

Thornwell Primary School & Nursery Unit



School Development Plan Summary for Parents

At Thornwell Primary School, our School Development Plan sets out our shared priorities for improving learning, teaching and wellbeing over the next three years. It is shaped by our school vision and is designed to help every child thrive.

Our context

At Thornwell Primary School we currently have 268 children from 3 to 11 years old, including our nursery pupils. We are proud of our inclusive, caring ethos and the strong partnerships we have with families, staff, governors and the wider community. The current three rolling average of pupil entitlement for free school meals is 22.5%. The school identifies 17.5% of its learners as having additional learning needs and 4% are supported with Individual Development Plan.

Our Vision

Our vision is for Thornwell to be a safe place where success follows happiness. A place that children love attending because learning is challenging, modern and fun. The school will welcome and nurture everyone, with equity and without prejudice. At Thornwell, children will learn about their place within Wales and the world, and the importance of their role in looking after it.

We project priorities across three years with a detailed plan covering the current year. In 2025-26 we are determined to:

1. Maximise pupil progress in skills

We want all pupils to make excellent progress from their starting points. This means strengthening the teaching, application and progression of key skills across the curriculum, with a particular focus on:

- literacy
- numeracy
- digital skills
- independent learning

2. Improve self-evaluation and improvement planning

We aim to ensure that all leaders and stakeholders have a positive impact on pupil progress. This includes strengthening how we gather evidence, evaluate provision and plan improvement together.

3. Continue to improve the quality of teaching and learning

We are committed to ensuring that all teachers share a common understanding of excellent teaching. This includes developing:

- effective learning environments
- clear learning objectives and success criteria
- purposeful professional learning
- strong use of assessment to support progress

What this means for pupils

Through these priorities, Thornwell will continue to:

- support high standards and strong progress
- provide a broad, engaging curriculum
- develop Welsh language, culture and global citizenship
- promote wellbeing, inclusion and safeguarding
- work in partnership with families and the wider school community

Working together

Our improvement plan is a collaborative document, developed with staff, governors, pupils, parents and external partners. It helps us stay focused on what matters most: ensuring every child at Thornwell has the support, opportunities and challenge they need to succeed.