



School Prospectus by A-Z

2025 - 2026

2025-2026

Our School Vision

Ysgol Minafon Vision: "Growing with Grace, Soaring with Strength"

At Ysgol Minafon, we are like swans—calm and graceful on the surface, yet moving forward with quiet determination and strength beneath.

Just as a swan glides confidently across the water, our children grow in confidence, curiosity, and character. We nurture every learner to develop their unique potential—academically, creatively, emotionally and spiritually—so they may thrive in an ever-changing world.

Together, we:

- **Glide with Grace** – showing kindness, respect, and empathy in all we do.
- **Soar with Strength** – facing challenges with courage, resilience and a sense of purpose.
- **Shine in Unity** – embracing our school family and local community, moving forward together as one.
- **Transform and Grow** – just as the cygnet becomes a swan, every child is supported on their journey to becoming the best version of themselves.

Rooted in the Curriculum for Wales and the values of care, creativity, and connection, Ysgol Minafon is a place where every child is seen, heard, and celebrated.

Together we glide, grow and soar – like swans on the river of learning.

Our Staff / Ein Staff

Our Teachers

Headteacher and ALNCo - Mr. Ashley Bennett

Miss Emma Williams - Dosbarth y Nyth (Year Nursery and Reception) Teacher

Miss Leanne Foxley - Dosbarth yr Wyau (Year 1 and 2) Teacher

Miss Cara Williams - Dosbarth y Cywion (Year 3 and 4) Teacher

Mrs Chloe Edwards - Dosbarth yr Alarch (Year 5 and 6) Teacher

Mrs Sioned Coulman - Teacher

Our Teaching Assistants

Mrs Lisa Roberts - HLTA

Mrs Alison Taft - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Wendy Duffy - Teaching Assistant

Miss Satnam Chahal - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Nicola Selby - Teaching Assistant

Our Lunch Time Supervisors

Mrs Lisa Roberts

Mrs Alison Taft

Mrs Nicola Selby

Auntie Hannah - School Cook

Our Support Staff

Breakfast Club Assistant

Auntie Hannah - Breakfast Club Assistant and School Cook

Mrs Julie Kirby - School Caretaker

Miss Morales - Cleaner

Miss Hall - Administrator

Our Safeguarding Lead Staff

Mr. Ashley Bennett - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Chloe Edwards - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Leanne Foxley - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Cllr. Stephen Price - Safeguarding Lead Governor

Our First Aiders (Three day trained)

Mr. Ashley Bennett

Mrs Nicola Selby

Mrs Lisa Roberts

Miss Satnam Chahal

(One day trained)

Mrs Chloe Edwards

Mrs Wendy Duffy

Our Governors / Ein Llywodraethwyr

Governor Role	Governor Name
Chair of Governors	Cllr. Stephen Price
Vice Chair	Simon Holland-Roberts
Headteacher	Ashley Bennett
LA	Christine Wynne
LA	Cllr. Stephen Price
LA	Sarah Sutton
Teacher	Leanne Foxley
Staff	Lisa Roberts
Community	Simon Holland-Roberts
Community	Sylvia Owen
Community	Phil Baxter
Parent	Phil Harding
Parent	Lowri Roberts
Parent	Vickie Fl
Parent	Vacancy



Our School Hours / Ein Horiau Ysgol

School Structure Strwythur Ysgol	Time / Amser
School gates and Doors Open / Giatiau a Drysau'n Agor	8:45am
Registration Starts / Cofrestru'n Dechrau	8:55am
Start of Lessons / Gwersi'n Dechrau	9:00am
Play Time / Amser Chwarae	10:30am - 10:45am
Lunch Time / Amser Cinio	12:00pm - 1:00pm
Play Time / Amser Chwarae Dosbarth y Nyth ac Wyau	2:15pm - 2:30pm
Home Time / Amser Ymadael	3:15pm

Our School Structures / Strwythurau Ein Hysgol

School Structure Strwythur Ysgol	Class Teachers / Athrawon Dosbarthiadau
Dosbarth Y Nyth	Miss Williams (Teacher / Athrawes) Mrs Roberts (HLTA / CALU) Mrs Taft (TA / CA)
Dosbarth Yr Wyau	Miss Foxley (Teacher / Athrawes) Mrs Duffy (TA / CA)
Dosbarth Y Cywion	Miss Williams (Teacher / Athrawes) Miss Sat (TA / CA)
Dosbarth Yr Alarch	Mrs Edwards (Teacher / Athrawes) Mrs Selby (TA / CA)
Across school working	Mrs Coulman - (Teacher / Athrawes)
HLTA	Mrs Roberts (HLTA / CALU)
ALNCo and Pennaeth	Mr. Bennett



Dosbarth y Nyth Meithrin a Derbyn Nursery and Reception



Dosbarth yr Wyau Blwyddyn 1 a 2 Year 1 and 2



Dosbarth y Cywion Blwyddyn 3 a 4 Year 3 and 4



Dosbarth yr Alarch Blwyddyn 5 a 6 Year 5 and 6

Additional Learning Needs

Some children face barriers to learning which can take many forms. The school has an ALNCo who is responsible for overseeing the provision supporting these children. In Ysgol Minafon, our school ALNCo is Mr. Bennett. Should you wish to discuss your child and any barriers towards learning that you think they have, please contact the school. aln@minafon.conwy.sch.uk In Ysgol Minafon, all teachers are responsible for ensuring quality teaching and learning for all children within the school.

Please look at the school website or Conwy Local Authority for more information relating to ALN.



A – Adventure

Every day at our school is an adventure. From exploring the world through books to discovering new passions in the playground, we encourage curiosity, bravery, and a spirit of exploration.

After School Club

Ysgol Minafon is working in partnership with Play Group to provide parents with childcare provision for school aged children. We aim to have this running by September 2025.

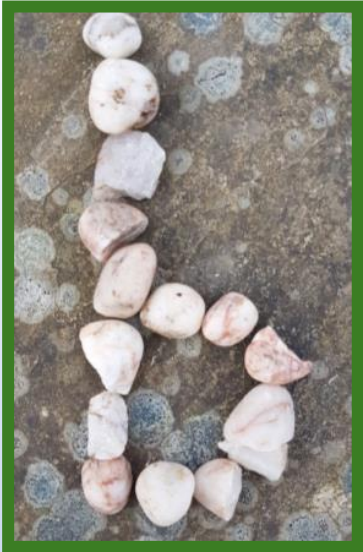
As this is a new provision, Play Group are working with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to register this provision appropriately.

Absences

All absences must reported to the school office by 9.30am via telephone on 01492 540 194 , the form on the Schoop app or via emailing the office. A whole school attendance register is taken electronically twice daily for monitoring attendance. This is a statutory duty of the school.

The school will be in touch to check on your child's wellbeing if we have not received a message. Any term time holidays will be marked as unauthorised in line with the Attendance policy.

Ysgol Minafon works with the Education Social Workers team and agrees to issue Fixed Penalty Notices and Warning Letters as part of a proactive measure to improve attendance.



B – Behaviour & Beyond

We promote positive behaviour through clear expectations and a supportive environment. Our behaviour policy encourages respect, responsibility, and resilience, preparing pupils for life beyond the classroom.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available to all children from Reception to Year 6 Monday to Friday. As of September 2025, Breakfast Club is available FREE to all children from 8.25am – 8.55am. Here, they will be given a free breakfast.

From 8am – 8.25am there will be a £1 charge per child per day. Breakfast Club funding provides us with half an hour of provision. The additional childcare offer is not funded – this is the reason we are now charging £1 for this childcare element.

All payments will need to be made via Parent Pay.

Break Time

In Ysgol Minafon, we recognise the importance of play in the development of the child.

As a school, we phase our break and lunch times so that we can keep levels of supervision appropriate and to manage pupil numbers. Our younger learners have two play times (one in the morning and one in the afternoon). Our older children have one in the morning. All children have one hour of lunchtime.

As part of a Healthy School initiative, children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack e.g. fruit and water that they can access.

Behaviour

In Ysgol Minafon, we set high standards of expectations for our children, staff, Governors and parents in terms of behaviour.

We believe in positive reinforcement models for managing behaviour and therefore are a 'no shouting' school.

We will talk to children and adults respectfully and politely. We request the same from our parents and community.

Please see our Behaviour Policy for further information.



C – Curriculum & Creativity

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, integrating each of the AOLEs. We aim to inspire creativity and critical thinking, ensuring pupils enjoy a well-rounded education.

Complaints

If you have a complaint that needs to be shared with the school, please refer to our schools complaint policy. We would urge all parents to contact the school in the first instance should they have a concern.

Contacts

Office: Swyddfa@minafon.Conwy.sch.uk

Schoop code: 9815

Telephone number: 01492 540 194

Coats

We advise children to bring a hooded waterproof coat daily as we aim to be outdoors as much as possible. Please ensure coats are labelled.

Collection

All parents are encouraged to bring their children to the school gates. If someone different is collecting your child, please ensure you inform school. If you are collecting your child early for medical appointments, please inform the school prior to this.

Criw Cymraeg

As a primary school in Wales, the Welsh language is an essential part of the school day. Our Criw Cymraeg offers extra opportunity to encourage pride and use in the language.



D – Dedicated Staff & Development
Our experienced and passionate staff are dedicated to nurturing each child's potential. Continuous professional development ensures our teaching methods remain innovative and effective.

Drop-off

School officially starts at 8:55 AM. Gates and doors open from 8:45 AM. Children will be greeted at the school gates by an adult from the school. School gates will be shut from 8.55am.

School lessons start at 9:00 AM. We urge parents to ensure children arrive on time to minimise disruption and loss of learning caused by being late to both themselves and others.

If arriving late, parents will need to bring the children to the main office where they will need to be signed in as late. When collecting children earlier, parents will need to sign their child out providing a reason.

Dinner

All primary age children from reception to Year 6 are entitled to a free school meal. This means that there is no charge to the school dinner meal.

A termly menu is available from the catering department so that parents and children understand what the meal offer is for each day. Dietary needs are catered for on a daily basis. Please let the school know if there are any considerations we need to be aware of.

Dream big and show determination

We will inspire children to set goals, aim high, and believe in their potential. We will encourage perseverance, resilience, and a 'can do' attitude in every learner.

Digital skills

The children of today are likely to be working in jobs that do not yet exist. We need to prepare pupils for the future so that they are safe and confident when using technology. Our curriculum reflects the Digital Competency Framework.



E – Extra-curricular Activities & Environment

We offer a variety of extra-curricular clubs and activities, from sports to the arts, providing pupils with opportunities to explore their interests. Our school environment is safe, inclusive, and designed to support learning and well-being.

Extra-Curricular Activities

A number of extracurricular activities will be available to the children throughout the school year. These vary from term to term and are often based upon what is most suitable at a particular time of year. All parents must complete a registration form for any after school club so a regular record can be kept. Children will be dismissed from the main gate at the end of the session.

Eco Schools

Our pupils vote annually to elect the members of the Eco Council.

They are tasked with discussing and planning how to improve our school in becoming more environmentally friendly. We are working towards achieving the Green Flag award.

Estyn

All schools in Wales are monitored and quality assured by Estyn. Any school inspections are published on the Estyn website and the school website. As Ysgol Minafon is a new school, we are yet to receive our first Estyn inspection.

English as an Additional Language

As a school, we celebrate ethnic diversity. We appreciate that the first language of some of our learners is not English. We are keen to support all children with the acquisition of English and are supported by the local authority in this matter. Our communication messages are easily translated into a variety of different languages via the Schoop app.



F – Facilities & Future Focus

Our school boasts recently updated facilities, including well-equipped classrooms and outdoor learning areas.

We are committed to continuous improvement, with plans for future enhancements to support our pupils' learning experiences.

First Aid

We have various three day trained and one day trained First Aiders within the school. These members of staff are trained to administer First Aid for children.

If we are concerned about a child's health, we will contact parents accordingly and advise specialist advise.

Fruit

Children are encouraged to eat healthy snacks and drink water each day. Children are permitted to bring their own healthy snack (e.g. fruit) to school should they wish. All schools in Wales are part of the Healthy Schools initiative. Fruit is available at lunchtime as part of the free school meal.

Forest School

Whilst we are not yet an accredited forest school, we appreciate the importance of learning in the natural environment through encouraging exploration and confidence. We expect all classes to spend time in the school grounds for practical learning. This is an area that we are committed to further developing through working with Love Outdoors.

Five Ways to Wellbeing

Evidence suggests that there are five steps we can take to improve mental health and well-being. In school we try to support these five steps by:

1. Connecting with other people
2. Being physically active
3. Learning new skills
4. Giving to others
5. Take Notice: Paying attention to the present (mindfulness)



G - Growth & Guidance

We support each child's personal growth through tailored guidance and support systems. Our nurturing ethos aims to ensure pupils feel valued and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Governors

The school is supported and led by a team of governors representing parents, staff, community and local authority representatives. Our school website will have information regarding our governing body.

The governing body encourages all stakeholders to consider putting themselves forward when an available position is advertised.

Governing body positions last for a specific amount of time before needing to go through a re-election process. The role of a governor is to be a critical friend to the school.

Gates

School gates are closed and locked for the school's safety. If you need to access school between drop off and collection times, please contact the school. Any visitor to the school must sign in and out of the building.

Growth Mindset

As a school, we aim to develop and encourage our pupils to be persistent, resilient and have a love of learning.

We aim to support this through developing a culture of Growth Mindset across the school. Specific learning will take place to discuss these strategies.

Goal Setting

Pupils are guided to set and achieve personal and academic goals, fostering a sense of accomplishment and direction.



H - Health & Happiness

Pupil well-being is paramount. We promote healthy lifestyles through nutritious meals, physical activity, and mental health support, fostering a happy and thriving school community.

Holidays

A calendar of term dates will be available on the school website and Schoop.

It is very important that children are present in school and that they do not miss out in their learning through absence. Where it is not possible for families to take holidays during school closure periods, the school will record these absences as unauthorised in compliance with the school attendance policy. A copy of this policy can be found on the school website or requested at the office.

Headlice

We would be grateful if you could please check your child's hair frequently. If you find little friends, please treat them accordingly and let your child's class teacher or the main office know in confidence. More information on how to treat or recognise head lice is available via the school website.

Homework and Hwb

All pupils are provided with a Hwb login and password by year one. Within foundation phase, we encourage parents to practise phonics, high frequency words and numbers. Little and often is the best way and you will be provided with focused tasks to share with your child.

For older learners, regular reading is strongly recommended and we would advise you establish a routine with your child that is practical and enjoyable.

Harmony

We cultivate a harmonious atmosphere where respect, cooperation, and understanding are paramount, promoting positive relationships among pupils and staff.



I - Inclusivity & Innovation

Our inclusive approach ensures all pupils, regardless of background or ability, are supported and celebrated. We embrace innovative teaching methods to engage learners and enhance educational outcomes.

Internet

Learning about E-safety is part of the school's curriculum and children do have access to the Internet in school. Your consent for children to make supervised use of the Internet is contained in the general permissions that we ask you to sign when your child starts school. All computers are filtered by the Conwy firewall for their protection. In the event that there is an E-safety concern, the school will action this in-line with the correct policy.

Infections and Illnesses

As a school, we are supported by Conwy Local Authority and Public Health Wales. If the school suspects that certain illnesses/ infections are within the school, we will notify parents and necessary agencies. We would ask all parents to keep the school aware of any ongoing or new conditions.

A list of medical conditions and illnesses that are potentially a risk to others can be found on the Public Health Wales website.

Individual support and inclusion

Across Wales we identify that some children have barriers towards learning which may need individual support.

In Wales we have the additional learning needs system which puts a statutory duty on schools to provide Additional Learning Provision to support the needs of learners where specific barriers towards learning. This provision is identified in what is called an IDP (Individual Development Plan).

All children are entitled to universal provision which includes quality teaching and learning. This is an entitlement for all children.



J – Joyful Learning & Journey
Learning at our school is a joyful journey. We create engaging and stimulating experiences that inspire a lifelong love of learning.

Jokes and joyful learning

As a school and community, we appreciate a relaxed, friendly and happy environment where children can celebrate their individuality.

We appreciate the need to have laughter in the school but also expect clear boundaries in terms of behaviour and expectations.

As a school we want to foster a culture of excitement, fun and a love of wanting to come to school to learn.

Jumpers and Cardigans

Our uniform including jumpers and cardigans can be purchased via a range of different suppliers.

We would ask that all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name as they do get misplaced or picked up in error.

The school has a clear uniform policy that we will adhere to. More information regarding this can be found in our uniform policy.

Journeys in learning

We identify that children are all different. As a school we will celebrate each child's individual progress, growth, and personal learning path that is specific for them. We as a school understand each child has a different starting point and measure progress and attainment against this.

Just be you

We aim to create a safe, accepting environment where all children can express themselves freely and without any negative judgement.



K – Kindness & Knowledge

We cultivate a culture of kindness, encouraging pupils to be compassionate and considerate. Our commitment to knowledge ensures academic rigour and intellectual curiosity.

KiVa and Kindness

A culture of respect, friendship, and kindness across the school is expected of everyone. Our KiVa anti-bullying programme teaches children how to stand up against bullying.

Knowing every child

As staff we aim to know each and every child within our school. We aim to ensure that each child feels cared for and that they feel seen, heard and supported.

Kits

Our PE kits are available to purchase through different suppliers. PE Kits should be worn to school on the PE day which you will be informed of termly via Schoop.

We expect all children to be wearing appropriate PE clothing which includes black jogging bottoms, a plain white polo shirt and either the school jumper or a green hoodie/fleece. Trainers are expected to be worn on these days.

Knowledge building

Our curriculum offer is built on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding. We identify that as children move through the learning continuum, they need to develop a rich and deep understanding across all areas of learning experience.

Keeping safe

Teaching children about personal safety, online safety, and emotional well-being is a vital area of the curriculum. We work with a range of external agencies such as the local police and school nurse to support us with this crucial role.



L – Leadership & Learning

Pupils are encouraged to develop leadership skills through various roles and responsibilities. Our learning environment promotes independence and confidence.

Letters home

Communication from school is mainly made by our Schoop app or our website. Where possible, to ensure we are supporting our Eco team, we rarely send home paper letters. Letters which include permission slips are also sent via Schoop or Parent Pay where you can give consent electronically.

Any other letters will usually be sent home via pupil post with the eldest or only child. Paper copies are available from the office. Please ask if you require any.

It is important that relevant permission slips are returned as children will only be allowed to participate in events when we have received signed consent.

Labels

Please ensure that all items of clothing/ bags/ water bottles/ wallets are clearly labelled.

Lunch Boxes

For those children who choose to have their own packed lunch, lunch boxes are stored in a communal location.

We would ask that if your child is having packed lunch, you aim to ensure that they are eating a well balanced and healthy lunch.

This is a reminder that all primary school children are entitled to a free school meal. If your child is hesitant regarding what they eat, please feel free to send in a packed lunch in addition to them claiming their free school meal.

Literacy

We emphasize the importance of literacy by integrating oracy, reading and writing across the curriculum. Our curriculum is designed to develop strong communication skills, with a focus on fostering a love for reading through diverse and age-appropriate literature.



M – Mission & Milestones

Our mission is to provide an outstanding education that empowers pupils to succeed. We celebrate key milestones, recognising achievements and progress throughout the school journey.

Medication and Managing Health Care Needs

Please see our medication/Managing Health Care Needs policy. Any medication that is needed within school must be given to the head teacher where it can remain safely stored.

Before any medicine can be administered, the necessary paperwork must be completed.

If your child needs a course of medication prescribed by a doctor, please complete the necessary forms and we can administer this accordingly in line with the policy.

Please note that a child with a common cold or headache can still attend school. For children who have specific health care needs, a Individual Health Care plan may be needed. Please speak to Mr. Bennett regarding this.

Money

We are a cashless school. All payments can now be made via Parent Pay. This includes payments for Breakfast Club from September 2025 (for the childcare provision), school trips and other events.

Mental health and well-being

The school benefits from collaborative working with external agencies to provide necessary guidance and support. As a school we are committed to promoting well-being and as such develop strategies such as mindfulness, Elsa interventions and other emotional/ nurture support programmes.

Milestones

We celebrate each student's journey by acknowledging key milestones, from their first day at school to their transition to secondary education. These celebrations include assemblies, certificates, and special events that recognize personal and academic achievements.



N – Nurturing Environment & New Ideas

We provide a nurturing environment where pupils feel safe and supported. We welcome new ideas and encourage creativity and innovation in all aspects of school life.

National Tests (Personalised Assessments)

The school completes national tasks or personalised assessments twice a year for pupils aged year 2 to year 6.

It is important that any absences are avoided if possible during these dates as all pupils within these year groups need to undertake these assessments.

We are aware that pupils can sometimes be anxious and apprehensive in the lead up to these tasks. However, staff are here to reassure and support both children and parents.

When referrals to the Additional Learning Needs team are made, data from these tests are often referenced.

Non-Uniform

Occasionally school takes part in non-uniform days arranged by the School Council. This is to raise funds for either the school or other charities. We would ask that on these days, parents please be mindful of appropriate clothing and footwear.

Nessy

Some of our pupils benefit from the support of the Nessy programme. This aims to provide children with opportunity to further develop their spelling and reading skills. The school decides which children may benefit from this resource.

Nessy is a digital resource that children can engage with either at school or at home. This provision falls under universal provision.

Neighbourhood Connections

Our school aims to maintain strong ties with the local community, collaborating with nearby organizations and families to enrich the educational experience. These partnerships provide students with a sense of belonging and real-world learning opportunities.



O - Opportunities & Outreach

We offer a wealth of opportunities for pupils to explore their interests and talents. Our outreach programmes connect us with the wider community, enriching the educational experience.

Overalls

All-weather overalls are suggested for the winter months, especially as we aim to utilise our outdoor learning areas across all seasons. Overalls can be purchased from a variety of different suppliers and do not need to be branded.

Opportunities for all

In our school, every child has access to a wide range of learning experiences and extracurricular activities.

We believe that every child should be given the best opportunity and start to education.

Office

Our school office is accessed via phone or in person.

Please contact us Monday to Friday 8:45 AM till 3:30 PM. We will aim to help with any queries you may have.

Open door ethos

As a school, we are committed to being a supportive, nurturing and transparent environment that works directly with families, individuals and outside agencies.

We will always put the child's best interests at the heart of all our decisions.

Open-Mindedness

We cultivate an environment that celebrates diversity and encourages open-mindedness. By exposing students to various cultures, ideas, and perspectives, we prepare them to be empathetic and informed global citizens.



P – Parents & Partnerships

We value strong partnerships with parents and carers, recognising their vital role in education. Regular communication and collaboration ensure a cohesive support system for pupils.

Parents' Evening

Parent consultations are held termly and an annual report is sent out towards the end of the summer term to inform you of your child's progress throughout the year.

If however, you need to contact your child's class teacher at any other time, please make an appointment through the school office. You can also send a message via the school app.

PTA

The school is very lucky to have the support from our Parent Teacher Association who help fundraise and support our school and our children.

All parents are encouraged to support and attend any meetings or events that are held. More information regarding the work of the PTA can be found on the school website.

Parent Pay

School payments are made via Parent Pay as we operate a cashless system. You will be provided with a login for each child as they are enrolled. Please contact the office with any queries.

Policies

The school operates under a variety of different statutory and best practice policies. Those relevant to parents and the community can be found on the school website. Please contact the school should you have any further enquiries.



Q – Quality Education & Questioning

We are dedicated to providing a high-quality education that challenges and inspires. We encourage pupils to ask questions, fostering critical thinking and a deeper understanding.

Quality Assistance

The head teacher and governing body work collaboratively within a school improvement model to ensure that the quality of teaching and learning is of a high standard.

All schools in Wales are monitored and challenged by Estyn. Please see our school website for further information regarding Estyn updates.

Queries

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any further queries. We have tried to think of everything you may need to know. However, if ever in doubt, please get in touch!

Questioning minds

We want our learners to have curiosity, critical thinking, and develop as inquisitive learners who are not afraid to ask the question 'why?'

Quality relationships

We aim to build and maintain professional and appropriate strong connections between staff, pupils, and families that are built on trust and respect.

Quick to support

We identify that a rapid and responsive interaction to support children during times of crisis or upset is key. Should you have any information that you need to us to be aware of, please share this so we can support you.



R - Respect & Resources

Respect is a cornerstone of our school ethos. We provide rich resources, including technology and learning materials, to support and enhance the educational experience.

Rules

As a school we operate within an agreed set of rules. All children and staff are aware of our expectations.

We focus on positive reinforcement as a school and celebrate what goes well. In the event that learners make the wrong choices, the school will operate in line with its behaviour policy. Transparent and open communication with families is key to establishing clear expectations for the child.

Respect

As a school, we will respect children and families. In return, we expect the same. The school will not tolerate violent, or threatening or aggressive language at any point. This is in line with Conwy Local Authority policy.

Reading

Children are encouraged to read at school and at home daily where possible. Reading books should be brought to school daily unless otherwise directed by the class teacher. Parents are asked to complete the reading record at home. Books for independent/ home reading are changed routinely. School has invested in phonic digital resources through Monster Phonics. Please do not underestimate the benefits of visiting your local library and reading with your children.

Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE)

In Wales, Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a mandatory component of the school curriculum, starting in September 2022. RSE is designed to help children and young people develop knowledge, skills, and behaviours that support their well-being and safety.



S - Safety & Support

Pupil safety is our top priority. We have robust safeguarding policies and support systems in place to ensure a secure and caring environment.

Schoop

We subscribe as a school to Schoop. Please ensure you sign up to this as soon as possible using our unique Pin. This will ensure that you are kept up to date on a day-to-day school information basis.

Student voice

The children have a purposeful and strong voice in determining school direction. School leadership groups such as School Council, and Eco Council WILL take a proactive stance when making positive changes to the school and community.

Safeguarding

In compliance with statutory requirements, the school has a duty of care to safeguard all pupils and staff within the school. Further information can be found in the safeguarding policy.

The schools Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr. A Bennett. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs Chloe Edwards and Miss Leanne Foxley. Councillor Steven Price is the governor responsible for safeguarding.

Whilst we appreciate that safeguarding can be an emotive subject for parents and families, the school will always operate in the best interest of the child. Sometimes we will have to make referrals before telling parents of this action.

Sunshine

During the summer months when it is hot, please ensure sun hats are sent to school daily and that sun cream is applied before school. Please ensure that sun cream is clearly labelled. Children will need to be able to apply sun cream themselves.



T – Teaching Techniques & Teamwork

Our teaching techniques are diverse and adaptive, catering to various learning styles. We promote teamwork among pupils, fostering collaboration and mutual respect.

Timetable

The school is building a timetable to meet the needs of each class. We will be sharing this with you once it is complete. The Curriculum for Wales gives schools creative freedom to design a learning schedule that meets the needs of the children they have. Therefore, no two schools will have the same structure or approach.

Technology in learning

Interactive whiteboards, tablets, Google Chrome books and other devices form part of our technology and assisted learning offer.

Toys

Children are asked not to bring toys from home to school as we cannot guarantee that they will not get broken or lost. This also extends to digital devices including mobile phones.

For those children who do need to bring their mobile phone to school, this must be given to the school office at the start of day and collected before leaving.

Mobile phones will be turned off during the school day.

Toilet training

We would hope that all children who are of school age are toilet trained. We appreciate that some children have toileting needs that need to be supported within school. Where this is the case, we work in collaboration with the school nurse team and parents. If your child needs nappies and changing resources, it is parental duty to provide these to the school.



U – Unique Experiences & Understanding

We provide unique learning experiences that broaden horizons and deepen understanding. Cultural awareness and empathy are integral to our curriculum.

Underwear

We have some spare underwear in school for infant age children. However, if you're worried about your child having accidents, it is worth sending some spare clothing in.

We will discretely inform parents of any accidents.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

We raise children's awareness on the rights of the child through whole school assembly and class discussion. Each week, we take a different right and explore this in an age appropriate manner.

Understanding the world

Exploring different cultures, religions, geography, and current events is important so that we can develop and foster global awareness. This is the basis for developing all learners as ethically informed citizens of Wales and the wider world.

Uniform

All children are expected to wear the agreed uniform. This can be ordered via our suppliers or any shop. Our school uniform for Ysgol Minafon as of September 2025 consists of:

- Dark green V-neck jumper/ cardigans (with or without the school logo)
- White polo shirts (with or without the school logo)
- Grey trousers / skirts / tunics
- White, grey or black socks.
- Sensible plain flat dark-coloured shoes or trainers.

Summer Options:

- Plain grey, shorts
- Green and white check gingham dresses
- Sandals with socks
- Any cap for sun protection

It is not essential for parents to purchase a logo uniform. Other non-branded items as long as within school colours are acceptable. Parents are respectfully asked to name all items of pupils' clothing.



V – Values & Vision

Our core values guide every aspect of school life, underpinning our vision for excellence. We strive to develop well-rounded individuals prepared for future challenges.

Vegetarians/Vegans

Please let us know if your child is vegetarian or vegan or has any other dietary requirements.

Please let the school office know of any dietary requirements so that catering can provide these meals.

Conwy catering will have alternative menu choices for your child to access should this be required.

Viruses/Vomiting

If your child has a virus or sickness bug, you must keep them at home for 48 hours after the last sickness episode. This is to prevent the spreading of germs within the school. Please note, a child with a cold is still expected to attend school.

Visitors

All visitors must report to the school office on arrival.

Where necessary, ID will be requested and the individual asked to sign in before being issued a school lanyard.

All adults wanting to volunteer or work with children must have an enhanced DBS.

*"Growing with Grace, Soaring with Strength"
"Tyfu gyda Grâs, Hedfan gyda Nerth"*



W – Well-being & Wonder

We prioritise the well-being of our pupils, ensuring they feel supported and valued. We nurture a sense of wonder, encouraging curiosity and a passion for discovery.

Water

Children are encouraged to drink from their own labelled bottles throughout the day and are able to refill in school.

Juice is not permitted as part have a healthy school initiative during the day. However, it is offered on certain days as part of the free school meal in addition to milk and water.

Website

The school website can be accessed via the following link:

www.minafon.conwy.sch.uk

Wellbeing

The well-being of all pupils and staff are of utmost importance. As a school we aim to foster a culture of mindfulness, resilience and growth mindset. This supports the four core purposes.

Walking

Many children travel to school by walking.

For older learners who are in Year 5 and 6, parents may choose for their children to walk to and from school by themselves. When this is the case, parents must notify the school of their intention and consent to this. The school keeps a record of this



X – exploration & expression

We encourage exploration and self-expression, providing opportunities for pupils to discover and articulate their thoughts and ideas.

X-Factor experiences

As a school we aim to further develop and offer unique opportunities to enhance and extend our curriculum. We appreciate the performing arts and understand that this is a field that many succeed in. As a school we offer school performances as well as taking part in typical Welsh school traditions.

X-Pupils (Ex-pupils- we know we cheated here!)

Our school is built on a culture of community importance. Many of our pupils choose to attend different high schools within the area. We extend a warm welcome to any past pupils/ families/ staff/ governors/ volunteers who are now friends of the school.

X-treme Weather (Extreme Weather)

Due to our location, we sometimes experience extreme weather such as snow and ice. On such occasions, school may need to close for the health and safety of all.

Please keep an eye on notifications from Schoop app, social media, Conwy website and the school website.



Y – Young Minds & Yearly Celebrations

We celebrate the growth and achievements of young minds throughout the year. Our annual events and traditions foster a strong sense of community and pride.

Yard

Children are able to access the schoolyard throughout the school year. Our PTA and school funds have been able to help create and develop the area over the years. This remains an area of focus for the new school.

Your child at the centre

Everything we do in school is to support and nurture each individual child. We take a child centred approach when designing our curriculum, assessment process and additional learning needs provision.

You as parents

We appreciate that as parents, you have a key role to play in supporting your child's learning journey.

We ask that you support us with encouraging reading and phonics skills as well as maths skills.

If you would like some further guidance on how to achieve this, please contact your child's class teacher.



Z - Zeal for Learning & Zest

Our pupils approach learning with zeal and enthusiasm. We cultivate a zest for knowledge that inspires lifelong learning and personal growth.

Zzzzzzzzz (Importance of sleep)

As adults and children, the importance of sleep cannot be ignored.

We would ask all parents to make sure that their children are getting the recommended amounts of sleep to ensure that learning and growing can be maximised.

The school day is a very busy day... lots of sleep is needed.

Zest

We cultivate a zest for life within our school community, promoting excitement and keen interest in both academic and extracurricular activities. This spirited approach ensures that students are engaged, motivated, and enthusiastic about their educational journey.

Zigzag

We recognize that the path to knowledge is not always linear.

Our teaching methods accommodate the zigzag nature of learning, adapting to the diverse needs and learning styles of our pupils.

Zephyr

Our school offers a zephyr of inspiration—a gentle breeze that encourages students to pursue their interests and aspirations. This nurturing atmosphere supports personal growth and academic achievement.

