



Y STRADE ACCESS AND TRANSITION POLICY

Introduction

Our main aim is to ensure that Year 6 pupils transfer from primary school to Ysgol Y Strade happily and successfully, settling smoothly into Year 7 from the outset so that they can fully engage with the educational and social experiences offered to them. The purpose of the transition policy is to outline the principles and arrangements planned and implemented jointly with the primary schools to achieve this goal effectively. This means we plan to ensure continuity and progression in terms of curriculum, skills, and standards, as well as in the pastoral care provided to the pupils.

Objectives

- Get to know the Year 6 pupils well before they arrive at Ysgol Y Strade.
- Provide opportunities for pupils and their parents to get to know the secondary school and become familiar with its policies.
- Aim to ensure mutual understanding regarding the expectations and standards of the secondary school and the home-school partnership the secondary school wishes to establish with parents for the benefit of each pupil's progress and success.
- Provide opportunities for pupils and their parents to meet the class teacher, Head of Year, and other relevant staff before the pupil starts at Ysgol Y Strade.
- Explain the importance of the Contact Book as a link between the school and parents and refer to the Home-School Agreement.
- Ensure close links between primary school teachers and Ysgol Y Strade teachers.
- Identify any special educational needs pupils may have, as well as gifted and talented pupils, to ensure appropriate provision is prepared for them at Ysgol Y Strade, in accordance with the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021.
- Identify any behavioural/emotional issues pupils may have.



Primary/Secondary Link

There is a very close relationship between Ysgol Y Strade and the family of feeder primary schools: Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel, Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant, Ysgol Iau Llangennech, Ysgol Ffwrnes, Ysgol Gymraeg Parc y Tywyn, Ysgol Y Felin, Ysgol Trimsaran, Ysgol Pum Heol, Ysgol Yr Hendy, Ysgol Gwenllian. Occasionally, pupils come from other schools outside the usual catchment area.

Pupils Outside the Strade Catchment

The catchment areas of three Welsh-medium secondary schools' border Ysgol Y Strade's catchment – Ysgol Bro Myrddin, Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth, and Ysgol Gwyr. Some pupils from these areas attend Ysgol Y Strade depending on which primary schools they attended.

Strade Family Meetings

Strade Family meetings are held once every half term, involving the heads/teachers of the catchment primary schools, the Deputy Head of Strade, the transition coordinator, and the cluster leader representing the county. Discussions cover curriculum matters, assessment arrangements, transition information and materials, as well as annual development plans and funding.

There are many curriculum links, mainly with the Core departments, where subject representatives from the primary schools come together to discuss and plan. As a result of developments in formative assessment and pupil profiles, this link is key to the success of the transition process.

Recently, meetings have evolved to include Literacy and Numeracy leaders from the family schools as well as Year 6 teachers from the primary schools.

Transition Arrangement

The Transition Coordinator is responsible for coordinating and developing the entire process of transitioning and transferring Year 6 pupils from primary schools to Ysgol Strade.

These arrangements include the following activities:

- Organising a 'Y Strade ar waith' evening for prospective parents and Year 5 and 6 pupils before the Autumn half-term.
- Visiting every Year 6 class during the year to conduct icebreaker sessions to get to know the children.
- Arranging visits to Strade during the year for Year 6 pupils to give them a taste of the school's atmosphere and the type of work done there, e.g., Oh la la Day (Foreign Language fun), mini marathon challenge, a day of following lessons, and visits as individual schools.
- Organising a New Parents and Pupils Evening at Ysgol Strade – an opportunity to meet the class teacher and Head of Year 7 and receive an information pack about the school's expectations.
- The transition coordinator and the ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) will discuss with Year 6 teachers and collect attainment data and information about pupils' needs and backgrounds, including information about able and talented pupils; gather information about friendship groups and any wellbeing/behavioural issues that should be considered when placing pupils in classes. This data will be compiled into a comprehensive information pack to be presented to Y Strade staff at the start of September.

Additional Learning Needs



The role of the Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) is also crucial in developing the connection and transition process. The ALNCo will:

- Visit every primary school during the year.
- Discuss pupils' additional learning needs with Year 5/6 teachers and the primary schools' ALNCo's.
- Collect information and official reports from the Psychological Service and other appropriate agencies.
- Create a Year 7 ALN Register based on the gathered information and transfer it to Heads of Department and staff at Ysgol Y Strade. The ALN Register includes information on additional educational needs, special emotional and behavioral needs, and needs of able and talented pupils.
- Lead ALNCo meetings each term.

Transfer Documents

A range of relevant documents and data are transferred from the primary schools to Ysgol Strade (such as academic information; standardised reading and numeracy test data; background details and interests/strengths and ALN/able and talented).

INSET

Joint INSET days are occasionally arranged with the Primary Schools or INSET is arranged on the same theme in line with the focus of Family plans.

Sharing Resources

An open invitation is extended to Primary Schools to use the resources and facilities of Ysgol Strade, and this is done occasionally.

Revised:	20/10/25 (Adam Powell)
Accepted by the governing body:	November 2025
Chair of Governors signature:	



