

Let's get started



A new curriculum in Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



A guide for children, young
people and families

Let's get started

The world is changing. There are lots of new challenges that will need new technology and new ideas. The Welsh Government wants you to have the knowledge, skills and experiences you'll need to succeed.

So the curriculum in your school is changing.

Curriculum isn't just about what you learn. It's also about how you learn and the reasons why you learn.



Your school's new curriculum will be a journey of knowledge, skills and experiences.

- **It's designed by teachers.**

They will plan the lessons and learning that will help you be ready for your future. They will work with other schools and have guidance which other teachers have written to help them.

- **It's built for all children.**

The new curriculum will support you through creative lessons that have real-life meaning. It will help you to reflect and think about what you've learnt and move forward.

- **It's made for a fast-changing world.**

The world is more connected so the subjects you learn will be more connected too. Knowledge is still really important, so the new curriculum will give you skills and opportunities to grow.

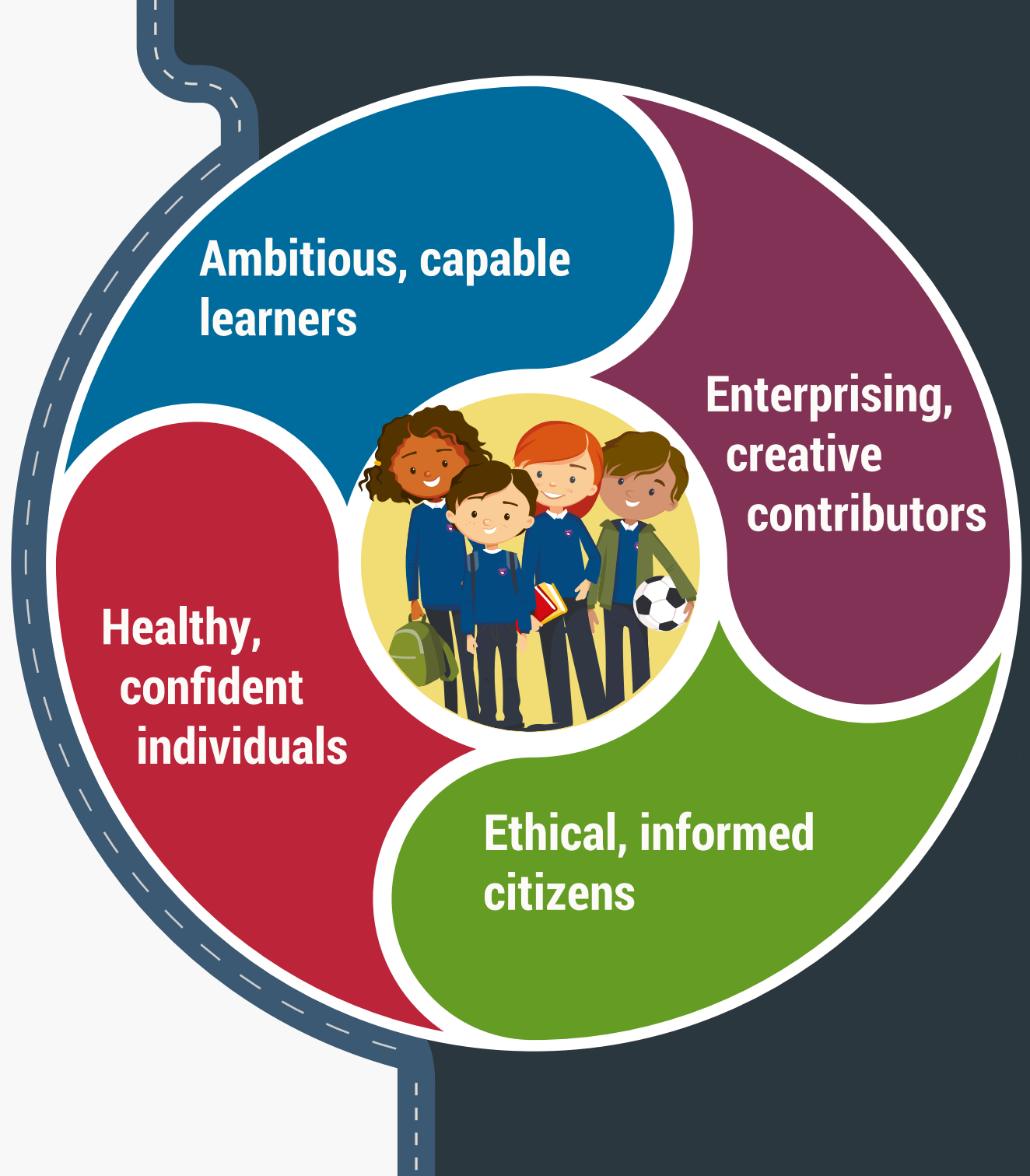
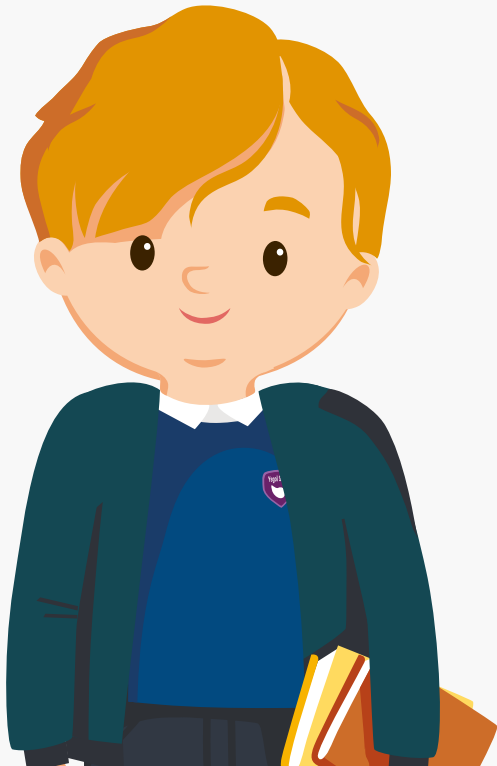
This leaflet tells you about what will change.

The four purposes

These four purposes will be the foundation of everything you learn.

All children and young people will get support to be:

- **ambitious, capable learners** who are ready to learn throughout their lives
- **enterprising, creative contributors** who are ready to play a full part in life and work
- **ethical, informed citizens** who are ready to take part in Wales and the world
- **healthy, confident individuals** who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.



Areas of learning and experience

The new curriculum is about helping you connect your learning.

As well as learning **literacy**, **numeracy** and **digital skills**, there will be six areas of learning and experience. You might not have lessons called these, but everything you learn will connect to these areas.

The curriculum your school develops should cover:

- human rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- diversity and respecting differences
- experiences and skills for careers and the workplace
- local, national and international aspects of all learning.

They must also teach you about relationships and sexuality education too.



Expressive Arts



Exploring the arts so you learn to use your knowledge, skills and imagination to create.

Learning to appreciate the arts and to reflect on your own work.

Health and Well-being



Learning about healthy eating and healthy relationships.

Learning to make good decisions and deal with influences.

Learning how to look after your mental health and emotional well-being.

Humanities



Exploring history, geography, politics, religions, businesses, cultures and societies in Wales and around the world.

Languages, Literacy and Communication



Learning about languages.

Understanding and using Welsh, English and other international languages.

Understanding and creating literature.

Mathematics and Numeracy



Understanding numbers.

Using symbols in maths.

Exploring shapes and measurement.

Learning about statistics and probability.

Science and Technology



Understanding the importance of science and technology.

Learning about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy, and how computers work.

Important life skills



As well as literacy, numeracy and digital competence, the new curriculum will have more opportunities for you to learn skills.



Creativity and innovation skills

You will have opportunities to explore, communicate, create plans and find solutions.



Critical thinking and problem-solving skills

You will have opportunities to ask questions, look at the evidence, make decisions and solve problems.



Personal effectiveness

You will learn to make the most of your time and talents. You'll get support to grow in confidence, become aware of different social, cultural and ethical views and learn from your mistakes.



Planning and organising skills

You will learn to manage your time, set goals, make decisions and check your work.

What Matters

We want to make sure that your learning focuses on things that matter for you now and in your adult life.

Each area of learning and experience has **Statements of what matters in learning**. They help you think about what you're learning. They help you see how topics link to each other, to work and to life.

Statements of what matters can help you join up the dots. As your learning grows, you will link your learning together more.

An example of how it works

In the **Expressive Arts** area of learning and experience, one of the **Statements of what matters** is:

'Engagement in the arts helps nurture and grow your creativity.'

As you progress and think about your learning, you'll have different experiences:

I can understand Welsh literature and can use what I hear, read and view to help create my own work.

By exploring different forms of communication in the arts I am developing my sense of self.

I can create using different materials.



Moving forward

The new curriculum is a journey – building your knowledge, skills and experiences.

There may be times when you:

- move forward quickly
- slow down to make sure you understand a topic
- take a detour because you discover something that interests you.

Moving forward isn't always linked to your age. It won't happen in the same way, at the same time for everyone.

You will move forward as:

- your knowledge increases
- your understanding of things gets deeper
- your communication skills grow
- your skills improve.

Assessment

Assessment will be built into your school's curriculum and will be part of your everyday learning experience.

You'll be working with your teachers to understand how well you're moving forward. This is important to:

- help you see where you are in your learning
- help you plan your next learning steps
- spot any issues or extra support you need
- find ways to stretch or challenge you to learn more
- help teachers see how well their class is doing.



Getting ready

It's exciting to have a new curriculum for Wales. The next step is to see it come to life in schools. Don't worry, schools and teachers will start changing what they teach and how they teach before this. They will already be preparing for their new curriculum.

The new curriculum will start in September 2022. As you get older, it will grow with you.

Old curriculum New curriculum

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Year 11	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	New curriculum
Year 10	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum
Year 9	Old curriculum	Old curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum
Year 8	Old curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum
Year 7 and all Primary	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum	New curriculum

How to get involved

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) says you have a right to be involved and have a say in decisions that affect your life. So, we want to know what you think about what you learn, how you learn and where you learn it.

There will be opportunities for you, your parents and your local community to get involved in developing your school's curriculum. Everyone working together will help you get the best education and prepare you for your future.



Thanks for reading this

If you want to know more about the new curriculum, go to:

gov.wales/education-changing

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-  [educationwales](https://www.facebook.com/educationwales)
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