

A guide to Curriculum for Wales



Education is changing



The world is continuously changing and we need new ideas and creative use of technology.

To address these challenges, the Welsh Government wants to make sure your child has the knowledge, skills and educational experiences they'll need to make the most of life.



In your child's school, the curriculum is being **designed by teachers**. They are using guidance that other teachers have written to help them plan what children learn.



The curriculum is **designed for all children**. It will support your child with creative lessons with real-life meaning. It will suit their needs and help them reach their full potential.



The world is more connected nowadays, so what they learn is more connected too. Knowledge is really important, and they will also be given the skills and experiences they need for a **fast-changing world**.

Your school is 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, and a
- 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.



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.

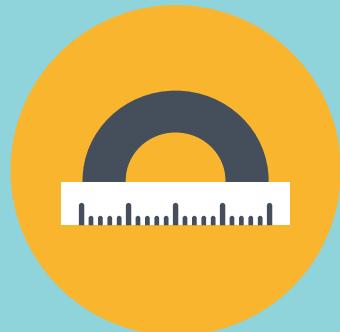
Areas of learning and experience



In **Expressive Arts**, your child will explore art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills.



In **Humanities** they'll learn about the world, society and events in the past and present. They'll 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.



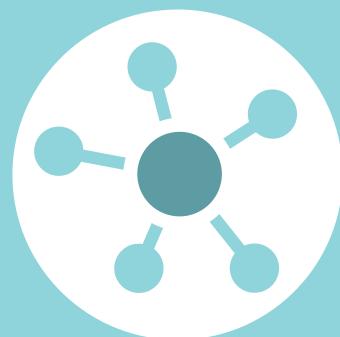
In **Mathematics and Numeracy**, your child will develop their understanding of numbers and use symbols in maths. They'll explore shapes and measurement and learn about statistics and probability.



Health and Well-being is about looking after their physical and mental health including emotional well-being. They'll learn about healthy eating and how to keep safe both online and offline, dealing with influences and developing healthy relationships.



In **Languages, Literacy and Communication**, your child will learn about different languages. They'll understand and use Welsh, 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.



In **Science and Technology** your child will learn about biology, chemistry, physics and computer science. They'll learn about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy, and how computers work.



What Matters

Your child's learning should focus on things that will matter to them now and when they grow up.

Each area of learning and experience contains **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, and link 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.

An example of how this works

In the Science and Technology area of learning and experience, one of the statements of what matters is:

'The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival.'

As your child learns, they'll think about this in different ways, like this:

- I know that there are endangered animals.
- I understand that what I do has an impact on the environment, people and animals.
- I can identify ways to reduce the impact of climate change on the environment, humans and animals.

Learning in a way that works for your child

The curriculum is designed to help develop your child's knowledge, skills and experiences.

They will move forward as:

- they learn more
- their understanding of things gets deeper
- their communication skills grow and
- their skills improve.

There may be times when they:

- move forward quickly or
- slow down to make sure they understand a topic or because they discover something that interests them.

Learning isn't always linked to their age. It won't happen in the same way, or at the same time for everyone.

Assessment

Assessment will be part of your child's learning every day.

They'll 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.



The school will also work with you to make sure that your child has the help they need to move forward.



Qualified for the future

The qualifications your child studies from 14-16 will fit with the curriculum.

In the future, as well as the qualifications we have now, there may be other subjects.

For more information on qualifications www.qualifications.wales/information-support/information-for-parents-carers/

There will be different types of assessment too, for example, digital technology may be used.



There are opportunities for you, your child and the community to help develop your school's curriculum.

Everyone working together, both at school and at home, will help your child get the best education and prepare them for the future.

To find out more about the curriculum, ask your child's teachers.



A British Sign Language (BSL) video for children, young people and families about the Curriculum for Wales and BSL in the curriculum is available on Education Wales YouTube channel.

You can also access more information



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