

Ogmore Vale Primary School – Curriculum Rationale

Ogmore Vale Primary School's curriculum is designed to give every learner a strong sense of identity, purpose, and possibility. Rooted in our community and shaped by our values, it provides a coherent, ambitious, and inclusive learning journey from Nursery to Year 6. Our curriculum reflects who we are as a school, who our learners are as individuals, and the kind of citizens we aspire to help them become.

A values-led, coherent design

Our curriculum is intentionally structured around the school's core values and the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales. These values shape not only what we teach, but how we teach it. The design ensures:

- **Clear progression** from early years to Year 6
- **Consistency and coherence** across all Areas of Learning and Experience
- **Strong pupil voice**, with learners influencing contexts, enquiry questions, and authentic outcomes
- **Balanced AoLE coverage**, mapped carefully across the year to avoid duplication and ensure depth
- **Meaningful links** between disciplines, enabling learners to see connections across the curriculum.

This coherence is visible in the long-term mapping, where each theme is deliberately aligned with What Matters statements, progression steps, and disciplinary lenses.

Local identity and global citizenship

Our curriculum begins with *Cynefin* – helping learners understand who they are, where they come from, and how their histories, families, and communities shape them. As the curriculum progresses, pupils explore increasingly wider contexts, moving from:

- **Self → family → community → Wales → the wider world**

This structure ensures that learners develop a strong sense of belonging while also understanding their place in a diverse, interconnected world. Themes such as *From Neighbourhood to Nations*, *Our Planet in Peril*, and *I Am the Change* explicitly support global citizenship, ethical action, and social responsibility.

Broad themes that build identity, curiosity, and agency

The six broad themes provide a rich, purposeful context for learning:

- **Cynefin** – identity, belonging, wellbeing, inclusivity
- **Earth Guardians** – sustainability, ethical choices, environmental science
- **Power of the People** – inspirational individuals, resilience, social change
- **Stories That Shape Us / Cynefin (narrative)** – narrative enquiry, values, empathy
- **From Neighbourhood to Nations** – geography, history, worldviews, community

- **Our World, Our Future** – innovation, science, technology, ethical decision-making

These themes are not topics; they are conceptual frames that allow deep enquiry, authentic learning, and meaningful cross-AoLE links.

High expectations for all learners

The curriculum is designed to be inclusive and aspirational. It ensures:

- **Equity of access** for learners with ALN, EAL, and diverse needs
- **Challenge for MAT learners** through enquiry, reasoning, and authentic problem-solving
- **Strong foundations** in literacy, numeracy, and digital competence
- **Opportunities for creativity, performance, and expression** across the Expressive Arts
- **A robust approach to wellbeing**, embedded through every theme

The mapping documents show clear alignment with progression steps, ensuring that learning builds systematically and purposefully.

Authentic learning with real impact

Learners engage in experiences that matter – to them, to the community, and to the wider world. This includes:

- Educational trips and visitors
- Community-based enquiries
- Environmental action and sustainability projects
- Ethical and philosophical enquiry through RVE
- Design and technology challenges
- Scientific investigations linked to real-world issues

These experiences help learners understand that their actions have impact, and that they can contribute positively to society.

A curriculum shaped by reflection and refinement

Our curriculum is not static. It is continually evaluated through:

- Pupil voice
- Staff reflection
- Monitoring
- Assessment for learning

Ongoing refinement ensures the curriculum remains responsive, relevant, and ambitious.

Our commitment

At Ogmore Vale Primary School, we are committed to providing a curriculum that:

- Celebrates who our learners are

- Challenges them to think deeply and act ethically
- Equips them with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to thrive
- Prepares them for a rapidly changing world
- Helps them become ambitious, capable learners; enterprising, creative contributors; ethical, informed citizens; and healthy, confident individuals

Our curriculum is more than a plan — it is a promise to our learners and our community.