

YSGOL CAMBRIAN

Growing Confidence, Celebrating Differences, Becoming Our Best

BELIEVE
BELONG
BECOME



YSGOL CAMBRIAN
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Welcome, to our new ALN School: A centre of excellence for inclusive learning



Message from the Executive Headteacher and Head of School

Welcome to Ysgol Cambrian.

As one of Wales' newest specialist schools, we are proud to open our doors to a community built on inclusion, belonging, and high expectations for every learner. At Ysgol Cambrian, we believe that every child deserves to feel understood, valued, and supported to grow in confidence and independence.

Our Cambrian values shape everything we do – from the way we communicate, to the relationships we build, to the opportunities we create. We work closely with families and professionals to ensure each learner's journey is celebrated, nurtured, and personalised.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our school. We look forward to welcoming you into a community where every child can Believe, Belong, Become.

Vision

To create a nurturing, inclusive community where every learner communicates, belongs, and grows in confidence to become their best.

Mission

1. Champion meaningful learning through personalised, engaging experiences that build communication, curiosity, and confidence for every learner.
2. Celebrate individuality by fostering acceptance, respect, motivation, and achievement across academic, social, emotional, and personal development.
3. Build independence and wellbeing through a caring, supportive environment where learners feel safe, valued, and ready to thrive.

Core Values

- Communication
- Acceptance
- Motivation
- Belonging
- Respect
- Independence
- Achievement
- Nurture

Together, these principles shape our journey toward a brighter future.

Aron Bradley, Executive Headteacher
Nicola Clark, Head of School



**ARON
BRADLEY
EXECUTIVE
HEADTEACHER**



**NICOLA CLARK
HEAD OF
SCHOOL**



Key Information for Parents & Carers





SCHOOL UNIFORM

At Ysgol Cambrian, we encourage pupils to wear our school colours with pride while recognising that comfort, individuality and personal needs always come first. As a specialist ALN school, we understand that clothing can play an important role in wellbeing, sensory regulation and confidence.

Our uniform expectations are flexible so that every pupil can feel safe, comfortable and ready to learn.

Uniform helps pupils feel part of our community, but inclusion, dignity and comfort will always guide our approach.

Our school uniform includes:

Green jumper or cardigan

White polo shirt

Grey or black trousers or skirt

PE Kit:

Black shorts

White round-neck T-shirt

We understand that some pupils may need adaptations to their clothing for sensory, medical or practical reasons please speak with your child's class teacher if adjustments are needed.

Uniform helps pupils feel part of our school community, but wellbeing and inclusion always come first

Where to Purchase Uniform

Families can buy school uniform from:

Howells Sports Ltd

42 Dunraven Street

Tonypandy

CF40 1AL

However, uniform items can also be purchased from any high-street store or supermarket. Branded items are not essential. We want to make sure cost is never a barrier, and pupils are welcome to wear comfortable, affordable options in our school colour

School Uniform



Key Daily Information for Families

School Day Times

Our school day runs from 8:50am to 2:50pm. Pupils arrive via school transport, parent drop-off or independent travel where appropriate. Staff are available to welcome pupils and support safe transitions into school.

School Transport (RCT)

Most of our pupils travel to Ysgol Cambrian using Local Authority transport. If your child is eligible for school transport, families must contact Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council to arrange this. If your child already receives transport, any changes (address, medical needs, pick-up arrangements) must also be reported directly to the Local Authority.

School Meals

We are a cashless school, and all meal payments must be made online. Menus are shared with families and posted on our website and social media.

Free School Meals

All Welsh primary-aged pupils are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Secondary-aged pupils are not automatically entitled and may need to apply.

Families can check eligibility and apply for Free School Meals through RCT, please scan the QR code below:



Modified or Medically Prescribed Diets

If your child requires a medically prescribed diet, families must complete the RCT Modified Diets form so catering services can prepare meals safely.

Please inform the school office once the form has been submitted so we can ensure everything is in place before your child starts.

The form is online and can be found using this link

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/SchoolsandLearning/Schoolcatering/MedicallyPrescribedDietaryRequirement/RequestaSpecialDietMenu.aspx>



+ Health, Medical Needs & Care Plans:

At Ysgol Cambrian, pupil health and wellbeing are central to everything we do. Many of our pupils have additional medical or care needs, and we work closely with families and health professionals to ensure every child is safe, supported and understood.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

If your child has a medical condition, health need or requires regular medication, an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will be created during the admissions process. Families must provide up-to-date medical information, including diagnoses, reports and any relevant care instructions.

Medication in School

All medication must be:

- prescribed
- in original packaging
- clearly labelled
- accompanied by the correct Cwm Taff medication form, obtained from the school nurse

Any changes to medication must be provided in writing before school can administer the new dose.

Modified or Medically Prescribed Diets

If your child requires a medically prescribed diet, families must complete the RCT Modified Diets form before meals can be provided safely.

Health Professionals

We work closely with:

- school nursing
- physiotherapy
- occupational therapy
- speech and language therapy
- Dietetics
- community paediatrics

Professionals may visit school to support pupils, review plans or offer advice.

Keeping Information Updated

It is essential that families inform the school of:

- changes in medical needs
- new diagnoses
- updated medication
- hospital appointments or treatment changes

This ensures we can keep your child safe and fully supported.



Innovative Learning Environment:

Ysgol Cambrian is a new state-of-the-art Additional Learning Needs (ALN) school, designed to provide a nurturing, inclusive, and aspirational environment for pupils aged 3 to 19 years across the full continuum of ALN.

Our provision will be tailored to meet the diverse and complex needs of our pupils, from early years through to post-16. We recognise that every child is unique, and our curriculum will be carefully structured to support individual learning pathways, ensuring that all pupils are challenged, supported, and celebrated for their achievements.

The school will be equipped with a wide range of specialist facilities to enhance learning and development. These will include a sensory room designed to provide calming and stimulating experiences, a soft play room to support physical development and sensory integration, and a fully equipped gym to promote health, fitness, and motor skills. Our rebound therapy room will offer therapeutic use of trampolines to support physical and emotional wellbeing, while the hydrotherapy pool will provide a safe and effective environment for physiotherapy and relaxation.

In addition, our wellbeing suite and play therapy room will offer dedicated spaces for emotional support and therapeutic interventions. The Thrive room will be a key feature of our pastoral provision, supporting pupils' social and emotional development through targeted programmes that build resilience, self-esteem, and positive relationships.

We are committed to a multidisciplinary approach, and pupils will benefit from regular access to speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, and physiotherapists. These professionals will work closely with our teaching and support staff to deliver integrated support plans that address communication, sensory processing, mobility, and daily living skills. This collaborative model will ensure that pupils receive consistent and coordinated care throughout their educational journey.

Our staff will be highly trained and passionate about inclusive education. They will bring expertise, empathy, and creativity to the classroom, fostering a culture of respect, curiosity, and high expectations. We will place strong emphasis on communication, independence, and life skills, preparing pupils not only for academic success but also for meaningful participation in their communities and future pathways.

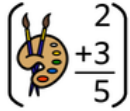
Family engagement will be central to our ethos. We will work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that every child's voice is heard and their needs are met. Regular reviews, open communication, and shared decision-making will underpin our commitment to transparency and trust.

Ysgol Cambrian will represent a transformative opportunity for pupils with additional learning needs. It will be more than a place of learning, it will be a community where every child is valued, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential.



Inclusive Learning Environment:

Our school will foster a nurturing and inclusive environment to support all pupils to reach their full potential.



Age Range and Educational Pathways:

We will educate pupils aged 3 to 19, offering seamless education from early years through post-16 pathways.



Commitment to Welsh Education:

We are proud to be part of the Welsh education system, where we will deliver tailored, high-quality learning experiences.



Engaging Families and Community:

We will welcome families, carers, and professionals to explore our school's values and educational approach.



Vision & Values:

Empowering Pupils

Staff will work closely with families and external agencies to ensure the best outcomes for every pupil.

Partnership and Support

Our values will emphasise equality, diversity, bilingual education, and fostering a love of learning for all.

Commitment to Equality & Diversity

We will build a school culture based on inclusivity, respect, collaboration, and person-centred planning.

Inclusive School Culture

Our vision will focus on empowering pupils with additional needs to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.



Safeguarding:

Safe and Inclusive Environment

The school environment will be designed to be secure and inclusive, supporting emotional and physical safety for all pupils.

Pupil Education and Support

Pupils will learn about personal safety, boundaries, and how to seek help to empower them in safeguarding themselves.

Staff Training and Responsibilities

All staff will receive regular training on child protection, online safety, and safeguarding protocols to maintain a culture of vigilance.

Policy and Guidance

The school will follow Welsh Government guidance with clear policies to identify and respond to safeguarding concerns effectively.



Wellbeing:

Emotional and Mental Support

Pupil voice will be encouraged and regular well-being assessments will be conducted to ensure continuous support and improvement.

Pupil Participation and Monitoring

The school will offer sensory spaces, quiet zones, and relaxation opportunities to foster a nurturing environment.

Safe and Nurturing Environment

Well-being will be embedded in the curriculum through activities that will enhance resilience, self-esteem, and social skills.

Curriculum Integration

Emotional support and mental health interventions tailored to individual pupil needs will be a priority.



Staffing & Governance:

Dedicated Professional Team

Parents, community members, and Local Authority officers will participate actively in governance and support.

Stakeholder Engagement

Staff will receive ongoing development and will work collaboratively to meet pupil needs effectively.

Professional Development & Collaboration

A governing body will oversee strategic planning, compliance, and school improvement initiatives.

Governance and Oversight

Our school will employ qualified teachers, support staff, therapists, and administrators committed to pupil success.



Term Dates & School Hours:

Academic Calendar & Communication

School hours will include structured learning, breaks, and enrichment activities to promote well-being and balance.

Structured School Day

Attendance will be regularly monitored, with family support and transport assistance provided to ensure consistent engagement.

Attendance and Family Support

Flexible schedules and extended support will be offered to pupils with complex needs to enhance their education.

Flexible Learning Arrangements

Term dates, holidays, and school hours will be set by the local authority and shared annually with families.



Individual Development Plans:

Collaborative Development

The IDP process will be inclusive, transparent, and focused on achieving positive educational outcomes for pupils with ALN.

Inclusive and Transparent Process

IDPs will be reviewed regularly to remain relevant and will guide staff in teaching and support.

Regular Review and Use

IDPs will detail strengths, challenges, learning goals, additional provisions, therapeutic input, and transition plans.

Comprehensive Content

IDPs will be created collaboratively with pupils, families, and professionals to address individual needs and aspirations.



Community Engagement:

Welcoming and Inclusive Environment

Communication with families will happen via newsletters, social media, and parent meetings to encourage participation.

Effective Communication Channels

Community engagement will include volunteering, cultural celebrations, and shared learning experiences for all.

Inclusive Community Activities

The school will foster partnerships with families, carers, and the wider community through events and collaboration.



Performance Data:

Comprehensive Performance Monitoring

External evaluations and shared reports will ensure transparency and will celebrate achievements while identifying development areas.

Accountability and Continuous Improvement

Data collection will be ethical, secure, and meaningful, ensuring privacy and trust among stakeholders.

Ethical and Secure Data Use

Performance data will guide school improvement, resource allocation, and teaching strategies for better outcomes.

Informed School Improvement

We will track attendance, progress on IDP goals, curriculum outcomes, and destinations of leavers to assess pupil performance.

Effective Communication Channels

Community engagement will include volunteering, cultural celebrations, and shared learning experiences for all.



Policies:

Comprehensive School Policies

Feedback from families and stakeholders will be welcomed to continuously improve school policies and practices.

Stakeholder Engagement

Policies will be regularly reviewed, and staff will be trained to ensure effective implementation and accountability.

Policy Review and Staff Training

Policies will emphasise inclusion, personcentred planning, and bilingual education to support diverse pupils.

Inclusion and Person-Centred Planning

Our policies will cover safeguarding, behaviour, admissions, curriculum, assessment, and equal opportunities.

Building Strong Partnerships

The school will aim to create a welcoming community where everyone will feel valued and involved.



Admissions:

Inclusive Admissions Process

Admissions will follow Welsh Government guidance, ensuring fairness and accessibility for pupils aged 3 to 19 with ALN.

Engaging Prospective Families

Families will be encouraged to visit, meet staff, and access admission information through the website and Local Authority press releases.

Education Pathways and Transitions

We will offer education from early years to post-16, with planned transitions to support pupils throughout key stages.

Collaboration and Support

The school will collaborate with the Local Authority, health services, and families to provide specialist support and suitable placements.



Curriculum For Wales:

Four Purposes Framework

Formative and summative assessments will monitor progress, with regular curriculum reviews ensuring relevance and effectiveness.

Assessment and Curriculum Review

Welsh language development will be embedded, alongside core subjects, arts, physical education, and vocational pathways.

Welsh Language and Broad Curriculum

Teaching will be differentiated and inclusive, emphasizing experiential learning, communication, and life skills development.

Inclusive and Experiential Learning

The curriculum will promote four key purposes:

1. Ambitious Learners
2. Creative Contributors
3. Informed Citizens
4. Confident Individuals



Contact Information

We are here to support your journey through education. Feel free to reach out to us through the following channels:

Main Contact Information

Address

Cambrian Park
Clydach Vale
Tonypandy
CF40 2XX

Phone

01443 424050

Email

admin@ysgolcambrian.rctcbc.cymru

Website

www.ysgolcambrian.co.uk

Social Media

Stay connected with us on social media for the latest updates, events, and news:

 [@ysgolcambrian](https://twitter.com/ysgolcambrian)

Support and Guidance

Our administrative team will assist with enquiries and will offer guidance to prospective families and pupils.

Contact Channels

We will provide phone, email, website, and school location details to ensure easy communication and enquiries.

A Message from the Leadership Team

The opening of Ysgol Cambrian Special School marks an exciting milestone in delivering exceptional, specialist education for our learners. Our purpose-built environment and dedicated staff team will ensure that every pupil receives the personalised support, care, and challenge they deserve.

We are proud to lead this new provision and look forward to working with families and partners as we shape a bright future for all.

Aron Bradley
Executive Headteacher

Nicola Clark
Head of School

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