

**Buckley Mynydd Isa Consortium
Consortiwm Bwcle Mynydd Isa**

**Transition Plan
Cynllun Trosglwyddo**

**2023 - 2026
September 2023**

TRANSITION PLAN

The Transition Plan represents a joint agreement between the following schools

Elfed High School, Argoed High School, Drury Primary School, Mountain Lane Primary School, Ysgol Mynydd Isa, Southdown Primary School and Westwood Primary School

PURPOSE

Our agreed aims are:

- To promote the continuity of education between the primary and secondary settings
- To ensure collaboration across phases and settings supports the effective implementation of Curriculum for Wales (CfW)
- To facilitate greater staff awareness of the other phase, especially in terms of curriculum, assessment and pedagogy
- To enable effective transfer of pupils from primary to secondary settings
- To identify and target specific support for those pupils considered to be vulnerable
- To ensure proper availability and use of pupil transfer data
- To ensure parents/carers/families are fully informed of the transfer process
- To develop a common strategy to convey the importance of education to all sectors of our community
- To promote and support discussion and collaboration across phases and settings in order to
 - inform decision making and policy development
 - share expertise and resources
 - realise the full benefits of common continuing professional development

The implementation of the above aims fundamentally relies upon the development of a common educational philosophy in which no one partner is any more or less important than another.

TIMEFRAME

The Transition Plan sets out how we will work together to realise the above aims. It summarises aims and priorities agreed by partner schools for the period 2023 – 2026.

The progress made and next steps will be reviewed and agreed annually by partner schools. We will seek the views of parents, carers and pupils on the approach taken. We will also work in partnership with the Local Authority and GwE.

CONTENT

The plan addresses the action that will be taken against the core requirements set out in guidance provided by the Welsh Government:

1. Overall approach to leading and managing transition
2. Implementation of Curriculum for Wales, including joint curriculum planning
3. Sharing of effective practice in pedagogy and models of teaching
4. Achieving a shared understanding of what student progression looks like, during the implementation of Curriculum for Wales
5. Effective sharing of data to understand pupils' progress against prior attainment
6. Effective pastoral links to meet pupils' personal and social needs and well-being
7. Communicating the Additional Learning Needs of individual pupils
8. Use links to provide enrichment opportunities for identified groups of pupils eg. for MAT learners
9. Evaluate the impact of the policy and improvement initiatives on standards

In each case, the plan identifies current ongoing work. Where areas of improvement are identified we shall agree priorities and work together to address these over the period of the plan.

1. Overall approach to leading and managing transition

Each partner school has nominated a member of its leadership team to lead on the development, implementation and evaluation of the action agreed in this plan.

➤ Steering Group

Nominees (Headteachers) from partner schools will meet twice a term to review progress, identify any further issues to be addressed and, where needed agree appropriate action.

➤ Annual Review

Nominees (Headteachers) of partner schools will also undertake an annual review of this plan towards the end of the school year and consider the progress made and agree priorities for the following year including roles and responsibilities. Recommendations flowing from the review will be considered and agreed by the governing bodies of the partner schools.

2. Implementation of Curriculum for Wales, including joint curriculum planning

- The Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups will continue to meet regularly to plan the curriculum in readiness for the implementation of Curriculum for Wales.
- Every school in the Consortium will be represented on the Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups.
- There will be a report back to the steering group at the end of the year.

3. Sharing of effective practice in pedagogy and models of teaching

- The Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups will concentrate on models of teaching and pedagogical approaches that support effective curriculum transition from primary to secondary settings.
- There will be opportunities for teachers from primary and secondary settings to observe learning in other settings to their own, by arrangement between schools.

- A planned sequence of learning opportunities and/or enrichment opportunities will be provided for students in Years 5 and 6, designed to ease transition from primary to secondary settings.
- 4. Achieving a shared understanding of what student progression looks like, during the implementation of Curriculum for Wales**
- The Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups will explore and develop their understanding of what learning looks like at each Progression Step.
 - The Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups will explore and develop their understanding of assessment arrangements for CfW.
- 5. Effective sharing of data to understand pupils' progress against prior attainment**
- A revised Common Transfer Form will be developed and embedded.
 - Information about pupils' success and achievements will be shared on formal and informal basis – e.g. sharing of Newsletters, access to websites, Twitter.
 - Assessment information will be passed on from primary to secondary settings.
- 6. Effective pastoral links to meet pupils' personal and social needs and well-being**
- The established procedures for transfer of information about pupils and the Y6/Y7 transition days will continue.
 - A programme of events and visits is planned for both High Schools.
 - The Consortium Acceptable Use Policy to be adopted by all schools within the Consortium.
- 7. Communicating the Additional Learning Needs of individual pupils**
- The Common Transfer Form will be used to record information about pupil achievements.
 - Class Teachers/Heads of Year/Additional Learning Needs Coordinators will continue to meet to share information about the learning needs of individual pupils prior to transition – involving Parents/Carers as required.
- 8. Use links to provide enrichment opportunities for identified groups of pupils eg. for MAT learners**
- More Able and Talented 'master classes' and other activities will be developed and provision continued and extended to High School.
- 9. Evaluate of the impact of the policy and improvement initiatives on standards**
- The Headteachers' Steering Group will use existing quantitative data to monitor standards.
 - Quantitative information will also be shared as it becomes available, for example information about attitude and confidence in the Pupils' Attitude to Self and School (PASS) Survey and Personalised Assessment Data.

2023-24 Steering Group Meetings (Headteachers) 9.15am start

Date	Chairperson	Minute Taker	Venue
17.10.23	PS	MB	Argoed High School
14.11.23	LJ	AS	Elfed High School
16.01.24	AS	IW	Argoed High School
05.03.24	SJ	CL	Elfed High School
07.05.24	CL	RC	Argoed High School
11.06.24	RC	PS	Elfed High School

Focus and outcomes of the 2022-23 Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups:

- Progression in Cross-Curricular Skills: literacy, numeracy, digital competence and bilingualism
- Each year, there will also be a focus group that shares effective practice in relation to an area agreed by the Steering Group. For 2023-24, the focus will be Attendance.

Structure of the Cross-Curricular Skills Working Group Meetings

Meeting 1:

- Sharing of current curriculum/SoL/long term plans for Y6 and Y7 within each Cross-Curricular Skills
- Identify a focus (teaching model/pedagogical approach) to focus on within the group
- Agreement of approaches to trial in advance of next meeting

(Between meeting 1 and 2: trial approaches/team teaching/model teaching/co-planning/sharing of ideas)

Meeting 2:

- Sharing and presentation of current practice/student work/resources/planning in relation to agreed focus

(Between meeting 2 and 3: trial approaches/team teaching/model teaching/co-planning/sharing of ideas)

Meeting 3:

- Review impact/findings/outcomes
- Agree next steps – which will feed into curriculum planning for 2023-24 in each setting

Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups

Cross-Curricular Skills	Chair
Literacy	Ffion Zachary (Mountain Lane)
Numeracy	Sian Mountain (Southdown)
Digital Competence	Jenny Williams (Drury)
Bilingualism	Carl (Southdown)
Chairs' Meeting	Leanne Eyre

**There will also be a meeting to share effective practice in relation to improving attendance.*

Dates of the Working Group Meetings

To be held in the Meeting Room at Elfed High School (unless otherwise agreed). Every Wednesday at 1.30pm – 3.00pm unless otherwise noted

Working Group	No of Reps	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3
Chairs' meetings	7	08.11.23	10.01.24	15.05.24
Numeracy	7	15.11.23	07.02.24	22.05.24
Literacy	7	22.11.23	21.02.24	05.06.24
Digital Competence	7	29.11.23	28.02.24	12.06.24
Bilingualism	7	06.12.23	06.03.24	19.06.24
Attendance		13.12.23	20.03.24	03.07.24

Continuing Professional Development and School to School Collaboration

The Buckley Mynydd Isa Consortium will monitor the development of Professional Learning Communities and working parties between the partner schools. There will be opportunities to share good practice at the meetings of the Steering Group and the Cross-Curricular Skills Working Groups.