



# Bryn Eliau

## Curriculum Summary

2023

**Achievement for All**  
Llwyddiant i Bawb

# Our Vision

At Ysgol Bryn Elian we endeavour to serve our community by ensuring all learners are supported in reaching their full potential to become full and contributing members of society, based on a fully inclusive experience, developing a love of learning and ensuring Achievement for All.

# Our Context

Ysgol Bryn Elian is an 11-18 school with approximately 1,000 pupils on roll, 150+ of whom are 6th formers.

The school serves the community to the East of Colwyn Bay, comprising Old Colwyn, Llanddulas, Llysfaen and surrounding areas. In addition, a significant number of pupils travel to the school from outside its immediate catchment area. The overwhelming majority of pupils come from English-speaking homes.

We have a broad range of students, of which approximately 23% are entitled to free school meals.

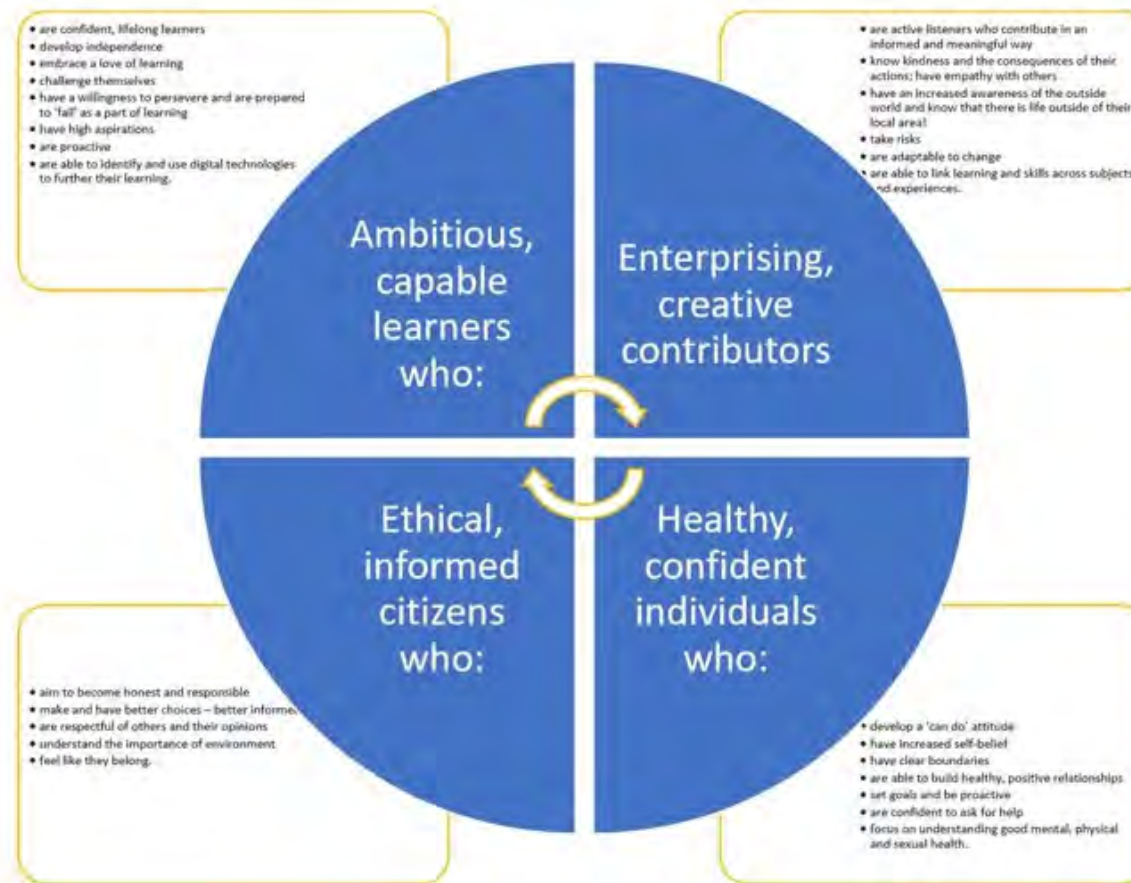
# Developing Our Curriculum

To develop our curriculum we have:

- Reflected and evaluated our current curriculum offer, trialled different approaches and considered successes and areas for development. We have considered this through the lens of priorities for our students, in our school, in our community.
- Reviewed disciplinary subject areas, alongside the curriculum guidance, to plan for the best approach for our learners.
- Provided professional learning on curriculum planning for teachers to develop the best teaching and learning experiences for our learners.
- Developed our thinking about the best approach to curriculum planning for specific subject areas e.g. big ideas, big questions, concept driven approaches etc. to ensure the most effective approach for each AoLe and the subjects within it.
- Considered the most effective ways to plan for and monitor the progress of learners across the continuum of learning.
- Planned our journey through 7 years of the curriculum.
- Shared our planning with colleagues at YJB and across our alliance with Ysgol Aberconwy.

# Purpose Driven Curriculum

The new curriculum focuses on learning through knowledge, skills and experiences that enable learners to develop these characteristics.



# Values Explained

## BRAVE

- We want our learners to be curious and take measured risks in a responsible and creative way, to explore and develop their learning and skills.

## Respect

- We hope to model and teach learners what it means to be respectful and accepting of differences and diversity, and of their own rights and the rights of others.

## YES!

- We want learners to have a 'can do' attitude; to be able to set goals and be proactive in their own learning.

## Nurture

- We want learners to understand the importance of the environment and to make better and more informed choices and decisions, taking into account the impact they may have on others.

# Values Explained

## Egwddorol

• We want our learners to be aware of right and wrong and have the courage to enact these principles, with clear morals and responsibilities.

## Llwyddiannus

• We want to develop a culture of high expectations where learners feel confident and able to aim high and seek out support to achieve their goals and dreams. We would like learners to have confidence in knowing that making mistakes is part of learning and to embrace a love of learning.

## Iach

• We want our learners to understand good mental, physical and sexual health with clear boundaries to build healthy, positive relationships.

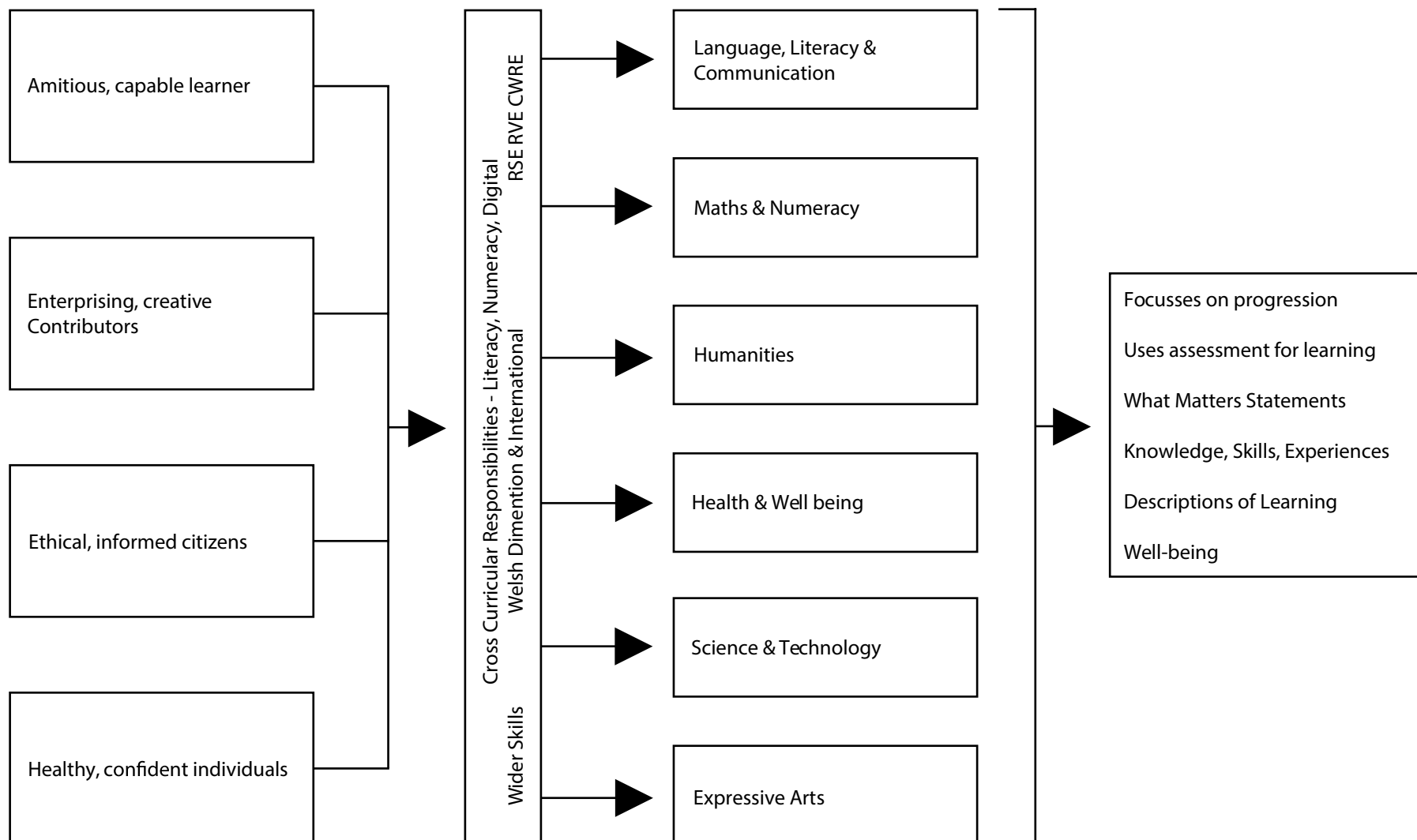
## Annibynnol

• We want to ensure learners are supported to make their own, informed decisions and to seek out ways to support themselves and their goals, where they challenge themselves and persevere in the face of difficulties.

## Nerthol

• We want our learners to have the energy and strength to engage in, be comfortable with, resilient to, and adaptable to change, and to have an increased awareness of the outside world.

# Curriculum Design



# Curriculum Principles

Our curriculum needs to:

- be flexible, personalised and fully inclusive, supporting learners' learning, progress and achievement.
- raise standards, stretch the most able, and narrow any gaps in achievement and attainment for all our learners.
- be broad, balanced and exciting to engage learners and develop a love of learning.
- be rooted in planning for progress and developing the breadth and depth of knowledge, skills and experiences.
- ensure literacy, numeracy and DCF skills are planned for and developed in all relevant areas of the curriculum.
- include the voice and views of stakeholders, including: staff, learners, parents, governors and the local community.
- support learner well-being to enable them to progress and develop effectively and healthily.
- enable all learners to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.



# Feedback from Different Groups



# Cross Curricular Skills

Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence Skills are crucial to ensuring learners make progress in other areas of the curriculum and to realise the four purposes.

At Ysgol Bryn Elian, we have ensured that these mandatory skills are embedded within the curriculum, across all areas of learning and experiences, where authentic opportunities present themselves, enabling progress in both skills and the subject area.

Our learners are given opportunities across the curriculum to:

- Use numbers to solve problems in real-life situations
- Confidently use a range of technologies to help them function and communicate effectively and make sense of the world
- Develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.
- We are committed to continuing to develop staff skills in all of these areas to enable the best possible opportunities for our learners.

# Integral Skills

The integral skills are essential to achieve the four purposes.

At YBE, opportunities to develop these skills are provided within disciplinary subject areas, pastoral time and through activities and skill sessions throughout the continuum of learning.

We aim to provide our learners with high-quality, rich, broad and balanced learning experiences to complement the development of knowledge.

# Cross Cutting Themes

Cross-cutting themes are evident throughout the Areas of Learning and Experiences, where appropriate.

There are also opportunities to develop knowledge and understanding of these areas through pastoral sessions, guest speakers, Careers Fairs, just to name a few.

# Iaith a Diwylliant Cymru

As an English Medium School, all students at Ysgol Bryn Elian are taught Welsh Second Language up to GCSE level. Where appropriate, First Language Welsh GCSE can be provided.

Welsh Culture and Language is developed through the curriculum through Cymru a Fi, designed for learners to consider what it means to be Welsh, to live in Colwyn Bay and Wales and to appreciate the rich culture and history of Wales, developing their Welsh identity. This is taught bilingually.

YBE hosts their own Eisteddfod each year to further develop Welsh Culture and identity. Learners have the opportunity to visit Glan Llyn to further develop their Welsh speaking and listening.

Welsh Ambassadors.

Learners and staff are encouraged to use everyday opportunities to develop Welsh in their everyday lives through conversations.

Word of the week.

# Progression and Assessment

Learners will be continually supported to make progress through regular feedback from their teachers, in their lessons, to enable them to make progress.

The curriculum has been planned with progression at the heart – developing knowledge, skills and experiences and deepening knowledge.

Learners will be assessed regularly, in a way appropriate to the subject. This could take the form of: formative assessment in the classroom; a test; class discussion; presentation; physical performance etc.

All this information will be used to help learners make progress, report this progress to parents and for the school to monitor the progress of learners.

In addition, learners' attendance, wellbeing and attitude to learning will also inform learner progress and support interventions.

# Evaluation and Review

Curriculum plans are live documents to be reviewed as part of our quality enhancement practices and teaching and learning reviews.

Learners will be asked for their opinions through informal feedback in class, questionnaires and learning conversations.

We will use assessment data to check on the progress of groups of learners, along with attendance and attitude to learning.

We will revise the curriculum accordingly to support improved progress and opportunities for learners to develop knowledge, skills and experiences.



# Bryn Elian

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