or Secondary phase.

The L.A.'s policy is to provide all 3- to 4-year-old children in the Caerphilly County Borough an entitlement to a funded part-time nursery place at their local infant or primary school.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where we receive more applications than places available, places are allocated in the following order:-

Looked After Children (children in public care) and those who were previously Looked After Children.

Those children who live in the school's catchment area on or before the published closing date.

Note: Those children who live within the school's catchment area and have a sibling already attending the school will be admitted first (the sibling must be of statutory school age), and then those children who live within the school's catchment without a sibling will be admitted.*

Children with siblings* living in the same household attending the school in September 2026. The sibling must be of statutory school age.

After taking account of the above categories, priority will be based on the closeness to the school measured automatically by the L.A.'s G.I.S (Geographical Information System).

Distance is measured from the grid reference of the property to the grid reference of the school (as recorded in the GIS system). *If the L.A. has the situation where any home addresses calculate the same distance, then a trundle wheel will be used to establish the nearest address.*

**A sibling is a child who is the brother/sister, half-brother/sister (children who share one common parent), stepbrother /sister where two children are related by marriage. This definition also includes adopted or fostered children living at the same address.*

It should also be noted that any pupils with a statement of special educational needs or an Individual Development Plan (I.D.P.) that specifies that they must attend a specific school in order that their needs can be met will also be admitted.

Addresses

When considering whether a child lives in a school's catchment area, the address considered is that of the parent or legal guardian, irrespective of a family's domestic arrangements. i.e. the address of another relative or childminder etc. must not be given. In certain cases, it may be necessary to provide evidence relating to the child(ren) in question, to show the home address of the child(ren).

Note - Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the week then the home address will be determined as the address to which the Child Benefit is paid. Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes.

Note – The address must be an address that is occupied by the family – it cannot be a property that is just owned or purchased by the family.

Multiple Birth Children (e.g., twins or triplets)

If when applying the oversubscription criteria, the last child to be admitted is one of a multiple birth e.g. twin or triplet then the LA will also admit the other sibling(s).

Children of UK Service Personnel

Children of UK service personnel will be treated as in catchment if their application form is accompanied by an official Ministry of Defence (MOD) letter declaring a definite return date and confirmation of the new address. Pupils from outside the school's catchment area will be admitted in accordance with parental preference if the Admission Number of the school, class or unit has not been reached and, if selection is necessary, the criteria shown above will be used.

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Individual Development Plan

The Local Authority is required by the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with a Statement of Special Educational Needs that names the school and from 1 September 2021, section 48 of the 2018 Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act requires the governing body of a maintained school in Wales to admit a child to the school if the school is named in the child's individual local authority development plan for the purpose of that section, which is to secure the child's admission to the school. This duty applies despite the limits on infant class sizes and even if admitting the child would result in the school exceeding its admission number. The duty to admit applies at all times, including where a school is named in a plan outside the normal admission round.

Waiting Lists

Following the allocation of places during the normal admission round any pupil that is refused admission to an oversubscribed school will remain on a waiting list for placement until the 30th September of that school year and, should a placement become available, the placement will be allocated in line with the authority's oversubscription criteria. After the 30th September parents will need to make a new application for admission to their preferred school.

Primary Education

Every child is required by law to receive full time education from the beginning of the school term after his/her fifth birthday. In CCBC, however, all children are able to start school full time at the beginning of the school year (September) in which they become five i.e. between the 1st September and the 31st August. Parents are able to defer the start of a child until the term following their fifth birthday.

All children are able to attend school on a part time basis in the September following their third birthday. Children between the ages of 3/4-11 are recognised as pupils receiving primary education. In Caerphilly County Borough, primary education is provided either in separate infant or junior schools, or in primary schools with one complete 3/4 -11 age range.

Reduction of Infant Class Sizes

Choosing a school for the first time for a young child is especially important, both for parents and for children themselves. In accordance, with Infant Class Size Legislation, infant classes at a maintained school should contain no more than 30 pupils where a teaching session is managed by a single qualified teacher (or where the session is managed by more than one qualified teacher, no more than 30 pupils for every teacher).

Admission to an Early Years Placement at a Nursery School

Children born between the 1st September and the 31st March maybe entitled to an Early Years placement (term after their 3rd birthday) at their local Primary/Infant school dependent on availability.

Where a school has reached their Admission Number in their current nursery and where the in-catchment pupils exceed 70%, only pupils who reside within the schools catchment area will be admitted into an Early Years placement.

Note – Admission into an Early Years place in either the Spring or Summer term does not entitle your child to continue in the nursery year at the school. An application for admission into the nursery year at the school will need to be made at the relevant time.

Admission to Nursery School

The number of places available in a nursery year is set by the LA and the decision whether to admit your child will be taken in accordance with the LA's guidelines.

Note – Pupils who are admitted into a nursery year will not have an automatic right to continued education within that school. A formal application must be made for entry into the reception year at the appropriate time.

Admission to Infant Schools or Infant Department within Primary Schools

Pupils who attain the age of five during the school year may be admitted to an infant school/department, at the commencement of the school year in September. Pupils admitted to a separate infant school will not have an 'automatic' right to continued education at the feeder Junior School which serves the same catchment area. Whilst every effort will be made to accommodate such pupils, a formal application must be made for transfer to the Junior school at the appropriate time.

Transfer to Junior Schools

Children enter or transfer to a Junior School on the first day of the Autumn term following their seventh birthday. In Primary Schools the infant and junior sections are simply departments of the same school and children progress through the school from the infants to juniors without having to transfer elsewhere.

Whilst every effort will be made to accommodate such pupils, a formal application must be made for transfer to the Junior school at the appropriate time.

Changing Schools/ School Transfers

Changing schools is a significant step for your child to take. In the case of moving the family home, such a decision may well be a necessity and you will need to contact your local school or the Directorate of Education and Corporate Services for assistance. If, however, you would like your child to transfer from one school to another, please contact the Headteacher of your child's current school first. Should you still wish to proceed with these transfer arrangements; you can apply at <https://caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

If there is a suitable vacancy, your child will be admitted to the school. Parents should note, however, that in Primary Schools, classes may include more than one age group and the Headteacher will have the task of locating your child in the most appropriate class. If the child is in years 10 or 11, the range of subject options chosen may also be a factor. If that particular year has not reached the school's admissions number, then your child will be admitted to the school. Parents should note, however, that curriculum option choices may vary from school to school.

Admission to Secondary Schools

Children normally transfer from primary school to secondary school at the beginning of the school year following their eleventh birthday. If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015, she/he will transfer to secondary school in September 2026. Headteachers of primary schools will be able to inform parents of the secondary school which their children should normally attend. It should be noted that the home address denotes which school is the 'catchment' school and not the primary school attended. Whilst every effort will be made to accommodate pupils, an application must be made for transfer to secondary schools at the appropriate time.

Applying for a Place

When you apply for a place at a particular school, you must complete the relevant application form online at <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

You must apply by the closing date for admission in September 2026.

If you require assistance with completing the form, please contact the school admissions team on 01443 864870.

The LA will inform you whether, or not it is possible for your child to attend your preferred school. Each school produces a prospectus, which contains relevant information including school aims and educational beliefs, the organization of the school and curriculum opportunities, including out of school activities. This school prospectus is available from the Headteacher.

Late Applications

Any applications that are received after the closing date for admission will be refused if the school is oversubscribed unless the family has just moved into the catchment area and the application is received before the offer of places are made. If the application is received after the places have been offered and documented evidence is provided to demonstrate that the family have moved into the catchment area of the school the pupil will be given higher priority on the waiting list. Places will then be allocated using the authority's oversubscription criteria.

Note – If you apply after the closing date, your child could miss out on a place at your preferred school. All available spaces will be allocated to on-time applicants first.

Withdrawing Offers of Places

The offer of a school place will be withdrawn on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application being received (e.g. falsely claiming to reside within a catchment area of a school).

Parental Disputes

The Admissions Authority will not become involved in any parental disputes. Where there is a disagreement between those with parental responsibility, this will be a matter to be resolved via the Family Court.

Sixth Form Admissions

The admission of Sixth Form pupils to Community Schools is determined by individual schools. Therefore, applications should be made directly to the school.

What Happens if your Child is Refused a Place?

In the vast majority of cases children are offered places at their parents' first choice of school. If, however, your child is unable to gain admission, you will need to decide whether you are willing to accept a place offered at a different school, or whether you wish to continue with your first application. If you choose the latter course, you may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. This Independent Appeal Panel will judge whether the school is full and, should that be the case, whether the parent's application is so strong that the child should still be offered a place.

Note - There is no right of appeal for Nursery places.

Registering your Appeal

You may make a formal appeal against the LA's decision, but this must be received within 28 calendar days of you being notified of the decision not to admit your child to your chosen school. You should forward this appeal to schooladmissions@caerphilly.gov.uk

The LA will refer the appeal to the Council's Legal Department who will arrange for the appeal to be heard by an Independent Appeal Panel and will set a time and place for the hearing. The Panel will afford parents an opportunity of appearing and making their representations (oral and/or written). Parents are able to seek admission to an alternative school whilst they are pursuing an appeal.

Parents, however, are advised that: -

- They may elect not to attend the appeal meeting and, instead, allow the appeal to be considered on a written statement.
- The outcome of the appeal will be decided on the information available.
- They will be given at least fourteen days (from the date of posting) written notice of the meeting of the Appeal Hearing.
- They are welcome to be accompanied by a friend, or represented by a solicitor, but that, in the latter case, the Directorate of Education and Corporate Services should be informed at least seven days before the hearing.
- A separate Appeal Panel hears appeals against decisions of the Governing Body of a Voluntary Aided or Foundation School. Guidance on such an appeal should, therefore, be sought from the school concerned.

Please note that limitations will be placed on the powers of the appeal panel to allow appeals against the refusal to admit a child to a school where infant class size legislation applies.

- The LA will not consider a second appeal application unless there is a significant change in circumstances (which will need to be evidenced).

Disability Discrimination

The Council has in place an Accessibility Strategy, which details how the Council will meet its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and preceding Disability Discrimination legislation.

The Strategy covers access to premises for staff, visitors and pupils. The strategy contains the Council's plans to improve physical access to school premises across the borough to minimise the barriers to disabled pupils accessing education. In a number of cases, due to the topography of a school site, it may not be deemed accessible for a child with a physical disability. In such cases parents/guardians will be provided with the details of the nearest accessible school which is able to meet the child's needs.

Admissions forms are screened by Education in order to highlight any children with medical condition/physical disability. Parents will be contacted at the earliest opportunity to discuss the child's needs and a suitable school placement will be considered. The School and Officers of the Council work closely with parents to ensure that detailed assessments are in place to support the inclusion of pupils, where possible within their chosen school.

Usage of Accommodation

The LA continually reviews the usage of accommodation at all Infant, Junior and Primary schools and subsequently updates the Capacity and Admission Number to reflect this review. Allocation of placement will be carried out using the Authority's published admission arrangements.

Admission Forum

In line with The Education (Admission Forums) (Wales) Regulations 2003 the Authority has established an Admission Forum which will enable us to bring together admission authorities and others with an involvement in school admissions within the area.

Welsh Language Policy

In accordance with the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy (April 2010), the LA's policy is that every child should have the

opportunity to learn and use the Welsh language effectively. Currently provision is made for this in the following ways, in line with the LA Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Education is available at Welsh Medium Primary Schools to all pupils whose parents select that medium of education. Although the main medium of instruction is Welsh, pupils in Key Stage 2 also study the National Curriculum programmes of study for English to the appropriate level.

Pupils will be able to continue their education at a Welsh Medium Comprehensive School.

There are many ways to learn Welsh in Caerphilly borough. Research suggests that immersing children, young people or adults in the language is the fastest way to learn a new language. Welsh language provision allows children and young people to experience the Welsh language and become immersed in it day on day enabling quicker language acquisition.

Our Caerphilly latecomer's immersion model is being developed and aims to support children and young people new to the language to become immersed in Welsh taught by specialist staff to quickly support the foundation development of their Welsh language skills and continue development further in their own school.

The Teaching of Welsh as a Second Language in English Medium Schools

In the foundation Phase Welsh is taught to all pupils. The emphasis is on using the language with purpose and in meaningful situations. In addition, the incidental use of the language during the school day is encouraged.

At Key Stage 2, the language is further developed orally and more attention is given to teaching, reading and writing skills.

At Key Stages 3 and 4 Welsh is taught to all pupils. Opportunities are provided in all schools for pupils to continue their studies for both the 16+ and "A" level examinations.

Section 3 – Schools

All schools are day or co-educational unless otherwise stated.

The Local Authority is constantly reviewing the planning of school places which can result in changes to the Published Admission Number of a school. Subsequently, the Admission Number recorded against the relevant school may be amended following the publication of this booklet.

English Medium Nursery and Primary Schools

Aberbargoed Primary School

Address: Heol Ysgol Newydd, Aberbargoed, Bargoed, CF81 9DD

Tel No: 01443 875512

Headteacher: Ms. S. Everson

E Mail: aberbargoedprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 30

Abercarn Primary School

Address: Chapel of Ease, Abercarn, NP11 5LH

Tel No: 01495244566

Headteacher: Mr. G. Roden

E Mail: abercarnprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 33

Bedwas Infant School

Address: St. Mary's Street, Bedwas, Caerphilly, CF83 8EE

Tel No: 029 20 852512

Headteacher: Mrs. V. Jenkins-Delf

E Mail: bedwasinfants@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 7

Admission Number: 40

Bedwas Junior School

Address: Church Street, Bedwas, Caerphilly, CF83 8EB

Tel No: 029 20 852511

Headteacher: Mrs. V. Jenkins-Delf

E Mail: bedwasjunior@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 7 to 11

Admission Number: 43

Blackwood Primary School

Address: Apollo Way, Blackwood, NP12 1WA

Tel No: 01495 224111

Headteacher: Mrs. K. Davies

E Mail: blackwoodprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 55

Bryn Awel Primary School

Address: Eglwys Fan, Rhymney, NP22 5QA

Tel No: 01685 840230

Headteacher: Ms. C. Davies

E Mail: brynawelprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 24

Bryn Primary School

Address: Forest Hill, The Bryn, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood, NP12 2PL

Tel No: 01495 225690

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Khan

E Mail: brynprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Cefn Fforest Primary School

Address: (Infants) Tyncoed Crescent, Cefn Fforest, Blackwood, NP12 3LL

Address: (Juniors) Cefn Fforest Avenue, Cefn Fforest, Blackwood, NP12 3JX

Tel No: 01443 830449

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Farmer

E Mail: cefnfforestprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 36

Coed Y Brain Primary School

Address: School Street, Llanbradach, Caerphilly, CF83 3LD

Tel No: 029 20 852513

Headteacher: Ms. C. Wilson

E Mail: coedybrainprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Crumlin High Level Primary School

Address: Commercial Road, Crumlin, NP11 4PX

Tel No: 01495 244606

Headteacher: Mr. C. George

E Mail: crumlinhighlevelprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 18

Cwmaber Infant School

Address: Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr, Caerphilly, CF83 4FF

Tel No: 029 20 832231

Headteacher: Mrs. B. Davies

E Mail: cwmaberinfant@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 7

Admission Number: 30

Cwmaber Junior School

Address: Brynhafod Road, Abertridwr, Caerphilly, CF83 4BH

Tel No: 029 20 832231

Headteacher: Mrs. B. Davies

E Mail: cwmaberjunior@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 7 to 11

Admission Number: 30

Cwmcarn Primary School

Address: Newport Road, Cwmcarn, Crosskeys, Np11 7LZ

Tel No: 01495 270494

Headteacher: Mrs. H. Robbins

E Mail: cwmcarnprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Cwmfelinfach Primary School

Address: King Street, Cwmfelinfach, Ynysddu, NP11 7HL

Tel No: 01495 200225

Headteacher: Ms. Emma Jones

E Mail: cwmfelinfachprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Cwm Ifor Primary School

Address: Heol Aneurin, Penyrheol, Caerphilly CF83 2PG

Tel No: 029 20852509

Headteacher: Mr. G. Rees

E Mail: cwmiforprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 30

Cwrt Rawlin Primary School

Address: Cae Meillion, Caerphilly CF83 1SN

Tel No: 029 20807007

Headteacher: Mrs. T. Lloyd

E Mail: cwrtrawlinprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 47

Deri Primary School

Address: Glynmarch Street, Deri, Bargoed CF81 9HZ

Tel No: 01443 875516

Headteacher: Ms. S. Everson

E Mail: deriprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 11

Derwendeg Primary School

Address: Hengoed Road, Cefn Hengoed, Hengoed, CF82 7HP

Tel No: 01443 813138

Headteacher: Mr. J. Lloyd

E Mail: derwendegprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Fleur-de-Lys Primary School

Address: School Street, Fleur-de-Lys, Blackwood NP12 3UX

Tel No: 01443 830539

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Witchell

E Mail: fleurdelysprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 16

Fochriw Primary School

Address: Pontlottyn Road, Fochriw, Bargoed CF81 9LL

Tel No: 01685 841236

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Pascoe

E Mail: fochriwprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 12

Gilfach Fargoed Primary School

Address: Vere Street, Gilfach, Bargoed CF81 8LB

Tel No: 01443 875510

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Rees

E Mail: gilfachfargoedprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 21

Glyngaer Primary School

Address: Oxford Street, Gelligaer, Hengoed CF82 8FF

Tel No: 01443 875518

Headteacher: Mrs. N. Cushion

E Mail: glyngaerprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 34

Graig y Rhacca Primary School

Address: Addison Way, Machen, Caerphilly CF83 8WW

Tel No: 029 20852516

Headteacher: Miss. N. Thain

E Mail: graigyrhaccaprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 25

Greenhill Primary School

Address: Penywrlod, Gelligaer, Hengoed, CF82 8EU

Tel No: 01443 875521

Headteacher: Miss. L. Jones

E Mail: greenhillprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 23

Hendre Primary School

Address: St. Cenydd Road, Trecenydd, Caerphilly CF3 2RP

Tel No: 029 20852519

Headteacher: Ms. L. Seamons

E Mail: hendreinfants@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 7

Admission Number: 48

Hendredenny Park Primary School

Address: Groeswen Drive, Hendredenny, Caerphilly CF83 2BL

Tel No: 029 20852520

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Walsh

E Mail: hendredennyparkprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 30

Hengoed Primary School

Address: Chapel Terrace, Hengoed CF82 8JU

Tel No: 01443 812909

Headteacher: Mr. J. Lloyd

E Mail: hengoedprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 24

Libanus Primary School

Address: Libanus Road, Blackwood NP12 1EH

Tel No: 01495 225736

Headteacher: Mrs. N. Williams

E Mail: libanusprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 44

Llancaeach Junior School

Address: Commercial Street, Nelson CF46 6HL

Tel No: 01443 450211

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Greenhalgh

E Mail: llancaeachjunior@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 7 to 11

Admission Number: 46

Llanfabon Infants School

Address: Bryncelyn Avenue, Nelson CF46 6HL

Tel No: 01443 450275

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Greenhalgh

E Mail: llanfaboninfants@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 7

Admission Number: 40

Machen Primary School

Address: Commercial Street, Machen Caerphilly CF83 8NA

Tel No: 01633 440403

Headteacher: Mr. J. Preston

E Mail: machenprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 27

Maesycwmmmer Primary School

Address: Tabor Road, Maesycwmmmer, Hengoed CF82 7PU

Tel No: 01443 812148

Headteacher: Mr. J. Harris

E Mail: maesycwmmmerprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range:

Admission Number: 19

Markham Primary School

Address: Pantycefn Road, Markham, Blackwood NP12 0QD

Tel No: 01495 224811

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Pritchard

E Mail: markhamprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 27

Nant y Parc Primary School

Address: Universal Site, Senghenydd, Caerphilly CF83 4GY

Tel No: 029 20832116

Headteacher: Mrs. N. Davies

E Mail: nantyparcprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Pantside Primary School

Address: Old pant Road, Newbridge NP11 5DE

Tel No: 01495 243286

Headteacher: Mrs. K. Bennett

E Mail: pantsideprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Park Primary School

Address: Park Crescent, Bargoed CF81 8PN

Tel No: 01443 830429

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Rees

E Mail: parkprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 20

Pengam Primary School

Address: Commercial Street, Pengam, Blackwood NP12 3ST

Tel No: 01443 830429

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Witchell

E Mail: pengamprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 28

Penllwyn Primary School

Address: Fleur de Lys Avenue, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2NT

Tel No: 01495 223505

Headteacher: Ms. S. Martin

E Mail: penllwynprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 19

Pentwynmawr Primary School

Address: Tonypistyll Road, Newbridge NP11 4HJ

Tel No: 01495 243400

Headteacher: Mr. J. Harris

E Mail: pentwynmawrprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 17

Phillipstown Primary School

Address: Cefn Rhychdir Road, Phillipstown, New Tredegar NP24 6XE

Tel No: 01443 875522

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Jones

E Mail: phillipstownprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 20

Plasyfelin Primary School

Address: Lewis Drive, Churchill Park, Caerphilly

Tel No: 029 20852523

Headteacher: Mr. M. Jones

E Mail: plasyfelinprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 56

Pontllanfraith Primary School

Address: Penmaen Road, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2DN

Tel No: 01495 222128

Headteacher: Mrs. A. Taylor

E Mail: pontllanfraithprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 28

Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School

Address: Maes-y-Garn Road, Oakdale, Blackwood NP12 0NE

Tel No: 01495 222829

Headteacher: Mr. C. George

E Mail: rhiwsyrdafyddprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 78

Risca Primary School

Address: Dan y Graig Road, Risca NP11 6DB

Tel No: 01633 612429

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Arthur

E Mail: riscaprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: Infants – 29, Junior - 60

St. Gwladys Bargoed School

Address: Church Place, Bargoed CF81 8RP

Tel No: 01443 875523

Headteacher: Mrs. K. Evans

E Mail: stgwladysbargoedschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 56

St. James Primary School

Address: Pen-y-Cae, Caerphilly CF3 3GT

Tel No: 029 20852522

Headteacher: Ms. C. Price

E Mail: stjamesprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 41

The Twyn School

Address: East View, Caerphilly CF83 1UT

Tel No: 029 852527

Headteacher: Mr. L. Thomas

E Mail: thetwynschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 56

Tiryberth Primary School

Address: New Road, Tiryberth, Hengoed CF82 8AU

Tel No: 01443 875526

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Lloyd

E Mail: tiryberthprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 19

Trinant Primary School

Address: Conway Road, Pentwyn, Crumlin NP11 3JN

Tel No: 01495 214357

Headteacher: Mrs. S. James

E Mail: trinantprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 25

Ty Isaf Infants School

Address: Mill Street, Risca

Tel No: 01633 612400

Headteacher: Ms. R. Luxton

E Mail: tyisafinfants@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 7

Admission Number: 40

Tynewydd Primary School

Address: Greenfield, Newbridge NP11 4QZ

Tel No: 01495 243312

Headteacher: Mr. M. McCabe

E Mail: tynewyddprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 31

Ty Sign Primary School

Address: Elm Drive, Risca, Newbridge NP11 6HJ

Tel No: 01633 612813

Headteacher: Mrs. N. Long

E Mail: tysignprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 64

Tyn-y-Wern Primary School

Address: Heol yr Ysgol, Trethomas, Caerphilly Cf83 8FL

Tel No: 029 20852528

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Goodliffe

E Mail: tynywernprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 31

Upper Rhymney Primary School

Address: Oakland Terrace, Rhymney NP22 5EP

Tel No: 01685 840293

Headteacher: Miss. S. King

E Mail: upperrhymneyprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 22

Waunfawr Primary School

Address: Waunfawr Road, Crosskeys NP11 7PG

Tel No: 01495 270269

Headteacher: Mrs. M. Armishaw

E Mail: waunfawrprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 25

Whiterose Primary School

Address: School Street, Elliots Town, New Tredegar NP24 6DW

Tel No: 01443 828060

Headteacher: Mrs. K. Thompson

E Mail: whiteroseprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 32

Ynysddu Primary School

Address: High Street, Ynysddu NP11 7JH

Tel No: 01495 200223

Headteacher: Ms. E. Jones

E Mail: ynysdduprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 16

Ystrad Mynach Primary School

Address: Lewis Street, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7AQ

Tel No: 01443 812707

Headteacher: Mr. J. Lloyd

E Mail: ystradmynachprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 54

Welsh Medium Primary Schools

Ysgol Bro Sannan

Address: Ty Fry Road, Aberbargoed, Bargoed Cf81 9FN

Tel No: 01443 828000

Headteacher: Mr. J. Hallett

E Mail: ysgolbrosannan@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 21

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta

Address: Central Street, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7XQ

Tel No: 01443 814883

Headteacher: Mrs. M. Jones

E Mail: ysgolgymraegbroallta@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 42

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen

Address: Beech Grove, Oakdale NP12 0JL

Tel No: 01495 226062

Headteacher: Mrs. K. Matthews

E Mail: ysgolgymraegcwnderwen@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 30

Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed

Address: Commercial Street, Gilfach, Bargoed CF81 8JG

Tel No: 01443 875528

Headteacher: Mr. J. Hallett

E Mail: ysgolgymraeggilfachfargoed@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 20

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Castell

Address: Crescent Road, Caerphilly CF83 1WH

Tel No: 029 20864790

Headteacher: Mr. G. Hughes

E Mail: yggycastell@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 68

Ysgol Gymraeg Trelyn

Address: Commercial Street, Pengam, Blackwood NP12 3ST

Tel No: 01443 821600

Headteacher: Mrs. E. Owen

E Mail: ysgolgymraegtrelyn@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 27

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Caerffili

Address: Pontywindy Road, Caerphilly CF83 3HG

Tel No: 029 20852531

Headteacher: Mrs. E. Jones and Mr. L. Griffiths

E Mail: ysgolgymraegcaerffili@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 59

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon

Address: Gwyddon Road, Abercarn NP11 5GX

Tel No: 01495 244267

Headteacher: Mrs. A. Tucknutt

E Mail: ysgolgymraegcwmgyddon@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 55

Ysgol Ifor Bach

Address: Windsor Way, Abertridwr, Caerphilly CF83 4AB

Tel No: 029 20830375

Headteacher: Mrs. D. Morris

E Mail: ysgoliforbach@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 34

Ysgol Penalltau

Address: Cwm Calon Road, Penallta, Ystrad Mynach Cf82 6AP

Tel No: 01443 862974

Headteacher: Mr. T. Rainsbury

E Mail: ysgolpenalltau@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 34

Ysgol Y Lawnt

Address: Surgery Hill, Rhymney NP22 5LS

Tel No: 01685 840285

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Davies

E Mail: ysgolylawnt@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 29

Voluntary Aided Primary School

St. Helen's Roman Catholic Primary School

Address: Lansbury Park, Caerphilly CF83 1QH

Tel No: 029 20852532

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Sanchez

E Mail: sthelensrcprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 11

Admission Number: 30

3 to 18 School

Idris Davies School

Address: Mill Field, Abertysswg, Rhymney NP22 5Xf

Tel No: 01685 846900

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Owen

E Mail: idrisdaviesschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 3 to 18

Admission Number: Primary 30, Secondary 147

Secondary Schools

Bedwas High School

Address: Newport Road, Bedwas, Caerphilly CF83 8BJ

Tel No: 029 2085800

Headteacher: Mr. S. Diehl

E Mail: bedwashigh@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: 138

Blackwood Comprehensive School

Address: Ty Isha Terrace, Blackwood NP12 1ER

Tel No: 01495 225288

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Wilkie

E Mail: blackwoodcomprehensive@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 16

Admission Number: 200

Heolddu Comprehensive School

Address: Mountain Road, Bargoed Cf81 8Xl Tel No: 01443 875531

Headteacher: Mrs. N. Davies

E Mail: heoldducomprehensive@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: 147

Islwyn High School

Address: Waterloo, Oakdale, Blackwood NP12 0NU Tel No: 01495 233600

Headteacher: Mr. J. Hicks

E Mail: islwynhighschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 16

Admission Number: 205

The Lewis School

Address: Gilfach, Bargoed CF81 8LI Tel No: 01443 873873

Headteacher: Mr. C. Parry

E Mail: lewisschoolpengam@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: 245

Newbridge School

Address: Bridge Street, Newbridge NP11 5FE Tel No: 01495 243243

Headteacher: Mr. A. Thompson

E Mail: newbridgeschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 16

Admission Number: 213

Risca Community Comprehensive School

Address: Pontymason Lane, Risca NP11 6YY Tel No: 01633 612425

Headteacher: Mr. M. Hulland

E Mail: riscacomprehensive@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 16

Admission Number: 146

St. Cenydd Comprehensive School

Address: St. Cenydd Road, Trecenydd, Caerphilly CF83 2RP Tel No: 029 20852504

Headteacher: Miss. R. Collins

E Mail: stcenyddschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: 195

St. Martins Comprehensive School

Address: Hillside, Caerphilly CF83 1UW Tel No: 029 20858050

Headteacher: Mr. L. Jarvis

E Mail: reception@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk

Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: 186

Welsh Medium Secondary School

Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni

Address: Heol Gelli Haf, Fleur de Lys, Blackwood NP12 3JQ and Y Gwindy, Pontywindy Road, Caerphilly CF83 3HG

Tel No: 01443 875227 and 029 20863367

Headteacher: Mr. M. Webb

E Mail: ysgolgyfuncwmrhymni@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Age Range: 11 to 19

Admission Number: Gellihaf 215 Y Gwyndy 169

Special School

Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre

Address: Caerphilly Road, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7XW Tel No: 01443 866000

Headteacher: Mr. D. Jenkins

E Mail: trinityfieldsschool@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk Age Range: 3 to 18

Secondary School Transfers

Catchment Schools September 2026

Note - Attendance of pupils at the feeder Junior/ Primary School does not provide automatic entry to the chosen Secondary School.

All Parents are required to complete an application form at the appropriate time.

Places will be allocated in accordance with the Authority's Admission Criteria. The school your child currently attends may not be their catchment school. Your home address determines which is your catchment school.

Bedwas High School	Bedwas Infants School Bedwas Junior School Graig-y-Rhacca Primary School Machen Primary School Plasyfelin Primary School Tyn-Y-Wern Primary School
Blackwood Comprehensive School	Blackwood Primary School Cefn Fforest Primary School Fleur-de-Lys Primary School Pengam Primary School Libanus Primary School Markham Primary School
Heolddu Comprehensive	Aberbargoed Primary Deri Primary Gilfach Fargoed Primary Park Primary St. Gwladys Bargoed School Whiterose Primary (Tirphil area)

Idris Davies School 3-18	<p>Bryn Awel Primary School</p> <p>Fochriw Primary School</p> <p>Phillipstown Primary School</p> <p>Upper Rhymney Primary School</p> <p>Whiterose Primary School (Excluding Tirphil area)</p>
Islwyn High School	<p>Bryn Primary School</p> <p>Cwmfelinfach Primary School</p> <p>Penllwyn Primary School</p> <p>Ynysddu Primary School</p> <p>Pontllanfraith Primary School</p> <p>Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School</p> <p>Trinant Primary School</p>
The Lewis School	<p>Coed-Y-Brain Primary School</p> <p>Cwm Glas Infants School</p> <p>Derwendeg Primary School</p> <p>Glyngaer Primary School</p> <p>Greenhill Primary School</p> <p>Hengoed Primary School</p> <p>Llancaeath Junior School</p> <p>Llanfabon Infants School</p> <p>Maesycwmmer Primary School</p> <p>Tiryberth Primary School</p> <p>Ystrad Mynach Primary School</p>
Newbridge School	<p>Abercarn Primary School</p> <p>Crumlin High Level Primary School</p> <p>Cwmcarn Primary School</p> <p>Pantside Primary School</p> <p>Pentwynmawr Primary School</p> <p>Tynewydd Primary School</p>

Risca Community Comprehensive School	Risca Primary School Ty Isaf Infants School Ty Sign Primary School Waunfawr Primary School
St. Cenydd Comprehensive School	Cwmaber Infants School Cwmaber Junior School Cwm Ifor Primary School Hendre Primary School Hendredenny Park Primary School Nantyparc Primary School
St. Martins Comprehensive School	Cwrt Rawlin Primary School St. James Primary School The Twyn School
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhywni	Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen Ysgol Bro Sannan Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Caerffili Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Castell Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon Ysgol Gymraeg Trelyn Ysgol Ifor Bach Ysgol Y Lawnt Ysgol Penalltau

Section 4 – Early Years

Early Years Introduction

The Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare team provide information, advice and support for expectant parents and families with young children aged 0-7years living in the Caerphilly borough.

Our service consists of three main areas, Early Years Hub, Early Intervention team, and Childcare team. There is more information and support at [About us - Caerphilly Early Years Caerphilly Early Years](#).

Early Years Education - Introduction Guidelines for Parents

A free, part time Early Years Education place in an approved Early Years setting from the term following a child's third birthday is operational across the county borough, for those parents who choose to access it.

The Early Years Education place for those children whose birthday's fall between September 1st and March 31st can be in:

- A nursery class in a school setting.
- An approved pre-school or playgroup, or an approved day nursery.

During the academic year of your child's 4th birthday, Early Years Education is only available in a school setting.

Your child is entitled to a minimum of 10 hours per week of funded, part-time, Early Years Education in a nursery setting. This could be in a childcare setting approved by your local authority or a school-based nursery.

Your child will start Early Years Education the term after their third birthday:

Child's Birthday	When can my child access their Early Years Education place?
1 st September to 31 st December	The beginning of term on or after 1 st January
1 st January to 31 st March	The beginning of term on or after 1 st April
1 st April to 31 st August	The beginning of term on or after 1 st September

Are the Part Time Places Free?

Yes. Each child is entitled to a free part time Early Years Education place in one approved setting from the term after they turn three.

How do I know the setting is a quality provider?

Early years settings providing these places have to be inspected by an ESTYN registered education inspector. 'Approved' childcare settings offering these places (Non-maintained settings), also undergo the usual inspection by the Care Inspectorate Wales.

In Caerphilly County Borough, in order to be given 'approved' status, non- maintained settings must first complete the Caerphilly quality tool. To offer a free part time Early Years Education place all settings must be included in the Early Years Plan and be properly procured through CCBC.

You can check with our Early Years Hub which settings are registered

to provide education or you can ask your provider. There are a variety of providers in the area registered to provide Early Years Education. The Hub Team can be contacted on 01443 863232

How will I know that my child is receiving appropriate Early Years Education?

Part time Early Years Education providers must have a qualified teacher involved. The teacher will advise the early years staff working with the children, offer support and guidance to the setting and work with the group to achieve the standards expected by ESTYN.

The providers must be inspected by ESTYN. The inspector will ensure that a high quality of education is being delivered and that the Curriculum for Wales (published 2022) is being implemented. The Curriculum for Funded non-Maintained Nursery Settings contains guidance for best practice throughout Wales.

This curriculum aspires to create in children positive dispositions towards learning which, if nurtured, will last a lifetime and provide the firm foundation which all our children need to support them in realising the four purposes of Curriculum for Wales.

The Curriculum for Wales supports children to develop as:

- Ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives;
- Enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work;
- Ethical Informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world;
- Healthy, confident individuals who are ready to lead
- fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

A link to the Curriculum can be found here [A curriculum for funded non-maintained nursery settings \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/curriculum-for-funded-non-maintained-nursery-settings)

How Do I Access the Scheme within a Non-Maintained Setting?

If the setting is registered to provide education, then the playgroup leader or nursery manager ('person in charge') should be able to provide you with more information.

If the setting is not registered then you will need to find a childcare provider in your area that is - you can contact either the schools admissions team on 01443 864869 or the Early Years Hub on 01443 863232 for a list of all providers in the Early Years Plan or go to www.caerphillyearlyyears.co.uk

You can apply online at www.caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions and select the appropriate Early Years setting. This must be completed and returned by the stated date.

The person in charge will then liaise with the LA to provide your child with a free part time place.

If you have completed an admission form for more than one setting it is your responsibility to inform the setting you are not sending your child to, that the form must be withdrawn. This must be done by the fourth week of term.

Childcare Offer for Wales

Eligible children aged 3 / 4 could be entitled to government funded childcare from the term following their 3rd birthday until they are offered a full-time education place – usually the September after their fourth birthday.

During term time, in addition to the 10 hours already provided by the part-time Early Years Education place, children could be entitled to 20 hrs of childcare and during school holidays, parents will be able to access up to 30 hrs of childcare.

Eligible parents living in Caerphilly County Borough will be working or earning the equivalent of working 16 hours a week or more at national living wage / national minimum wage or are in receipt of specific benefits. The upper limit for earnings is currently £100,000 for each parent. Parents who are engaged in education and training may also be eligible to apply for the Childcare Offer.

To check if you are eligible go to www.caerphilly.gov.uk/childcareoffer or call the Early Years Hub on

01443 863232.

Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Day Nurseries

Little Einstein’s Academy Day Nursery

Block B

Britannia Centre for Enterprise Blackwood NP12 3sp

Contact: Stacy Bishop

Tel: 01443 879750

E Mail: stacy@littleeinsteinsacademy.com

Mini Miners Hall

Gospel Hall, Davies Street, Ystrad Mynach CF82 8AD

Contact: Kellyanne Evans

Tel: 01443 548581

E Mail: mini.miners.hall@gmail.com

Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Playgroups – English Medium

Little Acorns Preschool (Caerphilly) Ltd

c/o Derwendeg Primary School Hengoed Road

Cefn Hengoed Hengoed CF82 7HP

Contact: Claire Greenway

Tel: 01443 813138/ 07929 078498

E Mail: clairegreenway1@gmail.com

Markham Community Playgroup

Institute Buildings, Abernant Road Markham NP12 0QH

Contact: Helen Williams

Tel: 01495 220364/ 07783 630085

E Mail: miss-helen-williams@hotmail.com

Tiddlers Wrap Around

c/o Tyn-y-Wern Primary School Heol Yr Ysgol

Trethomas CF83 8FL

Contact: Beverly Dickinson

Tel: 07783 026617

E mail: tiddlerswraparound@outlook.com

Non-Maintained Early Years Settings – Cylch Meithrin

Cylch Meithrin Cwm Derwen

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen Beech Grove, Oakdale NP12 0JL

Contact: Kate Szekely

Tel: 07541 097647

E Mail: cmcwnderwen@outlook.com

Cylch Meithrin Blodau Bach

Pengam Library

Ivor Street

Fleur de Lys

Blackwood

NP12 3AB

Contact: Andrea Parfitt

Phone:07546992539

Email: cmbloodaubach@outlook.com

Dewi Sant

St. David's Church Ty Sign, Risca

Contact: Sarah Townsend

Tel: 07519 382508

E Mail: dewi_sant@sky.com

Cylch Meithrin Nelson

Venue Opposite Bus Station

Contact: Cerys Hancox

Tel: 07534 180277

E Mail: post@cylchmeithrinnelson.org

Cylch Meithrin Pontllanfraith

Bryn Pavilion, Bryn Estate Bryn Road, Pontllanfraith NP12 2DA

Contact: Georgina Clifford

Tel: 07423 559324

E Mail: cmpontllanfraith@hotmail.com



Cylch Meithrin yr Enfys

c/o Ystrad Mynach Boys and Girls Club Lisburn Road

Ystrad Mynach CF82 7AS Contact: Lisa Styles

Tel: 07903 368454

E Mail: lisastyles62@tahoo.co.uk

Cylch Meithrin Tedi Twt

c/o YGG Gilfach Fargoed Commercial Street Bargoed CF81 8JG

Contact: Kate Jenkins

Tel: 07847 284830

E Mail: cmteditwt@gmail.com

Section 5 – School Curriculum

The curriculum for Wales places an increased emphasis on equipping young people for life. The curriculum is designed to help develop your child’s knowledge, skills and experiences. It builds on the ability to learn new skills and apply subject knowledge more positively and creatively.

The school will be supporting your child to be:

- an ambitious, capable learner, ready to learn throughout their life;
- an enterprising, creative contributor, ready to play a full part in life and work;
- an ethical, informed citizen, ready to take part in Wales and the world;
- a healthy, confident individual, ready to lead a fulfilling life as a valued member of society.

These are called the ‘four purposes’ of the curriculum.

Areas of learning and experience

As well as literacy, numeracy and digital skills, there are six areas of learning and experience. Everything your child learns will be connected to these areas:

- **Expressive arts** (explore art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music to develop creative, artistic and performance skills);
- **Health and well-being** (physical and mental health including emotional well-being. Pupils learn about healthy eating and how to keep safe both online and offline, dealing with influences and developing healthy relationships);

- **Humanities** (learn about the world, society and events in the past and present. Pupils will explore the challenges and opportunities that face us, and what ethical action we can take to safeguard the world and its people in the future. This also includes RE which should remain compulsory to age 16);
- **Languages, literacy and communication** (learn about different languages. Pupils will understand and use Welsh (compulsory to age 16), English and at least one other language from primary school. As well as developing their communication skills, they'll learn about literature, including creating their own stories, poetry and performances);
- **Mathematics and numeracy** (understanding of numbers and use symbols in maths. Pupils will explore shapes and measurement and learn about statistics and probability);
- **Science and technology** (biology, chemistry, physics and computer science. Pupils will learn about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy, and how computers work).

The curriculum also includes:

- human rights;
- diversity and respecting differences;
- experiences and skills for careers and the workplace;
- learning about local, national and international contexts;
- developmentally appropriate relationships and sexuality education.

What Matters

Your child's learning should focus on things that matter now and in the future. Each area of learning and experience contain statements of what matters which shape learning for children of all ages. These help your child think about what they're learning and how topics connect with each other, linking to work and to life more generally. They also support your child to progress each year as they build their understanding and skills.

There are more opportunities for your child to learn important skills for life that will help them to:

- appreciate the world around them;
- ask questions, look at evidence, make decisions and solve problems;
- explore, communicate, create plans and find solutions;
- build resilience and manage their well-being;
- work with others and
- make decisions about their future career based on meaningful experiences in learning, work and entrepreneurship.

Assessment

Assessment will be part of your child's learning every day. Pupils will work with their teachers to understand how well they're doing. This is important to help them:

- see where they are in their learning;
- plan their next learning steps;
- spot any issues or extra support they need and to help their teacher;
- find ways to challenge them and
- see how well pupils are doing.

Reference points will help learners, teachers, parents and carers to understand if appropriate progress is being made. Expectations for pupils in each area of their learning relating broadly to ages 5, 8, 11, 14 and 16.

Your child's teacher will assess all aspects of school work and will use a variety of assessment techniques as part of a combined approach to learning, teaching, planning and assessment. The teacher will assess what your child knows and can do, and they will interpret the results of these assessments to improve your child's learning.

Transition to Secondary School

Children generally move into secondary school in the September before they become twelve. When your child is in the final year of primary school, the local authority will send you information setting out how to apply for a secondary school place. This usually happens during the first term of children's last year in primary school.

Arrangements between your child's school and the local secondary schools might include visits to the secondary school for children to have a look around and meet the main members of staff, information sessions, and visits from secondary school teachers to the primary school.

At the end of Key Stage 4, pupils are assessed principally through the accredited qualifications of the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE).

Currently, pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 are assessed using a range of measures including:

- Capped 9 measure;
- Literacy measure;
- Numeracy measure;
- Science measure;
- Welsh baccalaureate.

Pupils are also able to undertake a range of other vocational and work-related courses which may be offered by the school.

Section 6 – Welsh Language

The Welsh language belongs to everybody, and every child should have the opportunity to learn and use the Welsh language effectively.

Caerphilly Council makes education available at Welsh-medium primary schools to all pupils whose parents select it.

The majority of children in Welsh-medium education do not speak Welsh at home. Before the end of their first year, they will be talking with their new friends in Welsh!

When a child goes to Welsh medium school, they will leave able to speak English to the same standard as children in English-medium schools. On top of that they will be able to speak Welsh to the same standard.

Pupils can continue their education at one of two Welsh medium Secondary school campus, and afterwards use their Welsh language when training, studying and working.

Choosing Welsh Medium Education

In Caerphilly, around 20% of children go to Welsh medium school, and love playing and learning in two languages, or more.

When a child goes to Welsh medium school, they will leave able to speak English to the same standard as children in English medium schools. On top of that they will be able to speak Welsh to the same standard.

Welsh medium Schools use Welsh in the early years and then bring in English as they progress through school. Children are happy talking in both languages.

Some children start in Ti a Fi (Welsh medium toddler group) and Welsh medium childcare. Whatever you speak at home, everyone can join a Welsh medium Primary School and then go on to one of two Welsh medium Secondary campus. It's never too late; with support from our Latecomer Immersion Unit children already in English medium Primary can transfer to Welsh medium Primary.

Quote

I have decided on Welsh Education for my daughter because I feel it will give her the best start in life. I feel it will open many doors and provide more opportunities for her in her adult life, particularly if she chooses to work in Wales. The many benefits of bilingualism have informed my decision even more! Vicky Hughes, Sophia's mum.

Whatever you speak at home, children thrive in Welsh medium schools

In Caerphilly, approximately 88% of our learners in Welsh medium Education come from non-Welsh speaking homes.

Our schools speak both Welsh and English with parents, wanting parents to feel part of the school community.

You may find yourself picking up a bit of the language from the children. You'll hear words that you may already know, have a guess:

amser chwarae / brechdan caws / peldroed / cwtsh / ci bach / ble mae'r esgidiau? (play time / cheese sandwich / football / cwtsh / puppy / where are the shoes?)

Schools create a learning environment suitable for each individual child. In Welsh- medium schools children are immersed in a Welsh language environment where they absorb the language whilst making progress in their physical development, well- being, communication, exploration and belonging pathways, at their own pace.

My child has additional needs and is doing really well in YGG Caerffili

Children with additional needs make friends in their local school and community. All of our school staff teams have training on providing what's important for your child in both Welsh and English schools. In the local authority we also have specialist Welsh speaking staff who can support staff in schools.

Some children may need more specific support and may need to access a Specialist Resource Base (SRB) placement. Ysgol Cwm Derwen has our Welsh SRB for Primary age children. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni has a specialist provision called Hafan at the Gwyndy and Y Ganolfan at the Gellihaf site where our Secondary age young people who need more specific support can feel included.



Why is speaking Welsh so popular in Caerphilly?

Lots of people speak Welsh locally, it gives people a feeling of belonging and want their children to speak it too. Parents and carers are looking to send their children to Welsh-medium schools, so they get the rounded Welsh speaking experience that they didn't get as children.

There's a Welsh-medium school near you and if you live more than 2 miles away from your nearest Welsh-medium school we'll provide transport for free.

What about before children start school and outside of school?

There are opportunities for children and families to access Welsh medium provision before they start school in Ti a Fi (parent and toddler groups) and Dechrau'n Deg (Flying Start for 2year olds) and Cylch Meithrin (preschool childcare for 2-3year olds).

Once they start school there are opportunities in every Primary school for Welsh medium childcare. Clwb Meithrin (wraparound for 3-4year olds) and Clwb Carco (after school for 4-11year olds), as well as Menter Iaith and Urdd youth clubs and events for young people.

You can learn Welsh with your child through Cymraeg i Blant, Cymraeg i'r Teulu and Dysgu Cymraeg Morgannwg / Gwent as well as through free apps such as Duo Lingo and Say Something in Welsh.

What if my child is currently in English medium Primary, and I want to move them to Welsh medium Primary?

We have an experienced team in Canolfan Gwenllian, our latecomer immersion unit at Ysgol Gilfach Fargoed, who can help children to learn Welsh quickly to support their transition to Welsh medium Education.

Generally, this takes one to two terms depending on the needs of the child. During transition their time will be shared between their home school (the one you apply to for your Welsh medium Education moving forward) and the immersion unit (to support intensive Welsh language acquisition).

For more information speak to the head teacher at the Welsh medium school you are applying to attend.

The Teaching of Welsh as a Second Language in English Medium Schools

In the foundation Phase Welsh is taught to all pupils. The emphasis is on using the language with purpose and in meaningful situations. In addition, the incidental use of the language during the school day is encouraged.

At Key Stage 2, the language is further developed orally, and more attention is given to teaching, reading and writing skills.

At Key Stages 3 and 4 Welsh is taught to all pupils. Opportunities are provided in all schools for pupils to continue their studies for both the 16+ and “A” level examinations.

Welsh is a mandatory requirement of the Curriculum for Wales, and all children learn Welsh in an English-medium school.

The ambition is that everyone learning in a school or setting in Wales is supported to enjoy using Welsh, to make continuous progress in learning Welsh and to have the confidence and language skills so they can choose to use Welsh beyond the classroom.

Section 7 – Complaints

School Complaints

We take any complaint very seriously and schools are required to have procedures in place for dealing with them. Any concerns you have about your child's education can normally be settled by speaking to the headteacher, class teacher or other member of staff.

Making a formal complaint

If you have a complaint about a school, you must make your complaint directly to the school. Contact details for all our schools is available using our Find a School facility. We recommend that you ask the school for a copy of their Complaints Policy so that you can understand exactly how they will handle your complaint.

The governing bodies of all maintained schools in Wales, including nursery schools, must establish procedures for dealing with complaints from parents, pupils, members of staff, governors, members of the community and others.

The Welsh Government recommends that school governing bodies establish a three-stage approach to resolving complaints as follows:

-

Stage 1: Informal stage where the complaint can be raised and resolved. A complaint will not usually move to stage 2 until it has first been considered under stage 1.

Stage 2: Formal stage.

Stage 3: The matter is referred to the Complaints Committee of the Governing Body. The schools' complaints procedure should include more specific details about each of these stages.

Further Information

For further information about school complaints process please contact the school. Alternatively contact the complaints officer at edcustomerservicecomplaints@caerphilly.gov.uk or 07511 414625 who will be happy to advise you.



Other Learning complaints

There are other statutory processes for complaints and appeals relating to the curriculum, religious worship, admissions, Additional Learning Needs (ALN), exclusions, staff grievance, staff disciplinary and teacher capability.

Section 8 – Inclusion

Promoting inclusion, wellbeing and supporting children to learn

The Welsh Government (WG) issues a range of guidance relating to inclusion and additional learning needs some of which has statutory status, which Local Authorities, schools, early years and other educational settings have regard to.

In January 2018 the Additional Learning Needs and Tribunal Act was given Royal Assent. This outlines a new statutory framework for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN).

The local authority is committed to promoting inclusion and wellbeing and supporting all children to be ready to learn. The LA is reviewing and developing a range of strategies, policies and guidance to support its vision and to ensure compliance with statutory responsibilities. The LA takes a holistic view focusing on understanding how key issues in children's early years, such as poverty and exposure to ACES, can affect attainment. Within this context, the LA focus is on improving the provision and outcomes for vulnerable groups of learners, early intervention, working in partnership, reducing rates of exclusions (as these impact upon pupil attainment and outcomes), securing excellence in learner well-being, and ensuring that the LA is fully compliant with the Additional Learning Needs and Tribunal Act 2018 (implementation date September 2021).

The Local Authority (LA) considers that inclusion is a fundamental principle that underpins all practice and procedures, and the LA is committed to an effective and inclusive education system in which all children and young people are:

- valued equally
- treated with respect
- are central to and are able to participate in processes which affect them and have their voices heard
- given equality of opportunity
- have opportunities to achieve and are supported to progress holistically in accordance with their individual learning needs

The key partnerships with local and regional services, schools and other educational settings are critical in facilitating high quality support and provision and developing the knowledge and skills of school staff to effectively support children and provide access to

a curriculum which promotes equality and diversity, and which develops the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales.

Exceptionally it is recognised that for very few children and young people with severe and complex needs, alternative provision arrangements will need to be identified.

Within CCBC there is a continuum of specialist provision that includes Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre, satellite provision, specialist resource bases attached to mainstream schools and Education other than at school provision. These facilities are appropriately resourced to meet the needs of children and young people with more significant additional learning needs.

Central Support Services provide a wide range of peripatetic specialist services to support schools to meet particular needs such as counselling and CBT, systemic work and psychological formulation, training and workshops, wellbeing support for staff, support for schools following critical incidents, support for learning, guidance regarding behaviour management, support for children looked after and guidance regarding statutory process and the ALN reform.

More information regarding LA services can be provided by contacting the ALN Team on 01443 866610/ 01443 866683/ 01443 866639.

Safeguarding in Education

Safeguarding is everyone's business. The Education and Social Services Directorates work together to safeguard children and to provide support and advice to schools and providers, ensuring that holistic services are provided to vulnerable children.

Child Protection is part of the wider remit of Safeguarding.

The Education Directorate has a safeguarding coordinator who works with schools and providers and social services colleagues and attends regional and national groups to ensure that the most up to date information, guidance and support is available to schools and providers.

The education safeguarding coordinator is responsible for overseeing school audits, training, support to schools regarding professional concerns (with colleagues from human resources) and ensure compliance with the new safeguarding procedures.

Section 9 – Health

Immunisations

Before your child starts school, it is important that they are up to date with their vaccinations so that they are protected against a number of vaccine preventable diseases. Every year vaccination saves more lives worldwide than any other medical intervention. In Wales, vaccination is a key measure in keeping children healthy and giving them the best start in life.

Routine childhood vaccinations are highly effective, safe and free. There will be other vaccinations scheduled throughout your child's school life. When your child is due to receive a vaccination in school, you will receive information and either an online or a paper consent form via the school. It is important that you complete the online consent form promptly. For more information, please visit: [NHS vaccinations and when to have them - NHS](#)

School Nursing

Advice and Support

School Nurses are qualified professionals with specialist training and experience in child health and health promotion. We can work with individual school age children and their families to improve health.

We work in teams across Caerphilly and the other boroughs of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Our aim is to support children, young people and their families to lead healthy lifestyles. We deliver the Healthy Child Wales programme, and all reception age children will be offered a School Nurse contact that will include, height, weight, vision screen by the School Nurse service and a hearing screen from the Audiology service.

All families and children have access to a School Nurse who can advise on a variety of health issues.

These may include:

- Child development
- Growth
- Balanced diet and nutrition
- Immunisations
- Safety and accident prevention
- Health promotion
- Relationships
- Enuresis (bedwetting)
- Constipation and soiling
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Behaviour

This is not an exhaustive list and should you require further advice please contact the School Nurse Single Point of Access (SPOA) line on 01633 431685

Section 10 – School Transport

The Home to School Transport Policy is currently under review. Up to date information can be found on the Caerphilly CBC website:-

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/services/schools-and-learning/school-transport>

Section 11 – Education Welfare Service

The Education Welfare Service is a specialist support service and provides an extensive range of services for children, families and schools, in addition to carrying out a number of statutory functions of the Local Education Authority. The central role of the Education Welfare Service focuses on the social, emotional and educational

problems, which can affect a child's ability to benefit from the educational opportunities offered by regular attendance at school. The Education Welfare Officer will liaise regularly between school and home to offer appropriate support and guidance.

The role and aims of the Education Welfare Service are;

- To support schools and parents in their efforts to maintain regular attendance of all pupils.
- To devise and implement strategies aimed at improving attendance.
- To ensure that the LA fulfils its statutory duties regarding school attendance, pupil exclusions, and the employment of pupils.
- To ensure that every child in the Borough is receiving a suitable and appropriate education and are not Children Missing Education.
- To offer help and advice to families on matters related to school transport, meals and clothing and their rights within the various Education Acts.
- To provide a key link between families, schools and the LA with other agencies such as the Social Services and Housing Department, the Police and the Area Health Authority.
- To prevent the exploitation of children in employment and entertainment.

Contact may be made through the following officers:

Louise Pine – Lead Education Welfare Officer Caerphilly South – 07955 433249

Claire Ingram – Lead Education Welfare Officer Caerphilly North – 07955 433247

Email: educationwelfare@caerphilly.gov.uk

Family holidays during term time

Parents are advised that they do not have an automatic right to withdraw pupils for holidays while schools are in session. Prior application should be made to the Headteacher who will take into account relevant factors such as:

- Age of the child.
- The time of year proposed for the trip.

- Its nature and parental wishes.
- The overall attendance pattern of the pupil.

Where a school does not grant leave of absence and the pupil still goes on holiday, such absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Where permission is granted, if parents fail to abide by the agreement reached with the school and keep a child away for a period in excess of that agreed, any extra time will also be recorded as unauthorised.

Section 12 – Education Services Across the Community

Libraries

Public libraries in the borough offer a wide range of facilities: free Wi-Fi, public PC's and book stock.

Adult Community Learning

Caerphilly Adult Community Learning is based at Oxford House in Risca and delivers classes for adults throughout the Caerphilly borough. Our classes and clubs include Employability courses (First Aid, Food Hygiene, Manual Handling), Computers, General Education (basic Teaching qualification, Teaching Assistant), Art, Crafts, Pottery, Dressmaking, Languages and Essential Skills (Literacy, Numeracy, Digital Skills and ESOL).

Contact: 01633 612245 lcoxford@caerphilly.gov.uk

Employment Support

Employment support within the borough helps people to find work, upskill and change careers. If you are not currently working, you can get help with updating your CV, completing application forms, practising interview skills, and gaining work relevant qualifications. If you are working, we can support you to gain qualifications to secure more hours or a better paid job or retrain to change your career. Our Business Liaison Officers are here to help anyone receiving support from the Caerphilly Employment Support Team, to find suitable vacancies to match their career goals.



The Youth Service

Caerphilly Youth Service provides opportunities for young people aged 11-25 through a range of projects and 21 youth clubs based in communities throughout the borough. Youth Workers have a unique relationship with young people, supporting them to develop their personal & social skills, overcome barriers & realise their potential. For further information on youth services please call 01443 863197.

Section 13 – School Meals Service

Free School Meals – A Guide for Parents and Guardians

We're delighted to let you know that all primary school children in Wales, including those in reception class, are entitled to free school meals. If your child attends a full-time nursery (both morning and afternoon sessions), they may also receive a free lunch—please note that not all schools offer full-time nursery provision.

This initiative is part of the Welsh Government's commitment to tackling child poverty and ensuring that no child goes hungry during the school day.

Why Free School Meals Matter

Free school meals offer more than just a nutritious lunch:

- They ease financial pressure on families.
- They promote healthy eating habits.
- They give children the chance to try a variety of foods.
- They support social development, as children eat together and build friendships.
- Research shows that children who eat together at school often show better behaviour and academic performance.

If you prefer to send a packed lunch from home, that's absolutely fine—seating is available for all pupils. Fresh drinking water is also freely available.

Important: Universal vs. Eligibility-Based Free School Meals

Receiving Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM) does not automatically qualify your child for the School Essentials Grant. That grant is only available to families on lower incomes who meet specific benefit criteria.

Who Qualifies for Free School Meals (eFSM)?

Free school meals are available to eligible full-time pupils, including:

- Children in full-time nursery (provided by a school)
- Pupils in sixth form

Your child may qualify if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit (with annual net earned income under £7,400, excluding benefits)

Children who receive these benefits in their own name may also qualify.

Secondary School Meals

Secondary school pupils can choose from a daily selection of **hot and cold meals**, such as:

- Jacket potatoes
- Filled baguettes and sandwiches
- Wraps
- Fresh fruit and drinks
- Free water is always available

Some schools offer alternative meal arrangements, including:

- St Martins
- Lewis School Pengam
- Newbridge School
- Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni (Gelli Haf Campus)

Please contact these schools directly for more details.

Need More Information?

Visit: <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/services/schools-and-learning/school-dinners-and-breakfast-clubs>

Call: **01443 864055**

Email: catering@caerphilly.gov.uk