



## School Development Plan 2025 - 2028

Rhydypenau Primary School is a community school serving an established residential area within north Cardiff. Most pupils come from homes that are relatively advantaged and a few from homes that are economically disadvantaged.

The school has 470 pupils aged three to 11 years old, which currently includes 54 children who attend the nursery on a part-time basis. Children enter the nursery in the term after their third birthday. The school is either full or oversubscribed in every year group. English is the predominant language spoken at home. In September 2025, 29.78% of pupils were from ethnic minority backgrounds and 13.4% speak English as an additional language. English is the main language of communication in the school and Welsh is taught as a second language, however, there are 32 different languages spoken at home. In September 2025 there were 9 EAL pupils, either new to English or at the stage of early acquisition.

The school has 2.5% FSM in 2025, which is below the local authority and Wales average. 2.1% of pupils have been identified as having additional learning needs. Pupils are accommodated within a range of buildings. Historically the school has had excellent attendance previously 97% over six years, attendance has decreased slightly to 96%.

## Estyn Recommendations: June 2025

R1: Address the variability in teaching to ensure that all pupils develop as curious, creative, independent learners  
R2: Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills

### Progress Since the last Inspection

#### Key Issue - Commentary

R1: Enquiry based learning introduced whole school  
Training delivered on habits of mind and blooms taxonomy

R2:

### Rhydypenau's Vision

1. Learners and staff will feel secure, safe and happy in the physical and digital world where everybody is valued and respected.
2. They will develop self-confidence and high self-esteem in a nurturing community.
3. Learners will be ambitious and aspirational, have equitable opportunities and experiences that will inspire, excite and shape their futures. to ensure they reach or exceed their potential and 'aim high'.
4. Learners will not be afraid to fail but see failure as an opportunity for learning and a route to success.
5. Learners will be resilient, will respond confidently to situations by thinking flexibly to problem solve and will overcome adversity to develop a strong sense of achievement.
6. Learners will respond confidently to situations with increasing independence and will develop a strong sense of accomplishment.
7. Learners will be respectful, ethically informed citizens, who build strong relationships, and develop a sense of mutual respect and acceptance of others from all walks of life.
8. Learners will celebrate cultural heritage and diversity, and become compassionate members of society.
9. Learners will have the knowledge and confidence to exercise their own democratic and human rights, to protect their own and others' freedom and equality.
10. Learners will develop enquiring minds & become critical and creative thinkers.
11. Learners will be active, inspired and motivated to develop a lifelong approach to their health and wellbeing.
12. Our children will be enterprising, capable learners who are ready to learn and engage in authentic learning opportunities and experiences.
13. Our children will embody the four purposes: they will develop a love of lifelong learning and be confident, ready, excited and enthusiastic about the next

stage of their journey.

## Summary of Priorities 2023-2027

2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2028 2 years
<p><u>Teaching and Learning</u>            Embed assessment procedures/tracking system            Embed our curriculum for our community            Further develop Welsh oracy skills - focus on reducing gender gap            Further develop cynefin            Maths - improve standards and reduce gender gap            Ensure the continued excellent progress through highly effective and robust monitoring and evaluation of LLC            Continue to develop outdoor learning            S&amp;T/DCF coverage            Ensure FSM pupils reach their full potential as they progress through the school</p>	<p><u>Teaching and Learning</u>  <b>The integral skills</b>            creativity and innovation            critical thinking and problem solving             Improve pupils <b>Welsh oracy skills</b>             Improve opportunities for pupils to further develop <b>digital skills</b></p>	<p><u>Teaching and Learning</u>            Develop the use of AI for teaching and learning             Improve pupils <b>Welsh oracy skills</b></p>
<p><u>Well-being, care, support and guidance</u>            Ensure equality for all families           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSM, working poverty and asset rich</li> </ul>           Create a calming environment for learners and staff           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neutralise environment</li> <li>• Reduce workload related to displays</li> <li>• Create calming classes and zones</li> </ul>           Improve attendance</p>	<p><u>Well-being, care, support and guidance</u>  <b>Reduce workload</b>            Develop the use of AI</p>	
<p><u>Leading and Improvement</u>            Increase professional learning and collaboration of all staff           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing good practice at school level</li> <li>• Researching best practice, learning from others, school visits</li> </ul> </p>	<p><u>Leading and Improvement</u>  <b>Professional learning</b></p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing assistant heads for Deputy headship in Rhydypenau</li> <li>• Developing new middle leaders</li> </ul> <p>Continue to involve all staff in AOLE monitoring and evaluation and action planning to ensure improvement (new staff members)</p> <p>Revisit and refine Rhydypenau's core values with all stakeholders</p>		
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### Summary of the School Development Priorities for 2025-2026

PRIORITY	Success Criteria
<b>IA 1</b> <b>Teaching and Learning</b> <b>Leads: C Williams/ C Sanders/ C Evered-Davies</b>	Address the variability in teaching to ensure that all pupils develop as curious, creative, independent learners Improve Welsh oracy skills Develop pupils digital skills
<b>IA2</b> <b>Well-being, care, support and guidance</b> <b>Leads: N Hammond/C Evered Davies</b>	Reduce workload
<b>IA 3</b> <b>Leading and Improving</b> <b>Leads: N Hammond/E Williams</b>	Professional Learning - pedagogy to impact on AI 1

Action plans for: Healthy schools, CC, AOLE's - to include gender gap

Reason: National priority/School priority ESTYN recommendations					
Lead responsibility: C Sanders, M Williams, C Williams & C Evered-Davies				Lead Governor : LLC - Sian Evans	
Expected change/impact	Who?	Budget/ Resources & source (EIG/PDG/other)	Timescale	Strategically planned tasks	Evidence source & RAG Status
<p>R1: Address the variability in teaching to ensure that all pupils develop as curious, creative, independent learners</p> <p><b>The integral skills</b> creativity and innovation critical thinking and problem solving personal effectiveness planning and organising</p>	All staff	INSET	September	Audit staff knowledge and use of integral skills on Thinking Skills. (TASC, Habits of mind, Blooms Taxonomy)	
	CS All staff	INSET	Half termly	Deliver training in Habits of mind (which will link to all aspects of integral skills throughout PS. ALL Staff - 2 per half term	
	CS All staff	Staff meeting/Twilight	Autumn	Deliver training in Blooms Taxonomy - which will link to all aspects of integral skills throughout PS. ALL Staff	
	CS Teachers	Management time	Autumn	Develop an overview of progressive questioning to develop higher order thinking skills for each PS, linked to Blooms Taxonomy	
	CW Teachers	Phase meeting	September	Review the structure of the day to allow for more opportunities to develop integral skills.	
	CE-D	/	April '25	Re-evaluate the use of pupil voice to develop 'pit stops' throughout the topic. (Not 'what do you want to learn' but 'where do you want your learning to go next?')	
	CE-D	Staff meeting/Twilight	March '25	Develop Enquiry Based Learning strategies	

	CW & CED	Management time	Autumn	Planned resourcing of continuous and enhanced provision to facilitate an EBL approach	
	CW	PLG	September/ October	Investigate good practice from other schools in FL. SLT to feedback back observations and what that could look like in Rhydypenau	
	CE-D	Staff meeting/Twilight	Jan > July	Use of NPEP to establish good practice in EBL/Intrinsic Skills - access enquiries in other schools to seek out good practice.	
	NH	/	September	Revise PLG strategy	
	CE-D	Staff meeting/Twilight	October	Revisit pedagogical principles	
	TS	/	Autumn	Reduce use of ipads for enhanced provision Introduce use of cameras to enhance provision	
R2: Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills	NH/CW	/	Ongoing	Half termly informal learning walk to monitor progress	
	CW	INSET	September	Audit staff Welsh language skills. E.g Using CSC Welsh Competency Framework	
	CW	Staff meeting/Twilight	Autumn	Develop a series of systems/resources that will actively support staff in speaking Welsh e.g inset & training, visuals, Welsh stimuli, (adult toolkit).	
	CW	/	January	Deliver a parent information session to launch website resources	

	CW/SB	Management time		Develop a series of resources that will actively support parents in speaking Welsh at home with their children	
	CW	Staff meeting/Twilight	Ongoing	Embed current practice that enables children to speak Welsh. Table talkers, brawddeg yr Wythnos	
	CW	/	January	Develop Welsh playground games (started in FL) and roll these out whole school with Criw Cymraeg leading.	
	CW	/	Autumn	Develop a designated 'Cymraeg Stop' (or Welsh language area) in the playground, where pupils can choose to speak Welsh with friends.	
	CW	Management time	September	Audit provision and resources that are age appropriate and engaging to all learners.	
	CW	SDP time INSET	Autumn	Develop CSC Continuum of Welsh language patterns that align to our school level curriculum.	
	CW	/	September	Engagement and promotion of Welsh. e.g. design Welsh Mascot, displays where learners add their name and are given Dojo's if they're on the display. Criw Cymraeg deliver FL assemblies	
	CW	/	January	Establish 'Cymraeg Buddies' where pupils ask Welsh questions and reward peers using positive reinforcement strategies (e.g. stickers, praise)	
	CW	Management time	Ongoing	Work towards Starter Iaith Gold award to embed Welsh ethos whole school	
	CW	Staff meeting/Twilight	Spring	Deliver inset sessions for staff to create and share engaging games that can be used to develop Welsh Language skills	

Improve pupils digital skills	CE-D	Management time	September/October	Audit current provision of IT equipment - procure additional resources to reflect progress across PS1 - 3	
	CE-D	Management time	January	Develop an IT skills checklist at each PS. e.g. what should learners be able to do by the time they get to Year 4 etc.	
	CE-D	Staff meeting/Twilight	January	Staff skills audit and provide additional support using cardiff curriculum support service (linked to activities planning)	
	CE-D	/	September/October	Create overview of current provision and develop a range of engaging opportunities for learners. e.g. Podcasting.	
	CE-D	Staff meeting/Twilight	January '25	Retrain in the use of VR Headsets and enhance CCR	
	CE-D	Management time	January	Strategically plan a range of activities that will be delivered in each year group. e.g. Nursery/Reception - unplugged algorithms, Year 1 - Bee Bot, Year 2, Blue bot ... Year 6 - Drones.	
	CE-D	/	January	Relook at multimedia projects across the school to ensure range is carried out. (Not just iMovie)	
	CE-D	Management time	October & March '25	Evaluate current planning for the development of pupils digital skills	
	CE-D	NH/AW review budget PTA request	2025/2026	Purchase whole school resources to ensure progression of skills -Drones -Blue bot Approx -Sphero -Podcast Equipment -Green Screen Studio	

				-VR Headsets subscription	
<b>Reason: School priority</b>					
<b>Lead responsibility:</b> N Hammond & E Williams				<b>Lead Governor :</b> Nonny Matthewson	
Reduce workload	NH	/	September	Review current workload document & gain staff views	
	NH/CE-D	Management time	Ongoing through 25/26	Review medium and short term planning documents	
	NH	PLG 2025/2026	September INSET day 2	Training delivered on AI	