

## **Welsh-medium Education FAQs**

### **Who can attend Welsh-medium education?**

Welsh-medium education is available for everyone and children in Newport have the opportunity to learn both Welsh and English.

### **What is Welsh-medium education?**

The children in our Welsh-medium schools are able to speak both Welsh and English, and study both languages. Welsh-medium education enables children to become fully fluent in both English and Welsh while teaching all the other subjects across the curriculum. Welsh is the official language of formal and informal activities in Welsh-medium schools. All teaching and assessment, except English as a subject, is in Welsh at all key stages. The aim is to make sure children can speak, read and write in both Welsh and English, reaching the expected levels of attainment across the whole curriculum.

### **What do I do if I want to find out about Welsh Medium preschool provision?**

You can search for Care Inspectorate Wales registered Welsh Medium Childcare [here](#) or alternatively email [family.information@newport.gov.uk](mailto:family.information@newport.gov.uk) who will help you to locate your nearest Cylch Meithrin or Cylch Ti a fi.

### **Where are the Welsh-medium schools in Newport and which one is my catchment school?**

We have four Welsh-medium primary schools here in Newport - all with an attached nursery unit. Three of these schools operate from established locations in Brynglas, Ringland and Bettws; our fourth school opened in September 2021 and is temporarily located in Caerleon, but will moving to a permanent home in Pillgwenlly in September 2024. Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed, our first Welsh-medium secondary school, opened in September 2016 and from September 2022 will accommodate pupils from across Year 7 to Year 13.

You can find out your catchment school [here](#). (Your catchment school is not automatically your nearest school)

### **What if I'm not a Welsh speaker?**

This is very common – over 95% of parents of children in Newport's Welsh-medium schools do not speak Welsh themselves, and our schools support this by providing all information bilingually. In fact, there are many organisations that can support you and your child through your journey.

## **How can I help my child with homework if I don't speak Welsh?**

Our Welsh-medium schools are very experienced in supporting both pupils and parents with homework.

For younger pupils, homework instructions will be given in writing in both English and Welsh. As the children progress through school, children will be able to explain their work to their parents themselves.

There are many opportunities that you can access to help you support your child with their homework.

## **How do I apply for a Welsh-medium school?**

Applications for admission to Welsh-medium schools are successful wherever possible. You can elect to transfer their child from one school to another at any stage of their education, and this includes transferring them from an English-medium school to a Welsh-medium school.

Applications must be made via the Council's School Admissions Team and in accordance with the School Admissions Policy. Further information can be found on the [school admissions page](#).

## **My child has started school in an English-medium school – can I move them to a Welsh-medium school?**

If you want to move your child from an English-medium school to a Welsh-medium school, the School Admissions Team will advise you to contact the Headteacher of the relevant school in order to be able to assess any immersion support needs. They will also contact the relevant Headteacher to advise them that an application has been received and is pending. Once you confirm that you wish to proceed, processing progresses as normal, and a placement offered at what will become the "host" school.

## **What is "immersion"?**

Some families choose Welsh-medium education for their children later in their school lives, and we are here to help so that these children's language skills are similar to other children of their age. We offer this through dedicated [immersion](#) provision available in both the primary and secondary sectors.

We currently host a Welsh-medium primary immersion unit at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnion, supporting all primary aged pupils preparing for Welsh-medium education from Year 1 to Year 6. Support for secondary age pupils is available directly through Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed.

## **What about transport?**

The Council's Home to School Transport policy provides free transport to those primary aged pupils who live two miles or more from their catchment or nearest available school, and those secondary aged pupils who live three miles or more from their catchment or nearest available school. Further information can be found [here](#).