



**WELCOME TO / CROESO I**  
**YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG**  
**TONYREFAIL**



[www.ygg-tonyrefail.cymru](http://www.ygg-tonyrefail.cymru)



[yggtonyrefail@yggtonyrefail](mailto:yggtonyrefail@yggtonyrefail)



## Welcome

The staff and governors would like to warmly welcome you and your child to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail. We hope that you will enjoy happy years in our company.

### Together: Pupils – Parents – Teachers

At Y.G.G.Tonyrefail we want all our children to be happy at school and enjoy a caring, well-ordered and stimulating environment that will give each child the opportunity to fulfil his or her potential. We hope to achieve this by ensuring a close working relationship with parents and all the school's partners.

We consider co-operation with parents vital for the success and happiness of each and every child. We are aware of the duty we have as a school since so many parents have chosen to send their children to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail to be educated instead of to another nearby school. We appreciate the strong and friendly relationship that exists between the school, parents and the pupils.

We look forward to you joining us.



## School Vision

The aim and vision of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail is to ensure that all pupils receive the support and opportunity to reach their full potential in an inclusive, caring and happy environment. We encourage our pupils to be independent and confident learners, principled citizens, and to be proud of their heritage and their language.

### The School's Aims and Objectives

- To support each child to develop to reach his or her full potential within an inclusive, caring and happy environment
- To encourage children to be independent thinkers and creative enterprising contributors
- To nurture our pupils' self-respect and respect for others within the school and the wider community
- To offer a wide range of experiences and opportunities to develop our pupils' lifelong learning skills
- To guide and educate the children to prepare them to be principled, healthy and confident citizens
- To ensure that each individual's voice is heard and that everyone is treated equally
- To help the children to learn about, and to be proud of, their historical and cultural heritage



## Starting at Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail

### Your child's first day!

This is an important day for you and your child. We will do all that we can to ensure that it is a happy and memorable one for all concerned.

#### ➤ The Start of your Child's First Day

In September, we request that you escort your child to the classroom and ask him/her to take off his his/her coat and place it on the correct hook. A member of staff will be waiting by the Nursery classroom door from 8:50am onwards to greet you and help you on your first day and to help your child to settle in the classroom.

There will be activities and tasks arranged around the classroom so that your child can play freely. We kindly ask that you say goodbye to your child in a swift and jolly manner since a child can sense when a parent is worrying! It is likely that some children will be tearful when parents leave them on their first day – this is usual, but most children settle in very quickly. We will contact you if we feel that your child is worried and continues to cry for a longer than usual time. You are also welcome to contact the school later on during the day if you wish to put your mind at rest.

#### ➤ The End of your Child's First Day

When you collect your child at **12:00pm**, we ask that you please wait by the main door to the classroom. A member of staff will be waiting for you and will call your child when you arrive. We will hand children over safely to their parents/guardians one at a time. If a different person is going to be collecting your child, it is essential that you inform the school beforehand, either by phoning or sending in a letter. **We will not allow your child to leave with another individual unless we have been informed prior to the end of the school day.**

### Transport

The children who travel by bus will be escorted from the bus to the classroom in the morning. At the end of the school day, once your child is in school full time, they will be escorted again to the bus. If your child is not going home on the bus for whatever reason, it is essential that you notify the school.

The highest standard of behaviour is expected at all times from all pupils who travel by bus to the school.

## Attendance

We try to ensure a high attendance level for each pupil as absences prevent progress. We ask parents to bring their children to school by 9:00am. Doors are open from 8:50am to receive pupils. If a child arrives after 9:10a.m then a late mark will be given on the register. In accordance with Government Guidelines, all parents must give a reason for their child / children's absence from school. Parents should do this by telephoning the school and leaving a message on the school's answer phone. This should be done as soon as possible on the **first day** of absence. If the school does not receive an explanation for the absence, the absence will be marked as an 'Unauthorised Absence' on the register.

## Holidays

All holiday dates are sent out in September for the academic year. Please inform the school if you will be taking your child on holiday during term time. Holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised by the Headteacher- unless there are exceptional circumstances. The school does not encourage parents to take their child for occasional day holidays, as this is disruptive to their education.

## **BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND SNACKS**



### **Breakfast Club**

The school offers a breakfast club for its pupils every morning from 8:15am until 8:50am, free of charge. This initiative is being funded by the Welsh Government. Parents must register their child/children daily on entry to the breakfast club, between 8:15am and 8:30am.

### **Lunch**

Lunch will be provided once children attend the nursery class full time, the term after their fourth birthday, this will be free of charge. Pupils attending Flourish Childcare Service in the afternoons can order and pay for a hot meal provided by the school – this service will be supervised by Flourish staff. Pupils can choose either a hot school lunch or bring in a packed lunch.

We will inform the parent if we have any concerns about their child not eating during lunchtime. Please let us know if your child has any allergies. School meals will be healthy and each child will get a drink with his/her meal.

### **Staffing**

During breakfast club and lunchtime, a team of experienced assistants will care for the children ensuring good behaviour and the safety of each and every child.

### **Healthy Snacks**

We ask you to give your child a piece of fruit or vegetables in his/her bag to eat during playtime and please remember to put his/her name on it! Children are not allowed to bring sweets, chocolate, biscuits, crisps or products containing nuts to eat as snacks in school. Children can also bring water/ still drink to drink.

### **Milk**

Your child will get 1/3 of a pint of milk each morning free of charge. If your child is allergic to milk, we will provide a cup of water as an alternative.



## School Uniform

We, at Ysgol Gymraeg Tonyrefail, believe that dressing appropriately is part of a good education, which contributes towards developing self-discipline as well as creating a sense of belonging. It is important that the children feel equal to their peers. A school uniform sets high standards and order in the school and we ask for parents' co-operation in this matter. **Children do not have to have the school logo on their uniform.**

### Our school uniform is:

- Grey skirt/ pinafore/black or grey trousers/shorts
- White shirt/blouse
- Red tie
- Plain red/white polo shirt – also available with the school logo
- Red and white summer gingham dress (optional)
- Plain red jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt- also available with school logo
- Red fleece - also available with school logo
- Black shoes
- Sun hats available with the school logo

### Our P.E. uniform is:

- Plain white t shirt
- Plain black shorts
- Plain grey tracksuit bottoms with plain red sweatshirt
- Trainers

For more information please contact Mrs Murphy the school secretary

Your child will also need to bring wet weather clothing and wellington boots to school (these will be kept in school) for our outdoor and 'Muddy Friday' sessions.

We kindly ask that you **label each item of clothing (including shoes) with your child's name.** This means that we can return any mislaid items of clothing to the correct owner.

You can order your clothes online from [www.schooltrends.co.uk](http://www.schooltrends.co.uk) – please use the school's full name when ordering: Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail.

## HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

We acknowledge that parental support for the school is going to be very valuable and we look forward to establishing a strong home – school partnership.

### Themes

Areas of learning will follow the Curriculum for Wales and will be taught through cross-curriculum themes.

### Home Tasks

A home task is set occasionally, based on what the children are learning in class. We ask parents to help with these tasks. Following on from this, there will be an opportunity for the children to talk about their work in class if they wish, and to celebrate their success. Information about each task will be sent home with your child.

### Caring for Tedi Twt and Sali Mali

We will give your child an opportunity to take Tedi Twt (the class mascot) home to stay with you and your family for the weekend. We ask that you discuss together what you did with Tedi over the weekend and take a photograph / write a short recount to describe what you did. Would you please ensure that Tedi arrives back promptly on the Monday to ensure that every child gets the opportunity to care for Tedi during the year. Sali Mali goes home on the weekend as a reward for excellent use of the Welsh language - 'Cymraeg Campus'.





## PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR STARTING SCHOOL

### How can you help your child?

- ✓ Encourage your child to develop self-support skills and to grow independent when using the toilet
- ✓ Teach your child to wash his/her hands and reinforce this regularly so that it becomes a natural activity. It will help your child develop personal hygiene skills and to minimise the spread of infection.
- ✓ Teach your child to put on/take off his/her coat independently. We will be using the outdoor area regularly during the day, throughout the year and your child will be encouraged to put on his/her coat independently and return it to the correct hook at the end of the session.
- ✓ Encourage your child to tidy his/her things. In class, children are expected to care for the classroom resources and to take responsibility for returning them to the correct place ready for the others to use them.

Additionally, we would very much appreciate it if you could:

- ✓ discuss the school with your child – talk about the fun that is to be had there!
- ✓ help your child recognise his/her name in writing
- ✓ read Welsh – language books and watch Welsh language television programmes, Welsh apps and DVDs
- ✓ give your child opportunities to use creative tools and materials at home e.g. crayons, paper, glue, scissors and paint



## **YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

### **What should I do if I need to speak to a member of staff regarding my child?**

If you need to discuss anything regarding your child, please send a note or telephone the office and we will arrange a mutually convenient time for discussion without any disruption.

### **What will happen if my child has a toilet accident?**

We appreciate that accidents happen and we will deal with these quickly and in a sensitive manner. Your child's clothing will be put in a plastic carrier and your child will be provided with a clean uniform from the school stock. We kindly ask that you wash and return these items of clothing as soon as possible. We suggest that parents - pack a spare pair of knickers/pants in their child's bag just in case they have an accident whilst in school. If your child soils himself/herself we will contact you immediately to inform you and advise you if you need to come and clean him/her and provide him/her with clean clothes.

### **How will I receive letters from school?**

We suggest that you look in your child's bag at the end of each day for letters or other important information – most letters will be posted on the school website. We will also be sending out information via text messages. It is therefore crucial that the mobile phone numbers we have for you are up to date.

### **When will my child be having P.E. lessons?**

The school will send a letter home within the first two weeks of school explaining the timetable to you.

### **Is my child allowed to wear jewellery to school?**

In accordance with the rules of the school and the Local Authority, pupils with pierced ears should wear one pair of studs rather than hoops in their ears. No jewellery at all is to be worn during PE lessons.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us – we're here to help!

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If there is anything worrying you or your child -  
we encourage you to share your concerns with us.

Telephone number: 01443 670319

Email: [admin@yggtonyrefail.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:admin@yggtonyrefail.rctcbc.cymru)