



INVESTORS
IN FAMILIES

JMC House
c/o 89 Park Street
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP20 1DU

Ysgol Ty Fynnon

Investors in Families: Re-Accreditation Visit 14th February 2022

Ysgol Ty Fynnon was initially assessed on 16th July 2019 and a re-accreditation visit was held in school on 14th February 2022. The afternoon was a positive celebration of the quality family and community work that is evident and visible across the School. Evidence was produced to a wonderful standard and the school evaluation documents were detailed, in depth and evidence based. It was a pleasure to review the range of activities and evidence which was creative and inspiring. It is clear that Ysgol Ty Fynnon are continuously developing and one major strength is that they have sustained engagement over time. Throughout the Pandemic and subsequent return to school, Ysgol Ty Fynnon have continued to maintain strong links with their school community and have adapted their practices. The assessor was extremely pleased to award the school the Investors in Families:

AMETHYST STANDARD

It is evident that Ysgol Ty Fynnon have a very proactive, supportive and motivational Leadership team. They understand the needs of their community and the importance of Family and Community Engagement. This is fed to a committed staff team who are described as 'going above and beyond'. Throughout all activities there is a clear 'whole school approach' and opportunities are offered throughout the whole school.

There is real understanding of their wider community and challenges associated with varying needs. The range of opportunities to children, young people and families is incredible – providing learning and experiences that some of the families would never have been able to access. The impact of these experiences and learning opportunities is evident and it has brought about real change. The Duets Scholarship Programme is a shining example of this. Children have been given the opportunity to participate and engage with dance. Going to a Theatre and watching a live performance, taking part in Ballet and committing to a 2 year programme is wonderful. One parent stated "it is wonderful to see our son be confident, it has made a difference to his confidence outside school". I am so pleased that you are undertaking your 2nd scholarship scheme and that you have children from the original group who are now ambassadors. Another example is Only Kids Allowed Choir. This is an excellent opportunity to take part in music workshops, learn new skills and have fun with their peers. Congratulations to the four children who were selected to join the choir, what an achievement.



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Ysgol Ty Fynnon have placed a huge emphasis on health and wellbeing which the whole school are invested and value the importance and outcomes impact. There is a commitment to constantly develop practices to make a real and relevant difference which is inspiring to see. Ysgol Ty Fynnon use Jigsaw which is a mindful approach to Health and Wellbeing. It is an integrated scheme of learning, for personal, social and health education, with particular emphasis on emotional literacy, mental health, social, moral, cultural and spiritual development. This links in with KiVa which is an antibullying program that the school have recently started to implement and measure.

Nurture classes are also run within school from Reception to year 4 which are designed to help children develop vital social skills, develop confidence and self respect and to take pride in behaving well and achieving. We thought the Reception and Year 6 Buddy scheme is a wonderful idea. Each child in Reception is paired with a year 6 Buddy who engages in reading and craft sessions, supports them on the playground, breakfast club, school trips etc. This is such a simple yet powerful way to develop social skills, kindness, empathy and builds positive relationships. Further interventions/tools such as Pyramid Club, Social Communication, Transition tool box, Have you filled a bucket today, all highlight the inclusive nurturing and caring ethos of the school. It is also wonderful to hear how staff's wellbeing is also a high priority and the Wellbeing Lead has arranged numerous activities for staff including walk and talk Wednesday's, Christmas craft sessions, cake and coffee, raffles, and Teaching Assistant day to name a few - brilliant! The emotional and social needs of children, families and staff are of high importance .

The Daily Mile Links wellbeing and health. Ysgol Ty Fynnon have been completing the Daily Mile for some time, and can now utilise it at all times of the year due to the new all weather path. We love the fact the Eco Council send out a questionnaire to gather the children's opinions on the importance of the Daily Mile. Really positive activity with many benefits. The school have a strong partnership with Dragon Sports and are always trying to introduce a variety of new play, leisure and sporting activities. These include Tae Kwon Do, Rugby and Skateboarding, Hockey sessions, Disney Football and NFL Football. We are very impressed with the range of options available and that pupil voice is used to inform future planning.

The school council are very active within school and have a clear and strong pupil voice. They meet up every 2/3 weeks and have been discussing ways to support the local community and provided food parcels to their neighbours who live in sheltered accommodation. Staff and children from the school council used donations from staff , Morrisons and collections. The parcels were very well received and the children felt very proud that they had made so many people happy. Some of the residents delivered thank you cards to school.



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This heartfelt activity was repeated at Christmas with Mince Pies and Chocolate and they have also decided to continue this at Easter. The School Council have also arranged whole school events to support local and national charities. Recently the School council have organised events and raised money for the following charities – Jeans for Genes, Macmillan Cancer Support, Children in Need, Save the Children and Nightingale House. Families, children, staff and the wider community have all been brought together in these great causes. Huge well done.

Ysgol Ty Fynnon are also committed to growing and developing as a whole school. They are a Platinum Eco School and have achieved the highest award. A new Eco-Committee was established across the school in September. They have two Eco-Committee members from each class from Year 1 – Year 6. They meet up every 3 weeks and have a clear voice within the school. They play a vital role in shaping and planning current and future Eco and outdoor activities. One of the main events organised by the Eco-Committee last year was an outdoor learning week. During this week the children and staff took part in a range of outdoor and eco activities that included weeding and tidying the nature areas and planters, planting seeds, painting outdoor furniture and making bug hotels and bird feeders. Another fantastic idea was to look at reducing plastic bottles within school. They were awarded a local community grant and used this to provide reusable water bottles for the children to use in school. All children from Reception to Year 6 have their own reusable water bottle which is a huge achievement.

The first Investors in Families Accreditation visit highlighted the positive partnerships made with children and families from the start of school life. This has continued over the last 3 years and has been adapted due to the pandemic. Although Family Learning sessions were put on hold, the Family Engagement Team have still kept those important relationships and offered vital support and have started to reengage and plan future sessions. We would like to highlight that Family Learning is a particular strength of Ysgol Ty Fynnon. This has been sustained over many years and continues to offer new and innovation ideas as well and the continuation of activities that have proven to be successful.

It was a pleasure to talk to staff and children, many congratulations to the staff who worked so tirelessly to achieve the accreditation – with a special thanks to Bethan for her commitment and positivity.

Congratulations!

Lynsey Woodhouse

Director, Investors in Families