



As we follow in Jesus' footsteps, we grow in faith, love and learning

Parents and visitors to the school frequently comment upon the family atmosphere within the school and we see ourselves as an extension to each family, and it is our role, to assist every family to nurture and develop their child to reach their potential. We feel this close and familial atmosphere ensures the best platform from which to nurture our pupils and ensure their growth as individuals and as learners. The pupils continued capacity to learn and make good progress is facilitated through the dedication of the professional and committed staff, in conjunction with the caring influence of the local and active Parish of Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth and in collaboration with you as supportive parents/ carers.

Motto:
Cor unum et Anima
Una
One Heart, One
Soul

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY 2025 – 2026

Progress against Priorities 2024-25

Continue the implementation of the Religious Education Directory (RED) and aspects of the Prayer and Liturgy Directory and the Live Simply Award to improve standards of Catholic Education in the school. Very good progress was made in this priority.

- The RED was trialled successfully in all classes through the academic year introducing the RED curriculum syllabi for Early Years, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5.
- All classes worked on introducing moments of stillness in prayer during RE lessons as an action in response to a Prayer and Liturgy recommendation of the Catholic Schools Inspection.
- We successfully worked on achieving numerous targets for the Simply Live CAFOD award and have enjoyed celebrating the Jubilee Year of the Church.

To continue to offer professional development for all staff in preparation of the transition to Welsh medium education and to integrate the newly formed Welsh medium nursery class. Excellent progress was made.

- Nearly all staff have had opportunities to develop their Welsh through sabbaticals and courses.
- We developed and ensured the progression of Welsh oracy of the pupils and staff throughout the school.
- We set up a successful and popular Welsh-medium nursery.

To improve English spelling and handwriting standards so that all pupils can communicate accurately and clearly.

- Staff successfully delivered the spelling schemes across the school, and the data showed good progress was made by most pupils.
- The necessary resources were purchased to deliver improvements in spelling and the handwriting of the pupils.
- Good progress was made in developing spelling. Improving handwriting needs across the school requires more time to embed.

Continuous Improvement:

- **Attendance** The school successfully trialled strategies to support pupils who are experiencing Emotion Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
- **Provide opportunities for pupils to choose what and how they learn** Changes to pedagogy were introduced to further enhance independent learning opportunities and this impacted positively on pupil standards at all stages and ages.
- **To improve the opportunities for extended writing** by reviewing genres and coverage, introducing more oracy and improving feedforward.

Priorities during 2025-2026

Continue the implementation of the Religious Education Directory (RED) and aspects of the Prayer and Liturgy Directory and achieve the Live Simply Award to improve standards of Catholic Education in the school.

- The RED will continue to be trialled in all classes and the new scheme for Year 2, and Year 6 will be introduced.
- Pupil-led worship will continue to be developed.
- Achieve the Simply Live CAFOD award.
- To action the Catholic Schools Inspection CSI targets.

To advance professional development for all staff in preparation of the transition to Welsh medium education and to implement the Welsh continuum.

- To continue to ensure that staff have opportunities to develop their Welsh through sabbaticals, courses and through informal opportunities.
- To continue to develop and ensure progression of Welsh oracy of the pupils throughout the school, especially in the Welsh medium nursery and reception class.

Implement the decision making and social influences Statements of What Matters from the Health & Wellbeing AoLE.

- To implement the relational practices from 'When the Adults Change'.
- Look at improving opportunities to improve the pupils' decision making and their awareness of social influences may affect them.

Develop and embed progression threads within the Expressive Arts AoLE to ensure a shared and consistent understanding of learner progression across all phases.

- To collaboratively look at progression through the school in the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience and reflect this in the planning.

Continuous Improvement:

Attendance

- To monitor the attendance of the pupils and address any issues that relate to attendance.
- To conduct a research project based on Emotional Based School Avoidance.

Handwriting

- To continue to improve handwriting standards and letter formation throughout the school.

Strengths

- Placing Christ at the centre of our school and living out our Mission Statement in all that we do.
- A strong desire for every child to achieve their very best permeates through the school.
- The close-knit family atmosphere that exists within the school.
- The support and nurture we give to our ALN pupils.
- Pupil leadership is strong and embedded.
- Our wonderful caring staff and their dedication to the pupils' education and wellbeing.
- The diversity of nationalities in our community as we all work together to share our various cultures and traditions.
- We embrace the Welsh language and experience the feeling of Cynefin living within our local area and Wales.
- Our successful collaborations and projects with other schools, Aberystwyth University and with Welsh Government.

Way forward

- To work through the year to successfully meet the priorities set for 2025-26 in the school development plan.
- To action more of the RE Catholic Schools Inspectorate recommendations and to enhance the prayer space in Top Garden.
- To continue to implement the Curriculum for Wales, focusing on The Health and Wellbeing and Expressive Arts Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs).
- To continue our journey as a T2 (transition) school developing Welsh-medium education in the Foundation Learning.
- To keep loving and learning as a school family.