



Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary

Prospectus 2025 - 2026



Croeso - Welcome

Thank you for your interest in our distinctively Christian school where together we 'Walk in Jesus' Footsteps'. Here our children are inspired to **learn** and grow, **play** and share, respect and **care**, reflect and **pray**, communicating their joys and sorrows with one another and with God.

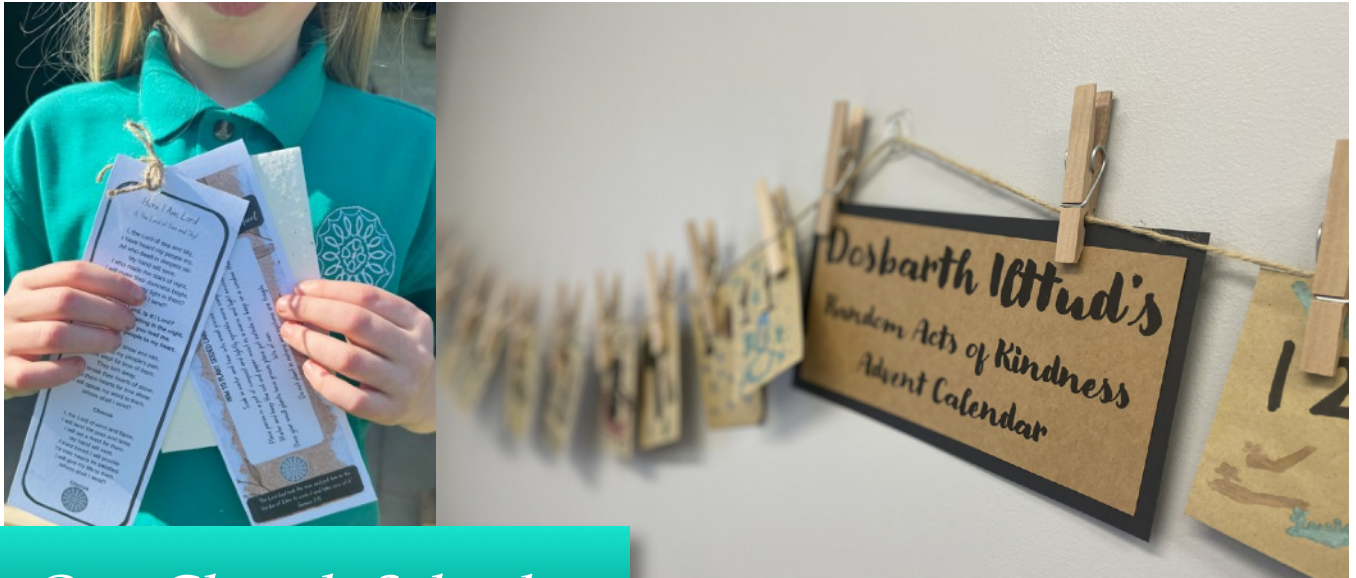
The curriculum at Wick enables our children to experience 'life in all its fullness.' It is centred on our Christian values, is relevant, exciting, broad and balanced, and provides each child with the skills to be socially mobile and resilient in an ever demanding, challenging world. In each child we encourage gratitude, courage and service so they may grow, develop and reach their potential in a caring Christian community.

Working in partnership with our families, the community and our church, values and attitudes are formed and every individual is celebrated as unique and special. Our talented staff are committed to ensuring Wick is a place of learning, of nurture and of exploration where children grow and flourish.

We are conscious that our families trust us with their children. In turn, we are actively committed to continually improving as a learning community; families, staff and governors continue to move forward together, confident and proud of our achievements and with clear ideas about where further improvements can be made. Working closely with the community and the church, our success starts with the families we serve and extends through all the adults who work in our school to create a stimulating and supportive learning environment.

We look forward to welcoming you to Wick.

Cerí Thomas



Our Church School

Our school is a special place, a safe place, a place of learning, a place of nurture and exploration. Together we demonstrate openness and acceptance, tolerance and forgiveness. Here, values and attitudes are formed and every individual is celebrated as unique.

We aim to:

- place Gospel values at the heart of all we do;
- create, within a Christian setting, a safe, secure, vibrant and inclusive learning environment where talents and passions are nurtured;
- create an atmosphere where standards of teaching and learning are constantly in view so everyone is challenged and inspired to shine;
- understand how we learn best, know how to improve and how to apply our skills and resilience in an ever demanding and challenging world;
- encourage gratitude, courage and service so we all grow, develop and reach our potential in a caring Christian community;
- celebrate every achievement and encourage all to take pride in themselves and their school.

Our School

Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary School is a voluntary aided, co-educational, English medium school for children between the ages of 3 and 11 years of age. The current school was built in 1990, expanded in 2019 and again in 2025. It consists of a single storey open plan environment, with a nursery facility. The building has a central hall and administration area. Teaching areas are located in two wings, branching out from the central area. The school is set in extensive grounds including our Forest School areas maintained by the children. We enjoy very close links with the Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast and particularly our village church, St James'.

Admission Arrangements

NURSERY ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

The school has a published admission number of 22 part time afternoon nursery pupils sessions. Children are entitled to a part-time nursery place from the start of the term following their third birthday.

The governing body will consider each individual application received by the published closing date. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated applying the oversubscription criteria, in the order of priority set out in the admissions policy, up to the approved capacity. No account is taken of the particular school the child is likely to attend subsequently or to the length of time the school has been aware of the parental intention to apply for a place. Parents should note that children attending the school nursery will not have an 'automatic' right to continued education at the same school when moving to the reception class. All parents of children in a nursery class who are due to commence reception the following year will be required to apply for a place by the published closing date.

Priority will be given to:

- Children with an Individual Development Plan maintained by the local authority (previously known as a statement of special educational need) where the school is named as the most appropriate setting.
- Children who are looked after by the Local Authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and whom the Local Authority has confirmed will be looked after at the time of the child's admission to school.

Where applications are equal to or less than the admission number, everyone will be admitted. In the event of more applications being received than places available, places will be allocated strictly according to the oversubscription criteria (in order), as follows. Should there be insufficient places to accommodate all applicants who qualify under any one of the categories, places will be considered according to the proximity of the applicants place of residence to the school, for whom Wick and Marcross is the closest Church school.

- Children whose parents / guardians are practising communicants of the Church in Wales who are in regular attendance at a church within the Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, or whose children regularly attend in the company of others. Clergy references will be used to determine regularity of attendance. Children whose place of residence lies within the boundaries of the Community Councils that serve Wick and Marcross.
- Children who have a sibling who is a pupil at the school on the date when the applicant child is due to commence school.
- Children whose parents / guardians are practising communicants of the Church in Wales living in the Rectorial Benefice of Llantwit Major but who are in regular attendance at another parish church, or whose children regularly attend another parish church in the company of others.
- Children whose parents / guardians are practising communicants of the Church in Wales living outside the Rectorial Benefice of Llantwit Major and who are in regular attendance at another parish church, or whose children attend another parish church in the company of others.
- Children whose parents / guardians are active and practising members in another faith community.
- Children whose families wish them to be educated in a Church in Wales school.

Please contact the school for a full copy of the Nursery Admissions Policy.

Admission Arrangements



RECEPTION ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Wick and Marcross is a voluntary aided Church in Wales Primary School serving the Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. Children are admitted in September during the academic year of their fifth birthday. The standard intake number for pupils entering the reception class in any given year is 22.

Priority will be given to:

- Children with an Individual Development Plan maintained by the local authority (previously known as a statement of special educational need) where the school is named as the most appropriate setting.
- Children who are looked after by the Local Authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and whom the Local Authority has confirmed will be looked after at the time of the child's admission to school.

Where applications are equal to or less than the admission number, everyone will be admitted. In the event of more applications being received than places available, places will be allocated strictly according to the oversubscription criteria (in order), as follows. Should there be insufficient places to accommodate all applicants who qualify under any one of the categories, places will be considered according to the proximity of the applicants place of residence to the school, for whom Wick and Marcross is the closest Church school.

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- Children whose parents / guardians are active and practising members in another faith community.
- Children whose families wish them to be educated in a Church in Wales school.

Please contact the school for a full copy of the Admissions Policy.



Arriving and Leaving

The start of the school day

Children enter the school playground in the morning via the blue playground gate. They are met on the playground by school staff and then go directly into their class areas. The gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. Families arriving late should report to the school office.

School transport

We encourage families, where they can, to travel actively to school by walking, riding bikes or scooting. However, we recognise that this is not always possible due to the wide catchment area of the school.

A school bus is provided by the Local Authority for children who qualify for free school transport. Only children with an official bus pass are permitted to travel. There is a clear code of conduct for pupils travelling on the school bus or by taxi. All pupils are expected to follow the bus driver's instructions and respond positively to any requests.

The end of the school day

Please be prompt when collecting your child at the end of the school day. School staff will accompany all children onto the school playground. If your child is going home by bus, the school staff will escort them to the bus. Please notify us if your child is to be collected by someone else or if there is to be a change to their routine.

At all other times during the school day, children should be brought to, or collected from, the school office. Please enter the school site via the pedestrian gate and follow the directed path to the school office. Please do not cut across the school car park as traffic comes and goes throughout the day.

Our Curriculum

At Wick, the provision of a well-organised and stimulating curriculum, catering for the needs of all, is of paramount importance. Pupils may be placed in combined mixed year groups, but will sometimes be taught in changing, cross-class groups according to their strengths and needs. This team-teaching is a strength of the school and ensures better differentiated provision to meet the needs of all learners.

Our curriculum is taught through a series of structured activities designed to promote learners' development across the four purposes. It includes not only the statutory requirements, but also a wide range of extra-curricular activities organised by the school to enrich the class based experience. We promote 'Values for Life' throughout our curriculum and school ethos.

Four Purposes					
Ambitious, capable learners	Healthy, confident individuals	Enterprising, creative contributors	Ethical, informed citizens		
Integral Skills					
Creativity and innovation	Critical thinking and problem-solving	Personal effectiveness	Planning and organising		
Principles for Curriculum Design					
Authentic	Evidence-based	Responsive	Inclusive	Ambitious	
Empowering	Unified	Engaging	Based on subsidiarity	Manageable	
Twelve Pedagogical Principles					
Areas of Learning and Experience					
Expressive arts	Health and well-being	Humanities	Languages, literacy and communication	Mathematics and numeracy	Science and technology.
Three Cross-curricular Responsibilities					
Literacy		Numeracy		Digital Competence	
Cross-cutting Themes					
Local, national and international context	Careers and work-related experiences	Relationships and sexuality education	Human rights education and diversity		

While some areas of the curriculum are taught as discrete subjects or skills, others are developed through an inquiry led approach. We want all our children to:

KNOW - factually.

DO - skilfully.

UNDERSTAND - conceptually.

BE - ethically informed, critical and creative thinkers.

PROGRESSION STEP ONE:

nursery and reception

PROGRESSION STEP TWO:

years one, two and three

PROGRESSION STEP THREE:

years four, five and six



Our curriculum...

We have high expectations of all our learners, recognising their different skills and abilities, so helping them to prepare for full and responsible lives. Activities and experiences are organised into both specific skill / subject learning and integrated inquiry led learning.

The governing body published their curriculum statement in July 2022. Our inquiry based learning approach enables skills and knowledge to be delivered and developed through high quality and challenging teaching. Purposeful learning activities and opportunities and designed by listening to and planning for the developing interests and motivations of children. Our curriculum:

Places Gospel values at the heart of all we do;

Nurtures children's passions and talents;

Empowers pupil voice and honours pupil choice;

Increases motivation and engagement;

Fosters curiosity and a love for learning;

Teaches grit, perseverance, growth mindset and self regulation;

Provides opportunities for meaningful research and develops strong research skills;

Deepens understanding beyond memorising facts and content;

Strengthens the importance of asking good questions;

Enables children to take ownership of their learning and to reach their goals;

Solves the problems of tomorrow in the classrooms of today.

Full details of our [curriculum provision can be found on our school web site](#).



Welsh

Wick and Marcross is a predominately English medium primary school. Nearly all children come from English speaking homes. Welsh is taught as a second language and features as part of the Language, Literacy and Communication Skills Area of Learning and Experience. We recognise the need for children to practise these new language skills and we regularly use incidental Welsh throughout the school day. Other areas of the curriculum offer opportunities to share an understanding of Welsh culture and customs, history and traditions. The school has achieved its Starter Iaith Bronze Award and is working toward the silver standard. Children have the opportunity to join our Language Pupil Voice group.

Religion, Values and Ethics and Collective Worship

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) forms part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience. This area encompasses geography, history, religion, values and ethics, and business studies. These disciplines share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills, whilst having their own discrete body of knowledge and skills.

We follow the Church in Wales guidance for the teaching of RVE. More detailed information is available on the [education section of their web site](#). Our teaching of RVE is objective, critical and pluralistic. It offers the children a practical opportunity to discuss opinions, consider and debate big questions, and develop ethics and values for life. In Wick, our teaching of RVE will include both discrete lessons as well as integrated, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary thematic approaches.

Daily acts of collective worship are held in various forms and are led by visiting clergy, guest speakers, members of staff and the children themselves. Throughout the year classes lead community and Eucharistic worship both at St James' Church and in school. Each Friday we hold an Achievers' Worship (We Are Proud) to celebrate our Christian values and the children's achievements.

Digital Competency

Good use of technology has the potential to enhance the quality of teaching and learning across the curriculum. We provide children with the skills and techniques needed and further opportunities to use technology within the wider curriculum of the school in order to enhance their communication and learning. Our aim is for all pupils to be digitally competent. All pupils in Wales are allocated an email and password to the Hwb online learning platform. The school uses this platform to allow the children to access a range of learning resources including Google classroom and Adobe.

Relationship and Sexuality Education

Young people should have the right to access information that keeps them safe from harm. This includes learning about healthy relationships, keeping safe, online and offline, and being confident to raise issues with responsible adults. Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE) is designed to safeguard all our children and young people, supporting them to develop knowledge, skills and behaviours that will assist in protecting them throughout their lives. This is critical to building a society which treats others with understanding and empathy, whatever their ethnicity, social economic background, disability, sex, gender or sexuality.

There are legal requirements for RSE to be developmentally appropriate, including the resources we use in implementing RSE. Topics like online safety and safe relationships are included at developmentally appropriate phases. This means learners are only exposed to things that are appropriate to their age and development. At a younger age, for example, the children will be taught about treating each other with kindness and empathy. Learning in RSE will also include recognising, understanding and speaking out about all forms of discrimination, violence, abuse and neglect, as well as knowing how to seek support and advice on a range of issues from trusted sources.

Pastoral Care and Positive Relationships

The adults in school work in partnership with families to assist children in becoming caring and responsible people who enjoy positive attitudes and good relationships with others.

We try not to impose a large number of rules which can be confusing for children. However, we do expect children to conform to the high expectations we have of them. We expect them to work and play together harmoniously in a happy school environment and to treat all members of the school community with courtesy and respect. We believe that effective relationships are best encouraged and facilitated using positive strategies which value effort, offer praise and use a minimum of negative comments. The staff are committed to ensuring an environment where the use of harsh voices, shouting, put downs, criticism and shame have no place. Our behaviour and relationship policy priorities resolution and repair over punishment and sanctions. This does not mean that there are no consequences for behaviour that sits outside of our expectations. Unacceptable behaviour may necessitate the use of specific consequences linked to the actions and subsequent reflection.

The class teacher has responsibility for the pastoral care of children and will work with them to enhance their social education and awareness. If parents are concerned about their child's behaviour or emotional well-being they are urged, in the first instance, to contact the class teacher to discuss their concerns. Equally, on occasions, families may be contacted by the school so that we can work together to ensure a consistent approach to managing behaviour in the home and school.

Extra - Curricular Activities

The adults at Wick acknowledge the importance of striving for high standards ensuring that every child reaches his or her full potential. We understand the importance of developing the whole child and we pride ourselves on the wide range of additional opportunities which we offer children after school. Opportunities have included gardening, football, baseball, hockey, crafts, radio broadcasting, dance and board games.

All pupils are placed in a house or team on their arrival at school and Sports' Day and our Eisteddfod are run as inter-house competitions. Our houses are named after local castles, Dunraven, Ogmores and St Donats. Where ever possible, children are usually placed in the same house as siblings.



Children with Additional Needs

All our children have different strengths and abilities, particular needs and areas that require support at different times throughout their school life. Some pupils show academic ability early and need to be encouraged and appropriately challenged. Others may need extra support to overcome relative weaknesses in literacy or numeracy.

Children who have additional learning needs are defined as those where there is

- a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age;
- a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream maintained school or Further Education Institution.

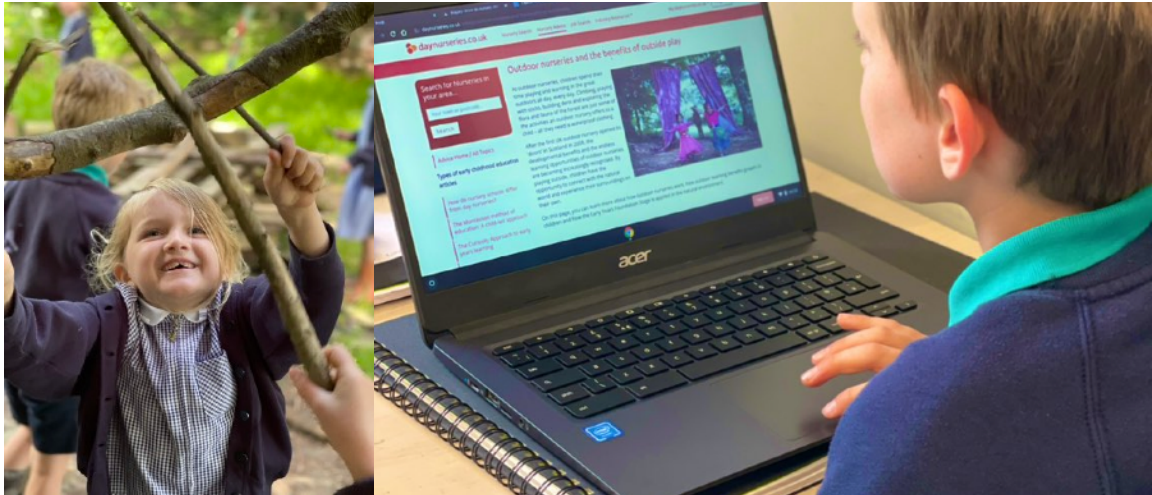
Children who have additional learning needs are provided with additional support which is detailed in an Individual Development Plan. Families are actively involved in the design and reviewing of the plan. Mr Rob Ward, our Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator, liaises with these families.

For other children, there may be times during their time in school when they need a little extra support to access the curriculum or to develop some basic skills. These pupils are supported through our universal provision.

Further details about the school's provision for [additional learning needs can be found on our website](#).

The school is aware that some children, such as children who are looked after (CLA) have additional needs. Where this is the case, appropriate action and support is provided. Mrs Thomas is the teacher with responsibility for CLA and is supported by Lisa Hewitt, the governor with responsibility for CLA.

Children with disabilities are always welcome at our school. We consult fully with parents and other agencies so that appropriate arrangements are made. The school is committed to providing an environment which allows disabled children full access to all areas of learning. Our school is on one level, all classroom entrances are wide enough for wheelchair access and there are a number of toilets that will accommodate wheelchair access. A disability access survey has been undertaken to identify future development needs and this has fed into our school accessibility plan. Staff at the school modify learning plans and teaching styles where appropriate. This might, for example, include using different resources, providing extra time or providing adult support.



Our uniform

We believe that wearing uniform helps to foster a sense of pride and belonging in our school.

In line with Welsh Government recommendations we have limited the number of items with a school logo to our sweatshirt and polo shirt. These are available from Point Ink - Print and Embroidery, Llantwit Major. www.pointinkembroidery.com

Our curriculum places an emphasis on learning outdoors and we plan each week to use our extensive grounds. In addition to our school uniform, all children will need to keep a pair of wellingtons in school.

Jewellery of any kind should not be worn in school. Children will not be able to actively participate in PE sessions if they are wearing jewellery.

FOOTWEAR

Shoes may be black, navy or any suitable dark colour in any practical style. Open-toe sandals are not advisable for the summer as toes can easily be stubbed or grazed on the playground.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR ARE CLEARLY NAMED.

WINTER UNIFORM

- Navy trousers or skirt
- School polo shirt with logo
- School navy sweatshirt with logo

SUMMER UNIFORM

- Navy shorts with school polo shirt
- Blue and white checked dress

PE KIT

- Plain white t-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Black slip on / velcro daps or trainers

We encourage all families to use our **'New to You'** uniform exchange. Families can access this daily during term time.

Attendance

A child's success at school is likely to be affected negatively if their attendance is poor. Those who do not attend regularly may fall behind in their learning, leading to feelings of frustration and unhappiness. As a Church in Wales school, we seek to provide a Christian environment in which all young people can flourish as a member of a happy, caring and safe community. It is our goal that each child attends school regularly and on time, making the most of the opportunities available to them.

Parents are asked to contact the school on the first and any subsequent days of their child's absence. A clear reason for the absence must be given. Should a child be absent from school without explanation, families will be contacted to provide a reason for the absence.

If children are ill or require medical or dental treatment an absence will be authorised. Absence will also be authorised if it is a day of religious observance for your family.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2010 give schools discretionary power to grant leave for the purpose of a family holiday during term time. Families do not have an automatic right to withdraw their child from school for a holiday and, in law, have to apply for permission from the school in advance. The final decision to authorise leave or otherwise, is a discretionary matter for the headteacher.

All absences are monitored by the school. If the school is concerned about the levels of absence this will be discussed with families. If attendance does not improve, referrals may be made to the Local Authority via the Inclusion team.

Establishing a good pattern of attendance begins immediately a child starts school. It is the time when routines are established for the remainder of a child's school career. It is important that your child arrives in school on time; learning begins the moment a child arrives. We also know that children who miss even small amounts of school time can fall behind quickly and miss out on so much, both socially and academically.

Please:

- Send your child to school on time;
- Ring the school early, and daily, if your child can not attend giving a clear reason for non-attendance;
- Avoid holidays in term time;
- Keep the school informed of any updates to your contact details;
- Speak to us as soon as possible if your are having any difficulty in getting your child to school - we are here to help.



Eating and Drinking in School

School Lunches

School meals are cooked on the premises and menus are planned by the Big Fresh Catering group to ensure a balanced diet over a four week period. All children, from reception to year six, are entitled to a free meal at lunch time as part of the Welsh Government's universal meal provision. There are a range of options available daily and so it is essential that your child's meal is booked in advance on the ParentPay system. Alternatively, children may bring a healthy packed lunch. In line with our role in promoting a healthy lifestyles we discourage fizzy drinks, crisps and sweets, preferring vegetable and fruit options.

Families should advise the Big Fresh Catering Company if their child has any special dietary needs. Forms are available from the school office.

Break time milk and snacks

A daily drink of milk is provided by the Welsh Government for children in nursery - year two. Water is available for all children throughout the school day. Parents in nursery pay termly for snack provision. For children in reception upwards, if you wish your child to have something to eat during the school day, we ask you to send a healthy snack - fruit or vegetables.

Please do not send 'sweet' treats, chocolate or squash / fizzy drinks. The children drink throughout the day in order to remain hydrated and ready to learn without damage to their teeth or increased sugar levels.

NO NUTS

**THE SCHOOL IS A NUT FREE ZONE TO KEEP THOSE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY
WITH NUT ALLERGIES FREE FROM HARM**



Communication

As an Eco school, email is our main method of contact.

You have included an email contact on your admission form and we will use these contact details to send communications home.

School newsletters are published regularly. They are emailed to families but are also available to download from the school's web site.

Class 'learning blogs' are shared with families. These blogs give a 'flavour' of the learning that has taken place during each month at school and are an ideal starting point for conversations about your child's learning and time at school. The blogs are published monthly on the school web site.

Follow us on BlueSky. Classes post regularly so please follow us - it's a good way to see what is happening in class in 'real time'!

The school operates a 'push messaging' service, Schoop. This service is free to families at the school. Please sign up using the school's unique number ID 28308. This will ensure you get messages and the school calendar directly to your phone, tablet or email.

SCHOOL TIMES

MORNING: 8.55AM - 12 NOON

AFTERNOON: 1PM - 3.30PM



Safeguarding and Child Protection

Here at Wick we take the well-being of all our children very seriously and do all we can to ensure that school is a safe, happy and nurturing environment. We have a comprehensive Safeguarding Policy which outlines the actions that will be taken should staff have concerns about a child or another member of staff. All staff and volunteers at the school who come into contact with the children have an enhanced DBS check. All staff train annually in safeguarding issues. The school's safeguarding officer is Mrs Ceri Thomas. The deputy safeguarding officers are Mr Alex Payne and Mr Rob Ward. Contact may also be made with the LA officer, Jason Redrup on 01446 709862.

Pupil Voice



As a school, we are committed to our learners having a voice and making a difference to their own learning. Groups of learners represent their peers in a range of pupil voice groups who makes decisions that influence the life of pupils within school. In addition, all children contribute to curriculum design decisions through our inquiry led learning model.



Medical Matters

Medical Examinations

These are carried out by the school nursing term who are based in Bridgend. Families are informed of these visits and are invited to attend should they wish. Checks include vision, weight and height and general well-being. The school nurse is also available to families who wish to contact her directly.

Illness and Emergency Procedures

We will always do our best to deal with any illness or accident that occurs during school time. Families are informed, via a 'note' home, of any minor accidents. For more serious accidents or bumps to the head families are contacted by telephone. It is important that any contact details provided to the school office are kept up to date and include at least two additional emergency contact numbers should we fail to be able to contact you. In extreme emergencies an ambulance will be called and you will be informed. For children with a long-term health problem a health care plan will be put in place.

Children who have experienced sickness or diarrhoea must stay at home for 48 hours following their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea as advised by the National Health Service guidance for schools.

Medicines

Medicines are not routinely administered in school. When children are well enough to return to school they may still be completing a course of prescribed medication. It is helpful if this prescribed medication can be administered three times a day so that all doses can be taken at home - one before school, one after school and one before going to bed. In special circumstances the headteacher may agree for certain prescribed medications to be administered during school hours. In these cases, the prescribed medication must be brought to school and a written request form completed by the parent / guardian, before permission is granted.



Equal Opportunities / Racial Equality

The school has an ongoing duty to create an environment which is safe, fair and free from discrimination, where all learners and families are provided with the same opportunities.

The school has detailed policies and staff undertake regular training to ensure their skills are up to date. Awareness of issues surrounding race, gender, culture, religion and additional learning needs are constantly raised. Positive steps are taken to ensure equal participation in the curriculum while also maintaining respect for children's individual identity, culture and heritage. Our curriculum design process includes ensuring that our children develop as ethically informed citizens of the world.

Discrimination of any kind is not acceptable and all staff strive to ensure that positive attitudes are fostered in every aspect of school life. The school staff adhere to their Prevent Duty to avoid radicalisation, incidents of any kind are monitored, recorded and reported to the governing body and to the Local Authority.

Secondary Transfer

At the end of year six the majority of our children transfer to Llantwit Major Comprehensive School. Others attend Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School, St. Richard Gwyn Catholic School, or private school settings.

Applications for secondary school places are made in the autumn term of year six and families should apply through the Local Authority Admissions Portal. Attendance at any primary setting does not guarantee admission to a particular secondary setting, so families should make themselves aware of the admission criteria for schools across the Local Authority.

Please note that places are not allocated to families unless applications are made for transfer to secondary education. The Local Authority will not make the assumption that you require a secondary school place. The school will make every effort to remind parents to apply but can not be held responsible if a child fails to gain a place at a secondary setting.

Partnerships

Parental help in school

Parents are very welcome to help at school during the day. Parents assist in a variety of tasks including supporting class based provision, preparing resources, helping with art and craft activities, cooking, playing games and volunteering on school visits. Please contact your child's class teacher if you would like to help in any way. All volunteer helpers are subject to an enhanced DBS check in line with the LA policy on safer recruitment.

Family and friends fund raising group

The school has an active fund raising group which plays a vital part in the life of our school. They organise excellent social occasions enjoyed by parents and children alike. These activities include discos, raffles, quizzes, cake sales and school fayres. As well as helping to build good relationships between families and staff, funds raised provide are spent on resources that benefit all the children. New families are always very welcome to join us at our regular coffee and chat get togethers.

School Links with the Community

As a school, we work hard to develop very strong links with Llantwit Major Comprehensive School and with our partner primary schools. We aim to ensure a smooth transition for our year six pupils as they move to year seven. Visits are planned each year giving opportunities to attend a range of Induction Days. Liaison meetings take place between teachers within our cluster of schools on a regular basis and a comprehensive transition plan is in place. Comprehensive school teachers and other receiving high school staff, visit in the summer term to meet the children of year six and to consult with teachers. Staff share all relevant information with teachers of the receiving secondary school, in the knowledge that regular liaison between teachers ensures progress and continuity during this important period of transition.

During their primary years, children have opportunities to listen to and work with a wide range of people from various agencies. These include our community police officer, school nurse, the fire brigade and a range of artists and musicians. Many parents and governors with specialist skills and knowledge come to school to work with children, and parents and helpers from the community help regularly in the classroom.

Pupils have opportunities for developing economic and industrial awareness through visits and surveys of local shops and businesses. We are developing our links with industry and businesses, such links include Recycling Projects and strong links with the Police Liaison Officer. We take part in a wide range of competitions and support worthwhile causes.

We have strong links with the United College at Atlantic College and with our churches throughout the Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, particularly with St James' Church here in Wick.

Home Learning

We know that children learn best when they are supported and encouraged by all the adults in their lives. Our home learning partnership aims to provide families with the opportunity to reinforce the skills the children are developing in school at home. The activities use a mixture of learning styles. In all cases the activities are individualised to match the child's stage of learning. [Full details can be found on our school website.](#)

Clicking on each icon in the overview will take you to more detailed information about each element of our home learning partnership.

In the case of extended, unavoidable school closure, the teaching staff provide daily lessons on Google Classroom. Pupils working at home can access these lessons at their convenience. All staff provide feedback and answer questions throughout the day. Live streaming is used as a daily check in which allows the children to see their peers and for the teacher to outline the learning expectations for the day.

Home / School Agreement

Although there is no longer a requirement for schools to have in place a formal home / school agreement, we are convinced that children derive much more benefit and far more enjoyment from school if learning is a shared experience where the child, the adults at home, and the adults in school, work together as partners.

We believe that high standards of behaviour and good relationships will help effective learning. Alongside this we know that clear expectations, understood and applied by all partners, will provide a firm base upon which quality learning can take place. We all have an equal responsibility to ensure this is achieved.

GDPR and access to information

Schools need to collect and use certain types of information order to provide education and other associated functions. This includes information on current, past and prospective pupils, parents, staff, contractors, partners and others who come into contact with the school

This personal information must be dealt with properly, no matter how it is collected, recorded and used - whether on paper, by computer or recorded by other means. The school also collects other information at key times during the school year. Information is also received from other schools when pupils transfer. Our Privacy Notice is available on the school website.



School Activities

Educational Visits

Educational visits are built into our curriculum planning. During your child's time at Wick they will have the opportunity to visit many places of local, historic and natural interest. Visiting theatre and music groups also supplement our provision. We believe that these experiences broaden and support the learning in the classroom. Children attend a concentrated swimming course in year three. Residential visits take place in years five and six.

Charging and Remissions

Many visits and activities can only take place if their costs are funded by voluntary contributions. Every effort is made to keep costs to a minimum and currently the school budget subsidises our residential visits and transport costs for nearly all visits. If sufficient monies are not available, the school may have no option but to forego the activity. The school will always strive to ensure any funding requests are made in time to give families the opportunity to spread the cost and the school always tries to keep costs to an absolute minimum. Parents experiencing difficulties in finding the voluntary contribution are welcome to contact the Headteacher for advice. The governing body can make remission in some circumstances.

Sport

There is a strong interest in sport at Wick. Children are encouraged to represent the school, both locally and further afield. The school holds an annual Sports' Day. All the children take part in this and families are invited to attend. Children are encouraged to share their achievements from outside school and these are celebrated weekly in our 'We Are Proud' worship.

Music

Music plays an important part in the life of the school. All children have access to the development of music skills and knowledge through the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience. In addition, children have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument via either Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Music Service or the Glamorgan Music School. Peripatetic teachers visit the school weekly. Parents receive information regarding the current charging policies for peripatetic music tuition directly from the providers.

Health and Safety

Road and Personal Safety



If you need to bring your child to school in a car please take care to park your car safely and legally. Parking near the school entrance, school bus stop and double parking on Church Street could cost a child's life. School staff walk the children catching the school buses to the appropriate bus at the end of the school day.



Children should leave the school grounds through the pedestrian gate. The car park gates are for traffic only. Only staff and official visitors to the school are allowed to bring cars into the school grounds; exceptions will be made for children or families who have difficulty with mobility. Those visiting the school during the day should enter via the pedestrian gate and follow the sign posted route to the school car park. Under no circumstances should visitors cut across the car parking area as vehicles are moving throughout the school day.

Children leaving school for dental or other appointments should be met at the school office by a responsible adult known to the school staff.

Premises



The school continues to be a secure place for our children. Visitors to the school are required to report the school office, sign in and wear a visitor's badge. A number of 'mag' locks throughout the school prevent unauthorised access into and through the building. The school has in place a system of regular fire risk assessments and safety drills. The governing body, alongside the Local Authority, reviews the safety of the premises.

Litter, dogs and a smoke free school



We are very proud of our school grounds and every effort is made to maintain them in an excellent condition. Our grounds are checked regularly for litter and the children are encouraged to recycle their waste in accordance with the regulations in Wales,. The school operates a strict no smoking policy, including vaping, on the school grounds, inside the school building and outside the school gates. Visitors to the school are informed and staff challenge non-compliance. Dogs are not allowed onto the school grounds unless they have a supportive role, such as guide dogs.

Sustainability

The school actively involves pupils recycling as much of our paper, plastic and card waste as possible. A clothing recycling bank is available in the school grounds. The school operates a 'New to You' uniform area where families can exchange uniform at no cost.

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher	Ceri Thomas
Deputy Headteacher	Alex Payne
Teaching Staff	Ellen Davies Nic Lyndon-Jones Rhys Llewelyn Ffion Morgan Bec Morris Rob Ward
Nursery Lead Practitioner	Julie Bugler (HLTA)
Learning Support Assistants	Julie Bugler (HLTA) Sally Colley Sara Edwards Ceinwen Harris (HLTA) Hannah Palmer
Learning Support Assistants (agency linked to grant spending)	Hannah Dymond Jackie James Hazel Pemberthy
Administrators	Maija Evans (alternate Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesday) Lisa Hewitt (alternate Mondays, Thursday and Friday)
Breakfast Club Supervisors	Nicki Cusworth (senior supervisor) Nicola Care
Mid-day Supervisor	Fiona Wherry
Caretaker	Andrew Smith
School Cleaning	The Vale of Glamorgan Cleaning Services
School Catering	The Big Fresh Catering Company

Our Governors

The governing body has responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and by policies of the Local Authority and Church in Wales. The internal management of the school is the responsibility of the Headteacher. The governing body meets at least twice a term. In addition, our committees meet regularly to review the various areas of the life and work of the school. They report to the full governing body for formal ratification of proposals. The minutes of governing body meetings are available from the Headteacher, on request. Governors are required by law to publish an Annual Report to Parents which is distributed to all parents in the autumn term and focuses on the previous academic year.

The current membership of the governing body is outlined below:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type of Governor</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>
Mai Alassi	Foundation Governor	March 2029
Rev Canon Edwin Counsell	Foundation Governor: Rector	Ex Officio
TBA September 2025	Foundation Governor	September 2029
TBA September 2025	Foundation Governor	September 2029
Stuart King	Foundation Governor	January 2028
Sam Newton	Foundation Governor (Chair)	May 2029
Father Craig Vaughan	Foundation Governor	September 2026
Richard Hann	Foundation Governor: appointed by the PCC	September 2027
Leanne Jones	Parent Governor	September 2028
Marc Baker	Minor Authority Representative	September 2028
Janet Hayward	LA Governor	January 2028
Ellen Davies	Teacher Governor	September 2026
Lisa Heweit	Staff Governor	January 2028
Ceri Thomas	Headteacher	n/a
Clerk to the governors: Nicki Sturgess Nicki can be contacted via the school.		

The governing body supports the principle that the school's policy for dealing with complaints 'is a way of ensuring that anyone with an interest in the school can raise a concern, with confidence that it will be heard and if well founded, addressed in an appropriate and timely fashion'. A complaint relates to the school, its provision of services or facilities. There are other statutory processes for complaints and appeals relating to the curriculum, Additional Learning Needs, worship, admissions, exclusions, teacher capability and staff discipline. Anonymous complaints will be disregarded, unless the complaint includes allegations of criminal conduct or if it concerns a child protection matter. A full copy of the complaints procedure is available on the school web site.



Assessment

Most of the assessment undertaken by staff at the school is of an ongoing nature and based on daily observations, discussions and feedback between staff and children. It is important that children understand how well they are doing and what their next steps in learning will look like.

Pupils' progress throughout their time in school is tracked using detailed tracking systems, and staff use this to identify appropriate learning opportunities for their classes.

The school administers the Welsh Government online personalised assessments in reading and numeracy to years 2 - 6 twice during the school year. These assessments are used to plan programmes of learning. The results are shared with families via the Hwb platform.

Learners in reception to year 2 are screened termly using Read, Write Inc. The school administers spelling and reading tests to all pupils in years 1 – 6 termly.

Pupils who undertake specific, individualised learning programmes are screened more regularly.

Families have opportunities to meet with staff throughout the school year both in the scheduled parent, learner review meetings and through our open door policy.

Pupils are encouraged to talk about their learning; identifying what they can do well and where they need to improve. These reflections are shared both in the parent learner review meetings and via the annual report to families.

For those children with additional learning needs, specific targets are set on Individual Development Plans.

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Term	Begin	Half term		End
		Begin	End	
Autumn 2025	Monday 01 Sept 2025	Monday 27 Oct 2025	Friday 31 Oct 2025	Friday 19 Dec 2025
Spring 2026	Monday 05 Jan 2026	Monday 16 Feb 2026	Friday 20 Feb 2026	Friday 27 Mar 2026
Summer 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Monday 25 May 2026	Friday 29 May 2026	Monday 20 July 2026

The following INSET days have been determined for 2025/2026. Welsh Government have allocated an additional day for the 2025/26 academic year. Families will be notified of this date as soon as possible.

Tuesday 2nd September

Friday 28th November

Monday 23rd February

Monday 20th July

There are two further INSET days to be confirmed.

All schools will be closed on Monday 4th May for the Bank Holiday.



Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary School
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Schoop: 28308 Blue Sky: [@wickmarcross.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/wickmarcross.bsky.social)