

Gorseinon Primary School School Prospectus



2022-23

Gorseinon Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Gorseinon

Name of School: Gorseinon Primary School

Addresses: 40 Brynawel Road, Gorseinon, SA4 4UX

Telephone: 01792 987089

Email: gorseinonprimaryschool@gorseinonprimary.swansea.sch.uk

Website: www.gorseinonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr. J. Dodd

School Information: Local Authority Co-educational English Medium

DES. No: 670 2246

Age Range: 3 – 11 years

Number on Roll: 276

Chair of Governors: Mrs. June Williams

Dear Parents / Annwyl Rhieni,

Welcome to Gorseinon Primary School. We are a primary that cater for pupils 3-11 years. We are pleased that you have chosen us for your child's early education and we will strive to ensure that the experiences they have with us will be happy and exciting, providing a firm foundation upon which to mature and develop both personally and educationally. We can only achieve this with close parental partnership and we aim to work with you in order to do so. We will always listen, support and share. Your child's needs are central to our aims, planning and development and we will endeavour to ensure that they are met.

I wish your child(ren) every success as they start on their educational journey with us.

Jason Dodd

Background Information



Gorseinon Primary School provides full-time education for pupils between the ages of 5 (within the academic year) and 11 years, and part-time education for 3 to 4 year olds in our spacious, well resourced Nursery. It is a lively school, having served the community of Gorseinon for over a hundred years, building a reputation for providing the best in primary education. We moved into our new school premise during September 2020.

School Vision and Aims

Our vision is to be a safe, supportive, nurturing school, where everyone is valued and respected. In doing so we aim to create a happy, caring and exciting school which is fun to be in, and one which ensures that pupils' wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do. We strive to give our pupils a stimulating, challenging and wide ranging learning experience which fosters their natural curiosity, developing their skills to their full potential as life-long learners. We are committed to developing our pupils' confidence and self-belief so that they experience a happy future as ambitious, healthy, enterprising and ethical citizens. We celebrate every achievement and seek to develop an aspiration for success for our learners. Our school is at the heart of our community, valuing our diverse beliefs and cultures.

In our school we value everyone and recognise and celebrate our uniqueness and diverse talents. We strive to prepare our children for life by promoting the skills they will need to become successful citizens in their own communities. We nurture our children physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually and encourage them to always give their best academically in order to become life-long learners. We hope that the care and respect we

have for each other will reflect in the children's lives and attitudes and be evident to anyone who comes into our school.

School Aims

Our principal aim is to provide a secure and happy environment where skills are learned and developed and where each child has the opportunity to develop their potential. We do this by: -

- Believing that children experience success and enjoyment in learning and be encouraged to achieve higher in a secure and happy environment
- Understanding that we are all equal, wherever we are from and whatever our beliefs
- Having high expectations of all learners
- Encouraging our children to be curious about the world around them and to appreciate the uniqueness of our Welsh culture
- Ensuring our children acquire the tools and basic skills and values they need for independent life-long learning
- Developing a sense of community and responsibility to one another with care, consideration and good manners

School Staff-Teaching Staff

Headteacher	Mr. J. Dodd
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs.J. Young
Year 6	Miss Jones
Year 6/5	Ms.N. Curtis
Year 5	Mr. G. Millard
Year 4	Mr Murphy
Year 3/4	Miss Biggar
Year 3	Mrs.R. Buckingham
Year 2	Mrs. R. Hubbard
Year 2/1	Mrs.S, Armor
Year 1/reception	Mrs. S. Pugh
Reception	Mrs Young
	Ms. A. Wozzley (Senior Management)
Nursery	Mrs Poole
PPA	Mrs. S. Williams
PPA	Miss A.Thomas
<i>School Clerks</i>	Mrs. N. Lloyd
	Mrs. T. Richards

In addition, each class is supported by fully qualified, experienced learning support staff, ensuring a higher adult/pupil ratio.

School Governors

Mr. J. Dodd	Headteacher
Mrs. J. Williams	Community(Chair Person)
Mrs. Perez	Community(Vice Chair)
Ms. A. Wozzley	Teaching staff
Mrs. T Richards	Support staff
Mrs. Louissa Meredith	Parent
Mr. Aneurin Thomas	Parent
Mrs. Amanda Jones	Parent
Mr. J Williams	LEA
Cllr. K Roberts	LEA
Mrs. P. Morgan	ACO
Mr. T Payne	Community
<i>Mrs. C. Richards</i>	<i>Parent</i>

Mrs. D Hulsken *Clerk to Governors*

Admissions

Children receive three terms nursery education during the academic year that includes their fourth birthday. However, if a placement is available children can be admitted to the nursery following their third birthday. Nursery provision is on a half-day basis. Prior to admission parents will be invited to the school for a presentation made by the Deputy Headteacher, questions can be asked during this session. You should bring your child to this meeting to familiarise him / her with the Nursery and the teacher. Pupils enter full-time education (Reception) in the September of the year in which they are five.

School Hours

Nursery morning session	8.40am-11.10am
Nursery afternoon session	12.30pm-3.00pm
Infant Department	8.40am-3.05pm
Junior Department	8.40am-3.05pm

School Meals

All meals are prepared, cooked and served on the premises by our cook. Children are able to make choices as to what they would like to eat. They choose from a varied menu, which is prepared in advance by the local authority and available from the school office. Lunch is served in the main hall. We do encourage children to eat our well-prepared, nutritional meals although you may, if you prefer, provide your child with a packed lunch. We are able to cater for your child's dietary needs so please do not hesitate to contact us about this. If your child is entitled to a free school lunch we encourage you to make use of this. We are well staffed for lunchtime supervision in order to cater for children's needs at lunchtime.

Dinner money is paid in advance via sQuid. Once your child is registered at Gorseinon Primary School, you can contact the school office to get a number to register for a sQuid account. Both of the schools kitchens have been issued with the highest rating of 5 stars by the LA's Environmental Health Department.

Inspection

Our school was last inspected in February 2014. The report is available on the Estyn website www.estyn.gov.uk.

School Policies

We have a comprehensive list of school policies which parents are able to request at any time. Some of the relevant policies are available to view on the school website.

Pastoral Care Arrangements

The happiness and well-being of your child is equally important to us as is their academic progress. If, however issues arise we will involve parents at an early stage. We hope you, as parents, will do the same with us. You are always welcome to come in at any time should you have any concerns. We require emergency telephone numbers of family members or friends so that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. **Please keep us informed of any changes to contact details.** In the event of us being unable to do this, your child will be cared for by a member of staff trained in first aid or taken to the family doctor/hospital. Please let us know if you object to these arrangements on religious grounds.

From time to time, the school dentist and hearing specialist will visit the school to carry out routine dental inspections and hearing tests. We are also a school involved in a community Dental Health programme, tooth brushing daily in school. When any problems are encountered, parents are notified and advised to seek further help from either the school health service or family doctor. Parents are always informed and are asked for their consent prior to an examination. Please inform the school if your child has any medical problems that could affect his/her education or physical welfare. Medication may be administered in school at the discretion of the headteacher. All medicines should be clearly labeled and handed to the school office and parents must fill out a form before any medication is administered.

Child Safety

All visitors to the school are directed to the main entrance where there is an intercom system of entry. Entry can only be gained upon satisfactory identification being produced. Children are not permitted to answer the door. The school also requires visitors to sign in and out. All staff working on site are subject to a Disclosure Check from the Disclosure and Barring Service. This includes all teaching and non-teaching staff. Regular risk assessments are carried out to ensure that all efforts are made to create the safest environment for your child.

These arrangements are not intended to prevent access to school for bona fide visitors and parents, rather to ensure the safety of your child. Parents are of course always welcome.

The school has updated its Safeguarding of Children Policy and all staff and Governors have undertaken training in Child Protection Procedures.

Schools have a duty to take reasonable care to ensure the safety of pupils from foreseeable risks.

The following procedures are in place to prevent children from absconding from school:-

- Children should never leave the school grounds during the school day without permission of parents/carers. All external doors are protected by electronic door entry/exit.
- A record is kept of pupils who arrive late and leave early and parents are asked to sign their child out of school if they leave for appointments during the school day.
- The school must be informed of who is collecting the child and this must be an adult known to the child.
- Children who return home for lunch should have a letter of authorisation from parents/carers.
- If a child leaves the premises without permission the and police and parent/carer will immediately be informed. School staff will undertake a search of the school grounds. All incidents of a child leaving the premises will be recorded and reported to parents. Parents/carers should provide the number of an emergency contact in the event of the school being unable to contact the family.

Toileting Facilities

The school has full accessibility toilets throughout the school. The schools toilets are managed and cleaned through a contract with the LA.

Child Protection Protocol

The school has adopted the education authorities Child Protection Protocol. Staff receive regular training as recommended by the LA. The schools Child Protection Officer is Mr Jason Dodd and the Child Protection Governor is Mrs. Williams. Any concerns about a pupils' welfare and/or safety should be reported immediately to Mr Jason Dodd and in his absence, Mrs. Young (Deputy Headteacher). The school has a duty of care to its pupils to report any Child Protection or safeguarding concerns to the LA. Parents will be informed of this action.

Complaints Procedure

Once your child has started school there are a number of opportunities for teachers and parents to get together to discuss the work of the school, and ways in which children can be helped at home. This encourages mutual co-operation, indicates the importance of broad development to parents and encourages mutual exchange of views. The happiness and well being of your child is important to us. If, however, issues arise we will involve parents at an early stage. We hope that you, as parents, will do the same. You are welcome to see the Headteacher at any time that is mutually convenient.

Community Links

The school views the partnerships it has with the community as vital; the children in our school community are part of the wider community, developing responsible future

community members is crucial and therefore central to all we do. Many people from the community visit the school to talk to the children, to ensure enriched learning experiences for our pupils. In addition we make use of the local area and facilities within the wider area to offer the children first hand learning experiences, such as visiting the local church, doctors' surgery, museum, and other venues which relate to topics of interest to the children and their learning.

Curriculum

Pupils up to 5 Years – Progression step 1
Pupils up to 8 years – Progression step 2
Pupils up to 11 years – Progression step 3

The School follows the Curriculum For Wales guidelines as laid down by the Government and the National Assembly for Wales. Gorseinon Primary School offers children a broad curriculum, based on the Four Purposes and 12 Pedagogical Principles within the Areas of Learning Experience:-

Language, Literacy and Communication
Mathematical Development
Science and Technology
Well-Being
Humanities
Expressive Arts

R.E.and DCF are also statutory requirements which we follow. Our curriculum develops key concepts, principles, skills and attitudes, combined with a purposeful and meaningful, thematic approach. We believe that children need a curriculum that goes beyond the classroom walls and prescriptive schemes of work, using creativity, a wide variety of resources and most importantly pupil input in order to enhance and enrich their learning. It also aims to be skills based and child-led.

We sometimes make small charges for additional learning visits as part of the curriculum. At times parents may be asked to contribute to whole or part payment of the cost. Where there is financial hardship in the family, discretion will be used regarding the charge.

Sporting Aims

The school encourages a healthy attitude to physical activity and as well as curriculum lessons, we offer various after school clubs throughout the year.

Additional Learning Needs

Children progress at different rates. Where a child is experiencing difficulties, every effort is made to encourage a positive attitude to work, develop skills and strengthen weaknesses. When difficulties are identified, additional small group teaching is provided. All pupils will have access to the universal provision and the ALNCO will liaise with agencies regarding pupils who require further needs.

Looked After Children

We support and promote the educational achievement of any looked after child through a Personal Education Plan shared with carers and professional agencies. Mr Dodd, headteacher, is the designated member of staff with responsibility for LAC.

Breakfast Club

As part of the Welsh Assembly's objective to raise standards the school runs a breakfast club in both the infant and junior departments. There is no charge for this and all children are given a healthy breakfast of cereal, toast and milk or juice to drink. Breakfast club opens at 8.00am. Children can come for breakfast up to 8.15am. Children stay in breakfast club playing games until the start of school at 8.30am and are supervised in the school playground.

After School Club

In addition we have an after school club pupils. The club is run by experienced and fully qualified staff. The cost is £7.50 a session. Sessions run from 3.05pm until 4.55pm Monday to Friday. Pupils may be collected at any time during the session by the responsible adult. There is a wide range of fun activities for the children to do and the emphasis is on enjoyment and relaxation after a busy day in school. Children are also given a snack, which is included in the price.

School Uniform

All children are expected to wear the designated school uniform, which is the school jumper with a school badge, a white polo shirt and grey or black school trousers or skirt. We also expect the children to be provided with warm waterproof outdoor coats during the winter and waterproof coats during the summer, as well as sensible shoes. No jewelry other than studs are allowed for health and safety reasons. Children wear shorts and T-shirts for Physical Education. Tracksuits may be worn for games during the winter months. You will be informed at the beginning of each new school year which days your child will be having P.E. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

Parents and the School

Our partnership with you is vital to your child's and the school's success. You will always be welcome in the school and if you would like to know more about us you are free to visit the school at any time. There is no need to make an appointment unless you want to be sure of seeing the headteacher or unless you wish to talk with the class teacher for any length of time. The best time to meet and talk with a class teacher is before or after school. If the headteacher is off site you can either make an appointment or call in the next time the headteacher will be in school.

Formal parent consultation interviews are held during the autumn and spring terms. During these times parents will be given the opportunity to discuss their child's progress. An end of year report is distributed in July.

We encourage parents to become involved in the life of the school and to gain a greater understanding of its work. Parents' time and expertise can be used in a variety of ways in school and is greatly valued. The school communicates with parents through a variety of ways and parents are invited to a range of events.

Assessment

Assessment is a continuous process that takes place in all areas of school life. Through on-going assessment we strive to build a complete picture of the pupil's development, not only intellectually, but also emotionally, socially and physically. Assessment can take many forms. We assess through discussion and observation as well as using more formal procedures such as standardised testing.

Pupils' progress is monitored closely from nursery through to year 6.

Secondary Transfer

The majority of our children go on to Penyrheol Comprehensive School. Our school has particularly close links with Penyrheol Comprehensive School. There is close liaison between the teaching staff of both schools. Each year, in July, Year 6 children are able to spend two days at Penyrheol Comprehensive School working with primary teachers, meeting new friends in new forms and getting to know their new school. This is seen as a very positive process ensuring a smooth transfer. Year 5 pupils also have a chance to attend for half a day to prepare them for the transition process in Year 6. Staff from Penyrheol Comprehensive School often visit the junior department and the staff of all the cluster schools work closely together.

Relationships and Sexuality Education

We are working closely with advice from the LA as we introduce this aspect of the curriculum in a sensitive and appropriate way. Parents no longer have the right to withdraw their children from these lessons.

School Health Nurse Service

The School Health Nurse Service provides education, support, advice and assistance in all issues related to health and public health for school aged children and the wider school community. They will work closely with school to provide evidence based sessions in the classroom in line with the PSE & SRE curriculum. School Nurses are also available to discuss and advise on a 1:1 basis if appropriate. If you wish to contact the School Nurse, speak to the school office or **Vicky Bailey, Operational Team Leader, Swansea 01792 516588** Victoria.bailey@wales.nhs.uk

Attendance and Absences

It is vital that your child attends school every day unless they are ill. If your child is ill, please inform the school as soon as possible by telephone, text or email. This absence constitutes an authorised absence. If your child is absent and you have not notified school by 9.30am on the first day of absence, the school office will call you for monitoring purposes. We work very closely with our Education Welfare Officer and monitor all attendance and absences. We follow the government guidelines on Fixed Penalties for unauthorized absences and poor attendance figures.

Records

When your child is admitted to this school you will be asked to complete forms giving details of your child's name, position in family, date of birth etc. Also recorded are the parents' places of work, if appropriate, along with contact personnel and the family doctor in case of an emergency. This information is placed on the school's computer system.

Parents will need to inform the school with regard to changes in circumstances in order to update our information. Class teachers keep on-going records that show the work the children have covered, and how they have performed in the task. These records can be used as a guide for future work and the setting of individual targets. We also keep a whole school pupil profile system which is a record of all children's progress and achievements from Nursery to Year 6. Gorseinon Primary School is the data controller who is responsible for holding the data you provide. We will use your data to keep you up to date with School activities such as concerts, fundraising and sports days. We will not share your data with anyone else and we hold your information on the basis of your consent, which you can withdraw at any time by contacting the school office. More information on your rights can be found in our privacy notice on the school website and our data protection policy.

Sustainable Development and Health

Our school is at the forefront of sustainability. We have a clear policy and programme for development and our work has been rewarded with Welsh Healthy Schools awards. As part of this, we promote healthy eating by allowing only fruit at break times and water to drink during the day. Water bottles can be purchased from the school offices. We are also the proud holders of the Platinum Green Flag representing our achievements as an Eco-School. We continue to seek to improve all areas of sustainability not just through the curriculum but also in practice through recycling, energy conservation etc. We have been awarded the highest 'Level 2' as a Rights Respecting School.

Welsh

All our children learn Welsh. They are encouraged to develop skills in oracy, reading and writing. We aim to speak as much Welsh as possible during the day to create an environment in which the children hear the language regularly. We report on pupils' progress in Year 6 at the end of the primary school.

Make Time to Read

Supporting your child as they progress through the primary school with their reading is crucial to their success both now and in the future. Please make time to read with your child everyday. Studies show that just 10 minutes a day make a great difference to your child's success and confidence.

Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education

Religious Education is a compulsory element within the curriculum and is taught in accordance with the Authority's Agreed Syllabus. Daily collective worship incorporates biblical/moral and multi-cultural stories. Children are encouraged to participate in the services. Various local churches and chapels regularly share our collective worship. Parents have the right to object and to take their children out of lessons and collective worship if they consider what is being taught is against their beliefs. In such circumstances, alternative arrangements are made wherever possible. The aim of religious education is to enable pupils:

- To acquire knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.
- To develop the ability to explore, to reflect on and to respond to human experience, drawing on their study of religion.

Through Religious Education, pupils are given opportunities to reflect on the nature and role of beliefs, the attitudes and values underpinning these, and the practices and behaviours that arise because of them. Skills developed through the teaching of RE include developing self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder.

Term Dates 2022-23

Term	Term begins	Term ends	Holiday begins	Holiday ends	Term begins	Term ends	Total days per term
Autumn 22	Monday 5 September	Friday 28 October	Monday 31 October	Friday 4 November	Monday 7 November	Friday 23 December	75
Spring 2019	Monday 9 January	Friday 17 February	Monday 20 February	Friday 24 February	Monday 27 February	Friday 31 March	55
Summer 2019	Monday 17 April	Friday 26 May	Monday 29 May	Friday 2 June	Monday 5 June	Monday 24 July	65
							195
Good Friday - Friday 7 April 2023 Easter Monday - Monday 10 April 2023 May Bank Holiday - Monday 1 May 2023 Spring Bank Holiday - Monday 29 May 2023							