

Ogmore Vale Primary School

Teaching and Learning Policy

Introduction

At Ogmore Vale Primary School, we are committed to providing high-quality, inclusive teaching and learning experiences that enable every pupil to thrive. Our approach is rooted in wellbeing, equity, and the belief that all children can succeed when provided with the right support, challenge, and environment.

We place the whole child at the centre of our practice. We nurture confident, curious, resilient learners who take pride in their achievements and contribute positively to the school and wider community. This policy draws on evidence-informed pedagogy: the Curriculum for Wales, and the school's strategic priorities.

Our aim is to create a safe, supportive, and stimulating environment where children develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to become ambitious, capable learners; healthy, confident individuals; enterprising, creative contributors; and ethical, informed citizens.

Aims and Objectives

Through our teaching, we aim to:

- Provide consistently high-quality learning experiences across the school.
- Ensure teaching is inclusive, equitable, and responsive to pupil needs.
- Deliver a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum aligned with the Curriculum for Wales.
- Promote independence, resilience, and a love of learning.
- Ensure teaching is appropriately scaffolded and differentiated.
- Foster positive relationships and high expectations for all.
- Strengthen professional learning and reflective practice among staff.
- Support pupils to develop the integral skills needed for lifelong learning.

Effective Teaching and Learning

Teaching at Ogmore Vale Primary School is designed to maximise learning opportunities and ensure progression for all pupils. Lessons are planned to:

- Build on prior learning and make connections explicit.
- Provide meaningful, authentic contexts that motivate and engage learners.

- Share clear learning objectives and success criteria.
- Include opportunities for pupils to construct understanding through varied activities.
- Provide structured opportunities for review, reflection, and consolidation.
- Offer timely, purposeful feedback that moves learning forward.
- Develop cross-curricular and integral skills.
- Embed Welsh language and culture across learning experiences.
- Reflect child-centred planning and developmental needs.

Learning Approaches

We provide opportunities for children to learn in a variety of ways, including:

- Play-based learning (Foundation Phase)
- Investigation and problem-solving
- Research and inquiry
- Group, paired, and independent work
- Whole-class teaching
- Digital learning
- Creative and expressive activities
- Outdoor learning and educational visits
- Debates, role-play, and presentations
- Physical activity and wellbeing-focused learning

Pupil Voice

Pupil Voice is central to our ethos. Learners contribute to decision-making, curriculum design, and school improvement. Through structured groups and class-based dialogue, pupils develop confidence, responsibility, and a sense of belonging. Their views inform teaching, planning, and whole-school development.

The Role of the Teacher

Teachers at Ogmore Vale Primary School:

- Plan purposeful, progressive learning experiences.
- Use ongoing assessment to inform teaching.
- Differentiate effectively to meet diverse needs, including ALN.

- Establish positive, respectful relationships with pupils.
- Maintain high expectations for behaviour, engagement, and achievement.
- Provide a safe, stimulating learning environment indoors and outdoors.
- Use professional standards to reflect on and improve practice.
- Deploy teaching assistants effectively.
- Promote Welsh language and culture.
- Ensure safeguarding and health and safety procedures are followed.

The Role of Parents and Carers

We recognise parents as partners in learning. We support this through:

- Termly curriculum information
- Parents' evenings
- Annual reports
- Termly 'Innovate' sessions and engagement events
- Guidance on supporting learning at home

We ask parents to:

- Support good attendance and punctuality
- Encourage positive attitudes to school and learning
- Communicate any concerns that may affect wellbeing or progress

The Learning Environment

We believe children learn best in an environment that is:

- Purposeful, calm, and positive
- Well-organised and well-resourced
- Inclusive and child-friendly
- Safe, clean, and stimulating
- Rich in interactive and supportive displays
- Reflective of current learning

Challenge and Pace for All

High expectations underpin all teaching. Effective lessons include:

- Appropriate challenge and scaffolding for all learners

- Logical sequencing and gradual introduction of new learning
- Integration of literacy, numeracy, and digital competence across the curriculum.

Effective Questioning

We use questioning to deepen understanding and check learning. Staff:

- Ask a high volume of questions
- Use open, closed, probing, and diagnostic questions
- Encourage pupils to explain and justify their thinking
- Support language development through structured discussion

Effective Feedback

Feedback is timely, purposeful, and aligned with learning objectives. Approaches include:

- Verbal feedback (VF)
- Written feedback appropriate to age and stage
- Self-assessment and peer assessment using agreed tools e.g. perfect purple
- Use of 'tickled pink' and 'green for growth'.

Assessment for Learning

Assessment is ongoing and informs planning. It includes:

- Observation, questioning, and discussion
- Self and peer assessment
- Assessment against progression steps rather than age expectations

Curriculum Alignment

Teaching and learning are aligned with:

- The Four Purposes
- AOLEs
- Progression principles
- Cross-cutting themes including RSE and the UN rights of the child.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or earlier if required due to curriculum changes, new research, or school development priorities.



Ogmore Vale Primary School

Together we soar to success
