

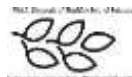


Bedwas Infant School

'Happy Faces, Kind Hearts, Inquiring Minds'

School Prospectus 2025-26

Welcome to our School
Croeso!



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www.ASDewford.co.uk



Ysgol Babanod Bedwas

St Mary's Street

Bedwas

Caerphilly

CF83 8EE

Ffon: (029) 20852512

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uk



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St Mary's Street

Bedwas

Caerphilly CF83 8EE

Tel: (029) 20852512

Email:

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Executive Headteacher - Mrs.V.Jenkins-Delf -
Prifathrawes

Deputy Headteacher/ALNco - Mrs. R Collins - Dirprwy
Brifathrawes

'Happy Faces, Kind Hearts, Inquiring Minds'

Dear Parent / Carer,

It is with great pride that on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors, I welcome you to our warm and friendly school. Selecting the right school for you and your child is an important decision and it is intended that this prospectus will give you an insight into the ethos of our school.

Bedwas Infants is a wonderful place. I am honoured to be the Headteacher of such a very special school. Our children are happy, polite, caring, hardworking and keen learners. Staff are dedicated, motivated, enthusiastic and committed to our pupils and our community.

We are committed to developing strong, positive relationships with our parents and our community to ensure the best for our pupils. At Bedwas Infant School we believe in our core values, these help our pupils to be the best they can be in school and in our community.

Our School Vision Statement *'Happy Faces Kind Hearts and Inquiring Minds'* embraces our values, approach and expectations.

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are given the best opportunities to excel. We provide our pupils with an array of enriching learning experiences and we ensure that all pupils learn in a warm, caring and nurturing environment. We believe that in order for our pupils to achieve their best, they must thrive personally as well as academically. The logos at the bottom of the page indicate the many schemes with which we are involved, and all contribute to our ethos.

Your child's wellbeing is our main priority, as it shapes and directs their personal achievements. To

that end, we work in partnership with parents, governors, the community



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and local authority to develop a stimulating, structured and safe environment in which all can develop.

I am fully committed to this school and believe that it offers fantastic opportunities for all children between the ages of three and seven. I would be delighted to meet with you at a mutually convenient time to show you around the school, so that you can witness first-hand the high-quality provision, caring ethos and excellent standards of behaviour.

I hope that you find this prospectus about our school both interesting and informative and I look forward to getting to know both you and your child as they begin their school career with us.

Yours sincerely,
Headteacher: Mrs. Vicky Jenkins Delf
Chair of Governors: Mrs. Claire Tidy

Local Education Authority:
Caerphilly County Borough Council
Directorate of Education and Leisure
Penallta House
Tredomen Park,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed,
CF82 7PG.

Chief Education Officer:
Mrs. Keri Cole
Telephone (LA): (01443) 815588
E-mail: info@caerphilly.gov.uk



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Our School

School Catchment Area and Admissions

Bedwas Infant School is officially a mixed county primary school under the control of Caerphilly County Borough Council. The school caters for the education of approximately 160 children between the ages of 3 and 7. The school teaches Welsh to all pupils as a second language, and is categorized as a school type A by Welsh Government. In the context of language, it is category C1, an English medium school.

Bedwas is a small village, approximately nine miles west of Newport and three miles east of Caerphilly. The school serves a well-established community of mainly local authority.

The 'Disability Discrimination Act' (1995) amended existing education legislation to require all mainstream schools to publish information on admission arrangements for pupils with disabilities, the school's access arrangements for such pupils and the steps being taken to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favorably than other pupils.

Admission to Bedwas Infants School to children living outside catchment will be allowed providing:

- Applications are made through the correct channels.
- There is space within the required cohort.

Bedwas Infant School is a single storey building with suitable access points (main entrance and rear school entrance).



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Educational Organisation

In 2025-26 the classes will be structured as follows:

Class	Year Groups	Teacher
Dosbarth Enfys	Rising 3's and Nursery	Mrs. Williams
Dosbarth Porffor	Reception	Miss Lloyd
Dosbarth Coch	Reception and Year 1	Mrs. Cartwright (Tue-Mrs. Gordine)
Dosbarth Gywrdd	Year 1 and Year 2	Mrs. Mathias
Dosbarth Glas	Year 2	Miss Jones
PPA & Management Time	Nursery to Year 2	Mr. Leaves

Vision Statement and Aims

Our school Badge was designed by a former pupil. Our Vision and Aims have been created following the involvement and contribution of all school stakeholders. Stakeholders have recently looked at what we provide to demonstrate these values;

Happy Faces, Kind Hearts, Inquiring Minds

AIMS

Healthy & Confident Individuals

- To provide a caring, safe and secure learning environment where children are happy, healthy, confident and able to reach their full potential.
- To help children achieve self-discipline and self-respect.

Enterprising & Creative contributors

- To provide an education that is stimulating and challenging so that children develop a love of learning.
- To provide encouragement and motivation towards work, developing positive attitudes, creativity and a pride in what they achieve.

Ethical & Informed Citizens

- To encourage good behaviour, a tolerance of others, an understanding of right and wrong and an interest in the wider world.

Ambitious & Capable Learners

- To help the children to develop lively, inquiring minds and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.



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Governing Body

Bedwas Infant School's governing body helps support and challenge the Headteacher in her role of improving standards and ensuring a safe learning environment for all pupils. The governors are actively involved in school life and regularly attend school for a range of meetings, events and activities. The governing body consists of members of the community, parents, councillors, teachers, school staff and LA representatives.

Complaints Procedures

We hope that you will be happy with the education that your child receives in Bedwas Infant School. However, if you are dissatisfied in any way, you should first discuss the matter with the class teacher or the head teacher. If you are still not satisfied, the head teacher or chair of governors will give you details of the School complaints procedures.



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Curriculum Statement

At Bedwas Infant School, we aim to provide the very best in planned opportunities for your child to develop in all areas of the curriculum. We endeavor to do this by creating a caring school with a curriculum which encourages the development of lively, enquiring minds through involvement in a variety of relevant and challenging first hand experiences. We aim to develop all pupils' interests, aptitudes and abilities through collaborative and independent thought.

Each class teacher plans thoroughly to ensure that your child's education has continuity and progression. Throughout the school, a balance of class teaching, group work and individual tuition is used as appropriate. We also ensure that opportunities for different styles of learning are catered for within our teaching. This arrangement enables teaching staff to cater for the varying educational needs of all our pupils.

It is our aim to develop each individual and to encourage all those in school to strive for excellence in whatever they undertake. Excellence is understood as being, 'the best that can be achieved according to the abilities and gifts of each', and 'the best that it is possible to be'



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The Curriculum

The [Curriculum for Wales](#) is a mandatory framework for learners aged 3 to 16, focusing on holistic development through four core purposes: ambitious, capable learners; enterprising, creative contributors; ethical, informed citizens; and healthy, confident individuals. It emphasizes skills, experience, and knowledge over rigid subject-based learning, organized into six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs): Expressive Arts; Health and Well-being; Humanities; Language, Literacy and Communication; Mathematics and Numeracy; and Science and Technology.

Please be assured that all classroom practitioners are aware of developments and will continue to update and amend the curriculum as necessary in order to meet the requirements of the Welsh Government and the needs of your child.

We aim to make cross-curricular links between subjects and areas of learning wherever possible. The curriculum is organised and delivered through a range of interesting themes which aim to teach and develop a range of skills.



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Foundation Phase

Rising 3, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils at Bedwas Infant School follow a broad and balanced curriculum based on the six **Areas of Learning and Experience** within the Curriculum for Wales:

- Expressive Arts
- Health and Well-being
- Humanities
- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Science and Technology

For our youngest learners in Rising 3 and Nursery, provision is guided by the Welsh Government's **non-maintained nursery guidance**, ensuring a strong emphasis on learning through play, exploration, and active engagement. As children progress into Nursery and Reception, we use the **Developmental Pathways** to support and track individual progress, recognising that all children develop at their own pace.

At Bedwas Infant School, we fully embrace the philosophy and aims of the Curriculum for Wales, with a strong emphasis on outdoor learning as an essential part of children's development. Through a rich, engaging, and integrated curriculum, we support each child as an individual, taking into account their stage of development, interests, and needs.

These early years are crucial in helping children learn how to observe, listen, respond, and grow as individuals, as well as become valued members of a caring and supportive community.

In delivering our curriculum, we are committed to ensuring that all learners have opportunities to develop as:

- **Ambitious, capable learners**
- **Enterprising, creative contributors**
- **Ethical, informed citizens**
- **Healthy, confident individuals**

These four purposes underpin everything we do and guide our approach to teaching and learning across the school.

Additional Learning Needs

Bedwas Infant School values the abilities and achievements of all pupils and is committed to providing each pupil with the best environment for learning. All staff encourage and support pupils to reach their full potential and promote positive self-esteem and success. Every teacher is concerned with the 'whole child' as an individual and is aware of the importance of early identification of additional learning need. We recognise that many pupils, at some point in their schooling, will have additional or different educational needs of some kind. Most children's needs are met directly by the school, but there are occasions when the support and advice of other agencies is required.

The on-going development and success of the school is dependent on the quality of its planning to meet additional educational needs and its partnerships with parents and other agencies.

The school is committed and adheres to the 'Code of Practice'. Upon request, parents are



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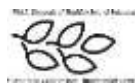


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welcome to receive a copy of our school 'Additional Learning Needs' policy. We are a 'Learning with Autism' school.





More Able and Talented

We encourage all our pupils to achieve. We identify and monitor the progress and success of our pupils, including those who are more able and / or talented. We aim to offer suitable opportunities in order to 'challenge' such pupils and celebrate talent.

Basic Skills

Our school identifies pupils who have difficulties with literacy and numeracy. When appropriate, these pupils are placed on our Provision Map and receive extra support through the relevant intervention programme. Assessments before and after the implementation of the intervention program are used to ascertain its effectiveness. You will always be advised if your child has been identified to be supported on one of these programmes.

Sex and Relationship Education

Relationship and growing up education at Bedwas Infants follows the guidelines issued by Welsh Government and Caerphilly County Borough Council. The programme covers the physiological aspects of sexual development and should address the issues of gender in a personal, social and societal level. The school's programme of sex education is agreed by the governing body and is available for parents to see upon request. It is linked to the Health and Wellbeing Area of Learning Experience of Curriculum for Wales.

Our school's programme for Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) as agreed by the Governing Body is linked with the areas of the National Curriculum and also a broad, balanced social education.

The aims of the SRE programme are to enable all pupils to:

- develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships;
- be able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work;
- feel prepared for puberty;
- develop the ability to make informed choices and minimise risk;

- to understand that the life process of humans include growth and reproduction, to recognise the pressures of unwanted physical contact;
- know how to protect themselves and ask for help and support.

We use and follow the recommended resources and guidance from the Healthy Schools Team. The main emphasis is on relationships and will reflect the needs of the pupil as they develop over the key phases / stages. Parents may view the policy and discuss the teaching materials used.



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Religious Education and Collective Worship

The teaching of religious education is subject to the statutory regulations of the 1944 and 1988 Acts. These require that all pupils should receive religious education and take part in collective worship, except where withdrawn by parental request. The teaching will take place in a variety of forms, which will reflect the ethos of the whole application to cross-curricular themes as well as to work specifically in religious education.

The main focus of religious education teaching is based on the Christian faith, but due regard is given to other religious faiths, beliefs and customs.

Collective Worship in school is conducted through daily whole school acts of worship. A 'Celebration Assembly' takes place on a Friday. In this assembly, a range of certificates are presented to individual pupils. These are for; Excellent Behaviour [being a role model], Special Work, A recognition of good writing and for their Welsh contribution that week.

Any parent who wishes to exercise their right under the 1988 Education Reform Act to withdraw their child from Collective Worship or R.E. lessons are asked to contact the Head teacher in writing.

The Welsh Language

We are very proud of our 'Welshness' at Bedwas Infant School. We are committed to nurturing confident, enthusiastic Welsh speakers from the earliest stages of their learning. The Welsh language is introduced through meaningful, play-based experiences and song that develop listening, speaking and early reading skills in a natural and enjoyable fun but learning rich way.

As a school, we also actively participate in the Siarter Iaith (Welsh Language Charter), which supports us in creating a vibrant and positive Welsh ethos. The Charter encourages us to promote the use of Welsh both inside and outside the classroom, celebrate Welsh culture, and involve families and the wider community in our language-rich environment. Working towards the Siarter Iaith awards helps us continuously reflect on and strengthen our provision, ensuring that the Welsh language thrives across the whole school.

By embedding Welsh into daily school life and celebrating the unique culture and history of Wales, we help our learners develop pride in their heritage, a sense of belonging, and the foundations of bilingualism that will support them throughout their educational journey.



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Sport and Physical Education

Physical Education is a statutory requirement and an essential component in establishing a basis for a healthy lifestyle. Bedwas Infant School is a 'Healthy School', encouraging pupils to be active participants in the variety of curricular and extra-curricular provision on offer. All pupils are expected to wear the appropriate clothing to enable them to participate in physical education sessions safely.

All pupils are required to have a kit comprising of shorts and t-shirt to be used in the warmer weather and all year round during gymnastic and dance sessions.

We request that a clearly named kit is brought to school and left on their peg. Every child is expected to participate in P.E. lessons. Parents are requested to inform the school office verbally or in writing if their child is not fit enough to participate in physical education lessons, giving a valid reason.

Outdoor Learning

We believe that education in the outdoors is an essential and integral part of children's all-round education. Recent research has identified that children who have received good quality outdoor learning display stronger social skills, display both a higher level of self-esteem and independence and are also more confident in their own capabilities.

At Bedwas Infants School, your child will be given every opportunity through the use of the outdoor classroom to develop these skills. The outdoor classroom will be used in all weathers and we believe that there is no bad weather - only bad clothing. The nursery class has 'Welly Wednesday' sessions and the older children have Forest School sessions.



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Extra-Curricular Activities

At Bedwas Infant School, we see extracurricular provision as being fundamental to the development of the whole child. The school is very proud of the wide range of activities we offer across the various year groups, which increase self-esteem, broaden experience, build confidence and provide experiences where success is shared.

The activities on offer may vary from time to time, reflecting the skills and interests of staff and the requests from children. All staff provide an After-School Club. This year we are running these clubs:

- Let's Make Music
- Let's Dysgu Cymraeg
- Let's Make
- Let's Lego
- Let's Yoga
- Let's Dig

Information regarding extra-curricular activities is available from the main office and any pupil intending to participate in activities that take place after school hours will need to provide parental consent.



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Healthy Schools

Bedwas Infant School is part of the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools. We aim to promote attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle amongst the children. This includes encouraging:

- Daily Fruit snack for staff and pupils.
- Milk for children
- Playground buddies
- 'Amygdala Medics' available to support those in need of emotional regulation.
- Daily mile
- Access to water throughout the day
- Energy saving actions
- Recycling
- Tooth brushing
- Opportunities for promoting healthy living as part of the curriculum e.g. balanced diet as part of Science; the impact of exercise on the body as part of PD.

Assessment

Effective assessment procedures are essential for enabling pupils to improve their learning and are a natural part of teaching and learning. It helps children understand what they can do, celebrating their achievements and what they need to do next in order to improve.

To ensure that each child is progressing, assessments are carried out regularly. A wide variety of assessment strategies are used, ranging from standardised assessment tests, to staff observations of learning, listening to learners, etc. In addition, a number of AfL (Assessment for Learning) strategies are used to engage pupils in evaluating their own learning, using given / agreed success criteria.

Each pupil's progress is recorded on Taith360, an online tracking system.

Parents are informed of their child's progress at least three times per year. This takes place during teacher / parent consultations during the autumn and spring terms and in a written report at the end of the summer term. End of Key Stage performance data, i.e. at the end of Year 2 is distributed to all parents and National Test data provided to the parents of all children in Year 2 who took the tests. A whole school overview is provided in the Governor's Annual Report to Parents. Governors monitor standards at our school very closely and performance is compared with schools across the local authority and Wales.



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Assessment, Recording and Reporting in the Foundation Phase

An initial assessment will be made within the first six weeks of your child entering our Reception. The purpose of this assessment is to determine what he or she can do and understand and provides a 'baseline' for each child as they enter the Foundation Phase. This assessment is also completed from Nursery and continues through Foundation Phase to assess and track progress. This information will help to ensure that each child's first experience of education is appropriate to their stage of development and the activities and experiences planned for them will help to move forward their learning. Staff will assess each child's stage of development through observing them in their everyday activities and use the information to plan the next stage in their development.

The on-entry assessment will be undertaken in the language of the school, i.e. English.

You will be kept fully informed of the assessment outcomes during a meeting to be held in the autumn term. Your child's teacher will arrange a meeting with you and provide helpful guidance on how we can work together to ensure that your child makes the best possible progress. You will also receive a written report on your child's progress at the end of the academic year.

Homework

We want homework to be supportive of our pupils and their families.

Whilst there is much evidence to say that homework at Primary School age may not have any academic value, we believe it does have a value. We think it helps build relationships, if it is meaningful. It has the power to build relationships between parent and child. It has the power to build relationships between school and home; between staff and parents.

We want homework to build on the pupils learning experiences in the classroom, not be an 'extra chore' to be completed when they are tired and have worked hard all day!

What we will do:

We will send home Reading Books. [We want our children to develop a love of books... we never want it to be a 'battle'. If it is...come and talk to us!]

We will sometimes send home 'phonics' activities, if we think this will help your child.

We will provide you, each term, with a variety of activities linked to the 'topic' through which your child is learning. This will cover all areas of learning and involve being indoors and outdoors with your child. The activities are optional and will enhance their understanding of their topic. We would love to see some photos on our Facebook page of you and your child enjoying these activities.

We will provide you with 'Purple Mash' logins so that you and your child can access safe,



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educational material on line at home. We will set a 'to do' for each school holiday that is optional and will be discussed with the pupils on their return to school.

We will have optional 'competition' activities for St. David's Day each year.

Occasionally, if your child has a student teacher in class, they may send home an activity to be completed as part of their studies.

We will enjoy hearing about activities that your child does outside school; we will be sending home a questionnaire to ask about their talent and hobbies. We love it when they bring in medals or certificates or tell us stories about their time away from school.

What we won't do:

We won't send home meaningless 'worksheets'.

We won't send home tasks that they don't understand or doesn't build on their day to day learning.

We won't send tasks that you will have to teach!

We won't penalise children for not sending in completed homework.

We won't expect parents to spend hours making, creating and designing- unless this is an activity they chose to do with their child.

If you have any questions about our approach to homework, please contact the Head Teacher.

Home-School Agreement

A copy of the Home/ School Agreement is circulated to all new parent as part of our Admission Pack.



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ECO Committee / School Council

Pupil voice is very important in Bedwas Infant School and we are proud to operate key pupil groups within our school.

The School Council play an important role in school life. Each year, elections are held resulting in year two pupils being nominated by fellow pupils to represent their views. The School council liaise with our community, listen to their peers and share the thoughts of others, suggest ways to make whole school improvements and represent our school at events such as purchasing items for the playground.

The ECO Committee is also made up of pupils and staff who work tirelessly to ensure that the school is environmentally friendly in its outlook and development.

Our Eco committee were awarded the Platinum Eco Schools flag in 2018 and have had it renewed in the subsequent years, most recently in 2024. We are all very proud of this achievement.



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Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Behaviour

Bedwas Infant School seeks to provide a caring and supportive environment for every pupil. The school prides itself on the excellent relationships it fosters between children and staff. The behaviour of pupils is of a high standard and the school has a clear policy for the management of behaviour. A positive approach is adopted, with children rewarded in a variety of ways for following rules and codes of behaviour; these are very simple. 'Be Respectful, Responsible, Ready & Safe'. We have a 'Relationships' Policy at Bedwas Infants that promotes an ethos of care for one another.

Pupils adhere to general school rules that are reinforced by the Head Teacher and all members of the staff team through assemblies, and with the class teacher during general discussions. Teachers reward compliance with non-verbal / verbal praise, stickers, quick notes, positive phone calls home, etc.

At Bedwas Infant School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all pupils, so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Bedwas Infant School. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell someone and know that the incident will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

We are a 'Telling' school. This means that anyone who knows bullying is taking place is expected to tell a member of staff. Copies of our 'Anti-Bullying Policy' are available from the school office on request.

The Headteacher is the designated Safeguarding Officer within the school (in her absence, the DHT [Mrs. Collins] is the additional Safeguarding Officer in the school), who liaises directly with the LA (Local Authority), Social Services and Safeguarding Teams. Should anyone have any particular concerns regarding a particular child or group(s) of children, the Headteacher should be informed immediately.



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Wellbeing

Bedwas Infant School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Families can often go through difficult times which impact on a child's emotional health. We would be grateful if you could inform school of any incidents that may affect your child in school, in order that we may support them as necessary or just keep a watchful eye. All such matters will be held in confidence. You may wish to make an appointment with the Headteacher or just write details in a letter. We often support families through difficult times and we also have access to outside agencies what may also be able to offer support.

Our school recognises that there are many environmental factors that can potentially affect a child and their feelings on a daily basis. We have five members of support staff who are THRIVE trained (Emotional and Social support) to help pupils who require additional support. This support is proving to be very beneficial in helping pupils to identify their feelings and learning how to deal with a range of emotions. Pupils' well-being is a priority for all staff in Bedwas Infant School. We support all pupils' emotional, personal and social development through the THRIVE programme.



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Equal Opportunities for All

Our Governing Body is fully aware of its duty to ensure that equal opportunities are promoted at our school. Our Equal Opportunity Policy and Race Equality Policy outline how we endeavour to ensure equal opportunities for all.

At Bedwas Infant School, we consider equal opportunities as central to the ethos and activities within the school. Adults and pupils who make up the school community should feel valued and free from discrimination. This ensures that everybody's talents and abilities are fully encouraged and developed. We believe that we should cater for the needs of all children in our community, regardless of race, gender, culture, religion and ability.

At Bedwas Infant School, we are committed to race equality, promoting positive approaches to difference and fostering respect for people of all cultural backgrounds, e.g. through our Cultural themes, Collective Worship themes, etc.

We are opposed to all forms of racial prejudice and discrimination. Language or behaviour that is racist or potentially damaging to any ethnic or racial group will not be tolerated and will be challenged. In instances where it is found that discrimination has taken place, the LA will be informed through the internal system. Any reported instances of discrimination will remain on your child's records and transfer with them between schools automatically.

At Bedwas Infants we recognise that Wales and the U.K. have diverse societies made up of people from many different racial, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds. It is important that all pupils are prepared to live in such a diverse society. All children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, allowing them to achieve standards according to their levels of ability and aptitude; all staff understand how factors such as nationality, language, gender, social circumstance and giftedness can impact on learning.

Pupils with Disabilities

Pupils who have disabilities at Bedwas Infant School enjoy full access to all aspects of school life. The school site has full physical access and has made adaptations to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act of 1995.

The governing body is mindful of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 and The Special Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) 2005 and as of 1 October 2010, the Equality Act which replaced most of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) in the day to day operation of the school site.

Mrs Jenkins Delf and Mrs Collins [ALNCo's] work effectively with the relevant LA agencies to ensure that pupils with disabilities have the necessary support and resources to enable their full access to the curriculum.



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Children Looked After

The Governing Body of Bedwas Infants School is committed to providing quality education for all our pupils. We recognize that, nationally, pupils in public care have significantly underachieved compared to their peers. We intend to promote the inclusion, well-being and achievement of CLA children in the school. The Governing Body is committed in particular to implementing joint guidance from the Department of Health on the education of young people in public care and Circular 2/2001 from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is vital for children to attend school regularly and punctually for all to obtain the maximum benefit that school has to offer. Good attendance reinforces a sense of respect for the school and for others, and ensures children develop good habits of time keeping.

All pupils need to be in school at 8.40am in readiness for the register at 8.45am (other than those attending 'Breakfast Club'). It is expected that each child achieve a minimum attendance rate of @95% during the course of the academic year unless experiencing severe illness / hospitalisation.

The school's attendance record is good. During the academic year 2024-2025 attendance was 91.6%. Regular contact will be made with parents to offer support and also to arrange meetings to discuss attendance and punctuality. The school works closely with our Local Authority Education Welfare Officer who also will offer guidance to families. The EWO will also routinely contact parents of persistent lateness/absence patterns are evident or if there are any concerns.

Maintaining and improving on current standards of attendance is very important. To that end, we ask that should your child be absent from school, please notify the main office by 9.00am on the first day of absence.

We kindly ask that all appointments are made outside of school hours or during holiday time. If appointments in school time are unavoidable, please notify us before-hand either verbally or in writing. We will also require a copy of the appointment card / letter in order to note the absence as an authorised medical appointment.

Please make reference to the schools' 'Attendance Policy' for further information regarding expectations and requirements, including that of potential penalties imposed by the LA under the new regulations.



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Family Holidays

Whilst the school recognises that the cost of a holiday dramatically rises during school holidays and is not unsympathetic to this, our paramount concern must be the learning which is missed by the child. Schools do not have to authorise absences for school holidays during term time and each application will be considered on an individual basis, in line with the Attendance policy and the Cluster agreement. Any request for a holiday will automatically be refused if the child's attendance is not above 95%.

Health and Welfare

Visits are made to the school annually to check the hearing and eyesight of our pupils of Reception age. You will be notified of these visits in advance and any follow up investigations necessary will be shared with you directly by the medical profession.

If a pupil becomes injured whilst in school and it is classified as minor, i.e. small graze, cut, etc, then the matter will be dealt with by a member of school staff and reported on the appropriate school-based accident form. Reference will be made to the pupil information sheet to ensure that your child does not have an allergy to plasters; as such, it is vital that you inform school of any changes to your child's medical needs. If your child receives a 'head bump' and appears unwell / phased by the incident, we will inform you as soon as possible. You may be asked to collect your child from school and take them straight to your GP (General Practitioner).

If a pupil becomes ill during the course of the school day, or sustains a major injury, we will make every effort to contact you and arrange for your child's collection, ensuring they are as comfortable as possible in the meantime. Should the nature of their illness be more severe, we will also seek advice, support and attention from the appropriate medical service. In the event that we are unable to contact you and hospitalisation is needed, the most senior member of staff on school site and another member of staff will accompany your child to hospital, continuing to make attempts to contact you. **It is therefore vital that you ensure the school clerk has your most recent contact number.**

Medication

Some children require regular medication, such as treatments for asthma, which should be taken during the school day. **Medication such as this should be sent to be kept securely in the school office / classroom. It should be clearly labeled with their name; please ensure that all asthma medication is within date, as this is your responsibility as a parent.** If children needing asthma medication attend any activity during school hours, they will need to take this with them.

Very occasionally, it may be necessary for a child to take medication during school hours, **although doctors can usually prescribe dosage so that this does not need to happen.** School is always co-operative in your attending school to administer medication to your child, as no staff are contracted to do so, in line with the guidance provided by the Local Authority.



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Security

We have a very secure site, with effective gates and fences all around. We ask parents and other adults bringing children to school to remain on the allocated footpath areas, using only the pedestrian gates to gain access to the school.

If an adult other than the main designated person attempts to collect a child either during the day or at the end of the day - they will be refused. If the adult is named on the child's collection sheet, then contact will need to have been made with school either 'face to face' or in a written format. If school believes any person collecting a child from school to be under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs to the potential detrimental neglect / harm of the child, they will be refused collection rights. This will also apply if school is in possession of knowledge where we believe that the safety of the child could be compromised.

Once the school day has begun, the only pedestrian gate remaining open will be at the main entrance from St Mary's Street. All other pedestrian gates will be locked between 9am and 3.15pm except for the main gate into the school. This will be opened to allow for the collection of Nursery children and the placing of Rising 3 children at appropriate times.

Visitors are required to sign in at the main office and to wear an identity badge. Any person on site without the appropriate badge will be challenged.

All staff have been DBS checked. This includes volunteers.



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General Information

Admission Procedures

Children are admitted to our school following the Caerphilly LA School Admissions Policy. The Caerphilly LA Admissions Officers can be contacted by telephone on 01443 864870 or via e-mail: westam@caerphilly.gov.uk.

School Uniform

At Bedwas Infant School, we feel that school uniform helps our pupils to feel part of our community and helps to create a sense of belonging.

The school uniform consists of a white polo shirt, black or grey trousers / skirt and a blue cardigan or sweatshirt. Most supermarkets supply uniform at a reasonable cost. No child is permitted to wear jeans or logo embellished clothing unless school is holding a non-uniform day.

In the interest of health and safety, no jewelry is to be worn to school apart from stud earrings and a watch unless as a result of religious reasons, whereby earrings will have to be covered by a plaster. All pupils are expected to remove these prior to participating in physical education lessons / extra-curricular provision of a physical nature.

Make-up, nail varnish, false nails or fake tan are not deemed appropriate for school.

Any issues relating to the wearing of religious clothing/jewelry will need to be referred to the Headteacher.

Charging and Remissions Policy

The school's educational provision and most of the activities organised by the school are financed via funds received from the LA. There are however, some valuable educational experiences that cannot be provided by the school without the financial support from parents. Where a visit occurs during school time, contributions to enable the visit to take place will be invited. No compulsory charge is made for materials used in school.

Contributions may also be requested for visiting workshops to support work being carried out in the curriculum areas.



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Bad Weather Procedures

In the event of bad weather, i.e. heavy snowfall / thick ice, it is possible that school will be closed. Reference will need to be made to the Caerphilly Council / school website for further information. Parents will also be informed through the school Facebook Page and Website.

Friends of Bedwas Infants (FBI)

We are very fortunate to have a growing and enthusiastic FBI, who work hard to provide opportunities and events in support of school and our pupils. The monies raised from various activities have enabled them to contribute to projects in the school. Your support would be much appreciated - whether as an organiser on the committee or as a volunteer when activities are taking place. If you wish to become involved, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Parents as Helpers

We actively encourage parent helpers within the school. Please be assured that all helpers throughout the school are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Parents and the School

The education of our young children is a partnership between home and school. We ask you to support your child in school in a number of ways. These include talking to them about what they have done in school, ensuring they have the best possible attendance and arrive to school on time with the necessary equipment, e.g. PE kit, lunch box, etc, helping with homework and reading, attending their class and other whole school celebrations and taking advantage of the opportunities we provide to meet with your child's class teacher in order to discuss progress and overall attainment.

We also hold a range of events throughout the year for parents to attend; these might include Parent workshops, 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, Bring a Grown Up afternoon (BAGU) etc.

Should you wish to access information relating to your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school in order to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

School Visits

If you wish to visit the school please contact the school office to organise an appointment at a mutually beneficial time:

bedwasinfants@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk



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Term Dates

Term dates and Session times			
Term	Term Starts	Half term holiday	Term Ends
Autumn	1 st September 2025	27 th October - 31 st October 2025	19 th December 2025
Spring	5 th January 2026	16 th February - 20 th February 2026	27 th March 2026
Summer	13 th April 2026	25 th May - 29 th May 2026	20 th July

INSET DAYS

All schools can take 6 In-service training days during term time. Bedwas training days for this academic year are listed below:

Monday 2nd September
 Monday 3rd November
 Friday 19th December
 Friday 27th March
 Friday 22nd May
 Monday 20th July

Times of the School Day

Pupils are required outside their school classroom at 8.40 a.m. in readiness for the doors to open at 8.45a.m. Please do not allow your child to attend school before 8.40 a.m. unless they are attending 'Breakfast Club', as there will not be adequate supervision to ensure their safety prior to this time.

Reception to Year 2:

Morning Session 8.45am - 11.45am
 Afternoon Session 12.45pm - 3.00pm

Nursery sessions are either; 8.45am-11.15am or 12.30 pm-3.00pm



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Breakfast Club, Lunchtime Arrangements, Snacks and Free School Meals

All pupils are entitled to attend Breakfast Club. This opens at 8.15 a.m. and the serving hatch is then closed at 8.30 a.m. Pupils are able to receive cereals, fruit juice, wholemeal toast, etc. at no additional cost to you. A consent form will need to be completed in advance of their attendance, noting contact details, allergies, etc. All children are supervised by 'Breakfast Club' staff, who are DBS checked.

The majority of pupils remain in school during the lunch hour, eating a meal prepared in either one of the school kitchens or their own packed lunch. Mid-day supervisory assistants are employed to supervise the pupils between 11.45am and 1pm. It is therefore of the utmost importance that pupils maintain a high standard of behaviour during the lunch period.

Bedwas Infant School is a 'healthy school'. As such, no child bringing a packed lunch to school is to have a fizzy drink (with the exception of mineral water), or more than 1 packet of crisps and / or biscuits / cakes. We encourage children to eat fruit and vegetables as part of a healthy diet.

Each class provides a healthy eating opportunity for the pupils during the morning session and pupils are able to bring in a piece of fruit for the morning break.

Some of our parents are entitled to free school meals. As well as providing peace of mind in knowing that your child is eating a healthy lunch. Free school meals are available to parents in receipt of family income support. More information is available at the following internet address:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/caerphilly>



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Junior Education

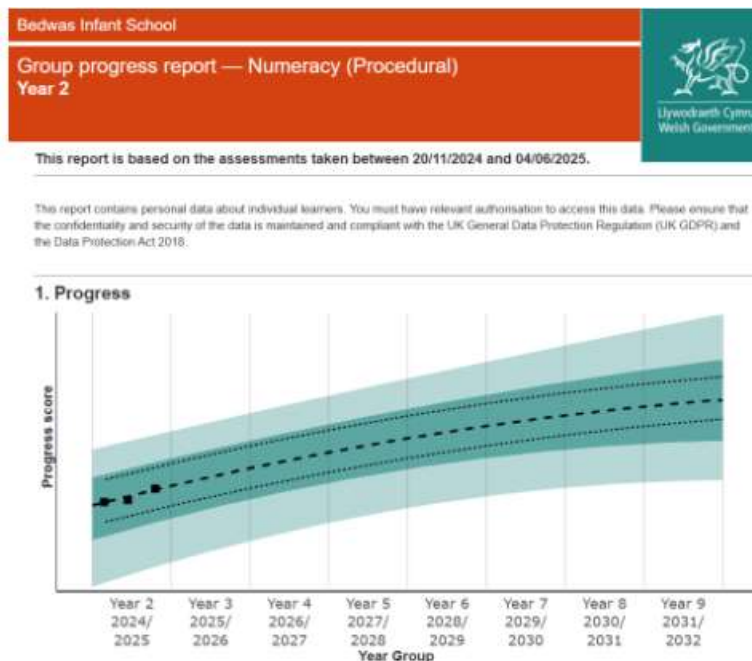
The vast majority of pupils from Bedwas Infant School transfer to Bedwas Junior School. During the Autumn Term of their Year 2 academic year, they will be provided with documentation in support of their Junior School education. A number of activities and events are undertaken by Year 2 to support the smooth transition to the Junior School. You will be given ample notification of this / these events.

Community Links

The school is committed to continuing to develop links with the community via visits to local places of worship and interest and by inviting various guests from the community to local activities. We encourage visitors to enrich our pupils' learning experiences; we have regular visits from the police, the Fire service, NSPCC and music specialists. School has good links with the community and also local businesses have been supportive of school activities over the years.

Academic Achievement

[Welsh Government Assessments \(2024-2025\)](#)





Bedwas Infant School

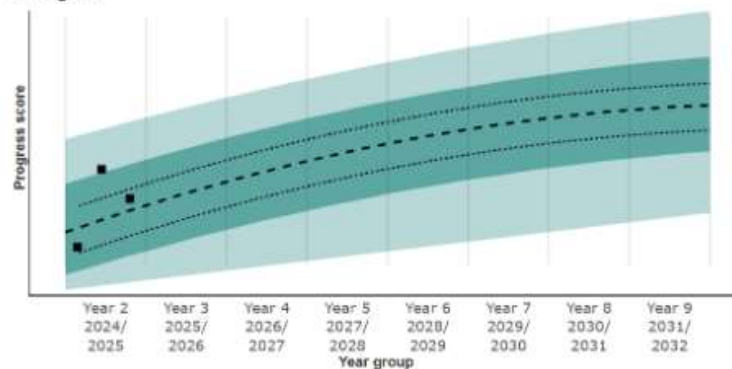
Group progress report — Numeracy (Reasoning)
Year 2



This report is based on the assessments taken between 27/11/2024 and 05/06/2025.


This report contains personal data about individual learners. You must have relevant authorisation to access this data. Please ensure that the confidentiality and security of the data is maintained and compliant with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

1. Progress



Bedwas Infant School

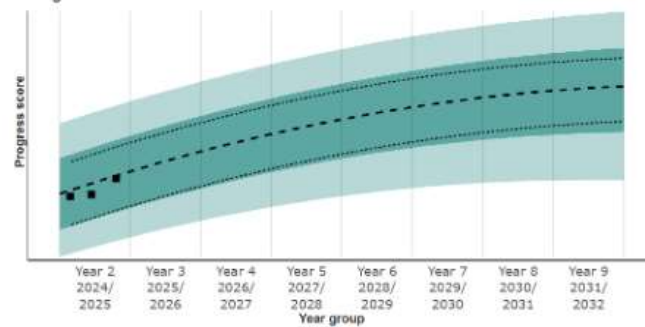
Group progress report — English Reading
Year 2



This report is based on the assessments taken between 21/11/2024 and 04/06/2025.

This report contains personal data about individual learners. You must have relevant authorisation to access this data. Please ensure that the confidentiality and security of the data is maintained and compliant with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

1. Progress





Staff and Governors

Mrs. V Jenkins Delf	<u>Head Teacher</u>
Mrs. Rachel Collins	<u>Deputy Headteacher</u>
<u>Teaching Staff</u>	
Mrs. Williams	Nursery
Miss. M Lloyd	Dosbarth Porffor <i>[Reception]</i>
Mrs. A. Cartwright	Dosbarth Coch <i>[Reception /Year 1]</i>
Mrs. C. Mathias	Dosbarth Gwyrdd <i>[Year 1 / Year 2]</i>
Miss S Jones	Dosbarth Glas <i>[Year 2]</i>
Mr. I. Leaves	PPA teacher [Nursery- Year 2]
Mrs. C Bailey Miss R. Anderson Mrs. S. Morris Mrs. T. Hayward Mrs. G. Whittaker Miss H. Bailey Mrs. G. Powell Miss D. Verity Miss L Bowden Miss K. Crocker Miss J. Edwards Mrs. J. Crane Miss M. Brizio Mr. A. Hartley Mr. J. Candy	<u>Support Staff</u> Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant
Mr. R. Bailey	<u>School Secretary</u>
Mrs. C. Channon	<u>Caretaker</u>
Miss S Main	<u>Cook</u>



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Mrs. G Bowden Mrs. G Powell Mrs. L. Simmonds	<u>Lunchtime Supervisors</u> Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
[CCBC Catering] Mrs. Sharon Main	<u>Catering Staff</u>

[CCBC Cleaning] Mrs T. Sandercock	<u>Cleaning Staff</u>
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Chairperson of Governors	Mrs. C. Tidy
Vice Chairperson	Mrs. K. Hughes
LEA Representation	Mrs. T Elms Cllr. L. Aldworth
Teacher Representative	Mrs. A. Cartwright
Non-teaching Staff Representation	Mrs. T Hayward
Parent Representation	Mr. L. Bowen, Mrs. C. Bracegirdle Mr. S. Collins,
Co-opted Representation	Ms. S Armstrong
Head Teacher	Mrs. V Jenkins Delf



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