menter iaith
Castell-nedd Port Talbot

Useful Information about the Welsh Language for Families

MENTRAU IAITH

CYMRAEG

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Purpose

The aim of this booklet is to offer useful information to parents about the Welsh language.

Is includes information about:

- The background of Mentrau Iaith Cymru and the Menter Iaith in Neath Port Talbot
- The benefits of Welsh medium education
- Support available to parents
- Answers to some frequently asked questions.

If you'd like more information about anything included in this booklet, please get in touch.





@micnpt
@MenterIaithCNPT
Menteriaithcnpt

01639 763819

menter@micnpt.cymru

Mentrau Iaith Cymru

MENTRAU IAITH

Mentrau iaith Cymru (MIC) is a National Organisation which supports the work of **22 local Mentrau Iaith** across Wales. The work of each Menter Iaith is managed by voluntary management committees and each Menter works with a variety of other partnership organisations locally.

Mentrau Iaith's aim is to promote and encourage the Welsh Language in every part of Wales.



Beth yw Menter Iaith?
What's a Menter Iaith?



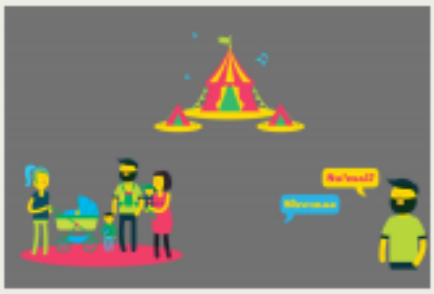
There are 22 Welsh language enterprises working in Wales



supporting over 160,000 people of all ages



to increase and strengthen the use of Welsh in our communities.



Organising festivals, childcare, language sessions and more -



Menter Iaith is a one-stop-shop for the language,



helping us live, learn and enjoy in Welsh



Mentrau Iaith is for everyone.

MENTRAU IAITH
MENTRAUIAITH.CYMRU

To find out more go to **mentrauiaith.cymru**

CYMRAEG

menter iaith
Castell-nedd Port Talbot

MICNPT was established in April 2002. Since then MICNPT has developed a large number of activities and projects to promote the Welsh language in Neath-Port Talbot.

MICNPT work with families, children and young people, communities, and with a variety of different organisations.

Our aim is to encourage and promote the use of Welsh within the county and to give opportunities to the residents to use, learn, hear and enjoy through the medium of Welsh.

For more information about our work, go to our website, or contact us.

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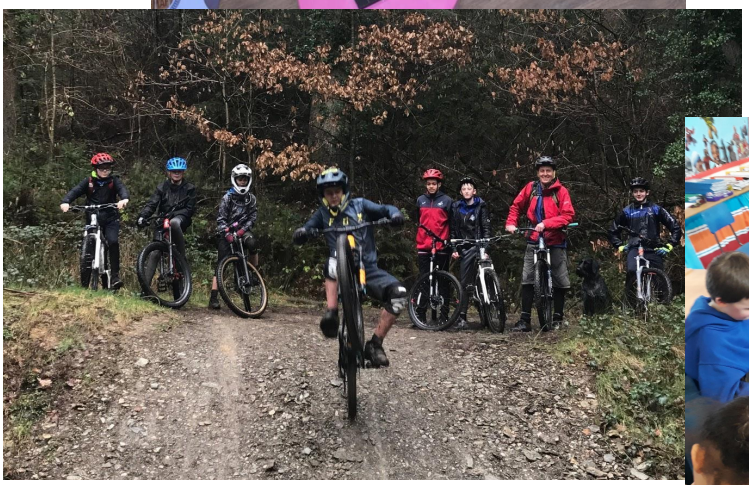














Welsh Medium Education

Whatever language you speak at home, Welsh-medium education can give children additional skills and more opportunities for the future.

So even if you don't speak Welsh yourself, why not consider Welsh-medium education for your child?

Primary School

There are close to 450 Welsh-medium primary schools in Wales – 10 in Neath Port Talbot.

Welsh-medium education is offered in every county in Wales. Welsh is the main language of the classroom and the schoolyard in these schools. Your child will study and socialise in Welsh.

Don't worry if you don't speak the language there is plenty of support to help with schoolwork. You will find support and learn about other people's experiences on **cymraeg.llyw.cymru**.

Go to **mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk** to find schools in Neath Port Talbot. My Local School makes it easier for parents to see information about the different school

There is also information about Welsh medium schools on Menter Iaith CNPT **website**.

Why Welsh Education?

Bilingualism means being able to live your everyday life using two languages.

Welsh medium education has a very simple aim, to enable children to become fully fluent in both English and Welsh while teaching all other subjects across the curriculum.

Young children learn languages remarkably easily – it's by making the most of this potential that Welsh medium education has become so popular.

The Welsh Government has also committed to developing a bilinual Wales through its Welsh-language strategy 'Cymraeg 2050' with a vision for reaching a million Welsh speakers by 2050. There is more demand than ever before for bilingual skills in a variety of fields such as health, education, leisure, childcare, retail and public services.

Here are some of the advantages of bilingualism:

- Speaking two languages increases opportunities for your child to socialise.
- Two languages opens the door to two cultures.
- Speaking two languages helps you learn other languages.
- There is an increased demand for the Welsh language in the workplace, and it could lead to more pay.
- Research shows that people who speak two languages can think flexibly and with more creativity.
- The Wellsh language is an additional skill.
- Children tend to perform better in school.
- Bilingual children tend to be very good at analysing data and multitasking.

In addition to these benefits, there are many that relate to culture and heritage, which is connected to our identity.

Culture and Heritage

- The Welsh language is an essential part of our heritage. Speaking Welsh can bring people closer to their history, culture and the traditions of Wales. Language also makes it posible to learn sayings, music, poetry and literature that is celebrated and respected across the world.
- These cultural benefits can mean a strong personal identity which increases a feeling of belonging and self-worth.

"...I wanted her to have the choices I didn't"

Steven,
Father to Mia, 2

"I think a common concern is that we, as parents, will be unable to help our children with their homework, but with the support of the school, Mudiad Meithrin and lots of different websites this has not been a problem"

Louise,
Mother from Blaenau Gwent.

Concerns?

Although the benefits are obvious, there are still many concerns raised by parents regarding Welsh medium education. Here are some of those concerns along with some supporting comments.

"I can see the benefits, but I worry because I can't speak Welsh"

"I won't understand what's going on in a Welsh medium environment"

The majority of parents who send their children to Welsh medium schools don't speak Welsh. That's why schools communicate using Welsh and English.

The classroom environment will be Welsh (with the exception of English lessons of course!) but when parents, guardians and friends visit the school, bilingualism is the norm. This means that teachers and children will speak Welsh or English depending on who is involved in the conversation.

"I won't be able to help my child with their homework"

This is one of the most common concerns and teachers are completely aware of this. In the majority of cases, an English explanation will accompany any homework tasks to enable parents to help their children.

In addition, there is a lot of support available on child friendly websites, after all the homework is for the children and not for parents. If you have any concerns regarding homework, just ask.

"I don't want my childs English skills to suffer"

Children leaving Welsh medium primary schools are expected to reach the same standard of English as those in English medium primary schools

Bilingual children are more sensitive when communicating and are therefore fully aware of the needs of their listener, especially when switching from one language to another. This often means they are better at communicating in both languages.

"We're not Welsh – would it be strange for us to choose Welsh medium education?"

Not at all. You don't have to be Welsh to speak Welsh. Parents of children in Welsh-medium schools in Cardiff have come from all over the world. While some might consider themselves to be Welsh, others might not – the key point is that learning Welsh is open to all.

"What about education after they leave school?"

As pupils from Welsh-medoum schools are fully bilingual, they can choose to follow college and university courses in either language (or both!). Recently, the work of Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol (the national Welsh-medium college) has ensured that more and more university degrees are available (partially or completely) through the medium of Welsh.

There are also a growing number of Welsh medium courses available in Further Education.

"What opportunities are there to use Welsh outside the classroom?"

There are a number of organisations which provide opportunities for children and young people to use Welsh outside the classroom. The Wlesh language is a living, vibrant language which is being used across the county, in a variety of different situations. For more information, turn to the pages on organisations which can help, or contact Menter Iaith CNPT.

Welsh Education in NPT

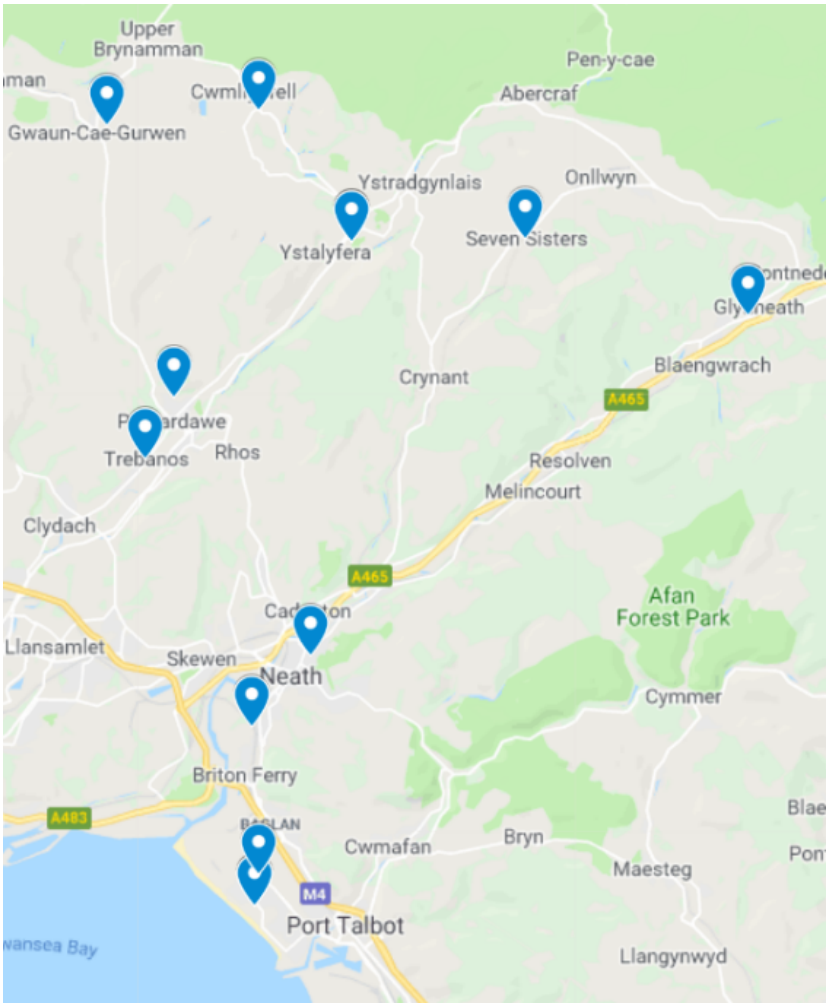
Here is a list of Welsh medium schools in our county.

Welsh Medium Primary Schools

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Blaendulais - **01639 700342**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Castell-nedd - **01639 637701**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwmllynfell - **01639 830630**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwmnedd - **01639 720530**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen- **01269 822238**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pontardawe - **01792 864004**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Rhosafan - **01639 896338**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Trebannws - **01792 864004**
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tyle'r Ynn - **01639 812229**
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera (Adran Gynradd) - **01639 846900**

Welsh Medium Secondary Schools

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur - **01639 502895**
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera (Uwchradd) - **01639 842129**



Welsh Resources

There are a variety of resources available for children through the medium of Welsh, if only you knew where to look!

There are several useful links in this booklet, or you can contact us on social media or by email for more information!

There will also be some resources available at some of our events, so don't forget to attend!

Resources – Apps

Use the website **cymraeg.llyw.cymru/apps** for a full list of Welsh language apps. Here are some examples:



Bys a Bawd

This app brings nursery rhymes to life.



Dewin a Doti

Mudiad Meithrin's unique characters get their own app!



Bábóg Baby

Thhis app can help teach your baby to speak Welsh.



Caneuon Cŵl

Sing along to these original songs with the Caneuon Cwl app.



Ap Amser Stori Cyw

It's story time for Cyw and her friends, download your choice of stories to create your personal bedtime library.



Cymraeg i'r Teulu

A Welsh learning course aimed at parents of small children.



Rapsgaliwn

Children's e-book 'O ble mae coed Nadolig yn Dod?' it's the second Rapsgaliwn e-book. Rapsgaliwn is the rapping TV character on S4C's children't service, Cyw who asks "Where to Christmas Treers Come From?"



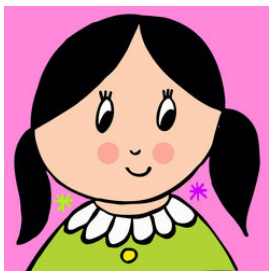
Siôn Corn yn Ffonio

This app by Menter Iaith Môn allows you to have a call from Sion Corn on your phone so he can leave a special Welsh message for your little ones.



Cyw a'r Wyddor

Try learning the Welsh alphabet with your child using this Cyw app by S4C.



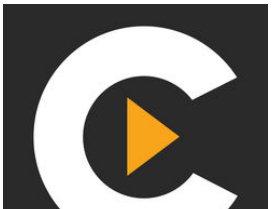
Llyfrau Bach Magi Ann

Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint present: a new app to help second-language pupuls who learn Welsh in the foundation phase to learn to read in Welsh.



Selog

A useful resouce for young children and Welsh learners.



Clic S4C

Download this app for free to watch your favourite programmes live or on demand and search S4C's programme schedule.



Mwnci Bach

Meet Mwnci Bach (Little Monkey), Cyw's new friend. He's a cheeky monkey, who will repeat everything you say in his funny voice.



Llawysgrifen

App to help children learn the alphabet and to practice their handwriting in Welsh.



Stwnsh

The Stwnsh app will allow you to enjoy all the fun of Stwnsh on the move! You can...take pictures, watch Stwnsh, message us and download our games.



Fy Ardal

This bilingual app by the Urdd youth movement allows you to search for Wels medium events for children, young people and familiries in your area.



Learn Cymraeg Mynediad

A Welsh language learning app for beginners aiming to give you the basis that you will need to start speaking Welsh.



Say Something in Welsh

Learn the Welsh language naturally, quickly and easily.

All these apps and more are available on the Welsh Government website.

Cymraeg i Blant

The Cymraeg for Kids programme offers practical support for you and your child to use Welsh. As well as offering help and advice on Welsh-medium education / childcare, Cymraeg for Kids staff across Wales offer fun, free activities through the medium of Welsh, including baby massage, baby yoga and story and song sessions.

You don't need to be able to speak Welsh to attend — there's a warm welcome for everybody, and the sessions will also help build your confidence to use Welsh with your child.

Use the website **cymraeg.llyw.cymru** to find a variety of Welsh language resources for children.

The resources include: **A Book of Songs**, **Colouring Pages**, **Learning the Alphabet**, **A Reward Chart** and a **Guide to Welsh Medium Education.**

Welsh Organisations

There are many organisations across Wales that give people, including children the opportunities to learn, socialise and to better their Welsh language skills.

- Welsh Government
- Mentrau Iaith
- Urdd
- Cymraeg for Kids
- Mudiad Meithrin
- Flying Start
- Local Council
- Local Schools
- Cymraeg for Adults

You can find more information and keep up to date with all Welsh language events from the above organisations on their websites and social media pages. Further on will be a useful contacts page with information for officers from the above organisations that work in Neath Port Talbot.

Useful Contact Details

Mentrau Iaith Cymru
Heledd Ap Gwynfor
Development Officer
heledd@mentrauiaith.cymru | 01239 71934

Mudiad Meithrin
Elin Davies
Support Officer Swansea and NPT
elin.davies@meithrin.cymru | 07483149561
Carole Williams
Setting Up and Moving Officer
carole.williams@meithrin.cymru | 07494491603

Cymraeg i Blant
Leanne Walker
Development Officer Swansea/NPT
leanne.walker@meithrin.cymru | 07958962770
Patsy Bracewell
Development Officer Swansea/NPT
patsy.bracewell@meithrin.cymru | 07988850832

Urdd Gorllewin Morgannwg

Nia Johns
Community Officer
niaeleri@urdd.org | 07500 607408

Urdd Brycheiniog a Maesyfed (De Powys)

Rhiannon Walker
Community Officer
rhiannonwalker@urdd.org | 07917270071

Chwaraeon yr Urdd

Jamie Price
Sports Development Officer
jamieprice@urdd.org | 07717782049

Family Information Service

fis@npt.gov.uk | 01639 873018

Flying Start

Lisa Clement-Jones
Early Years and Flying Start Manager NPT
l.clement-jones@npt.gov.uk | 01639 873026

Learn Welsh

academihywelteifi@abertawe.ac.uk | 01792 602070

Defnyddia rhain gyda dy blentyn.
Try these with your child.

Dyddiau'r wythnos
Days of the week

Monday – Dydd Llun
Tuesday – Dydd Mawrth
Wednesday – Dydd Mercher
Thursday – Dydd Iau
Friday – Dydd Gwener
Saturday – Dydd Sadwrn
Sunday – Dydd Sul

Anifeiliaid
Animals

Dog – Ci
Cat – Cath
Horse – Ceffyl
Pig – Mochyn
Sheep – Dafad

Tywydd
Weather

It's sunny – Mae'n heulog
It's raining – Mae'n bwrw glaw
It's windy – Mae'n wyntog
It's snowing – Mae'n bwrw eira
It's fine – Mae'n braf
It's hot – Mae'n boeth
It's cold – Mae'n oer

Geiriau a brawddegau defnyddiol
Useful words and phrases

School – Ysgol
Welcome – Croeso
Good Morning – Bore Da
Good Afternoon – Prynhawn Da
Good Night – Nos Da
Hello – Helo
Goodbye – Hwyl fawr
How are you? – Sut wyt ti? (North)
Shw'mae? (South)
Good – Da
Very good – Da iawn
Thank you – Diolch
Please – Os gwelwch yn dda
What's the time? – Faint o'r gloch yw hi?
O'clock – O'r gloch
(e.g. one o'clock = un o'r gloch)
Happy Birthday – Penblwydd Hapus

Lliwiau
Colours

Red – Coch
Orange – Oren
Yellow – Melyn
Green – Gwyrdd
Blue – Glas
Black – Du
White – Gwyn
Pink – Pinc

Rhifau
Numbers

1	Un
2	Dau
3	Tri
4	Pedwar
5	Pump
6	Chwech
7	Saith
8	Wyth
9	Naw
10	Deg

Sut wyt ti'n dweud...?
How do you say...?



Cytseiniaid
Consonants

c as in car
ch as in Bach, Loch
dd as in the
f as in vase
ff as in daffodil
g as in garden
ng as in gang, Kung Fu
ll to produce this sound, place tip of tongue against your upper palate and breathe out!
ph as in photograph
r as in row
rh sound the Welsh 'r' and breathe out!
th as in think



Llafariaid
Vowels

a as in car
e as in there
i as in tree
o as in pot
u as in been
w as in zoo
y can either be sound in pub or tin

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Cefnogaeth Bellach.
Further Support.

Beth am ddechrau gwneud pethau bychain nawr i helpu dy blentyn i ddysgu yn Gymraeg? Mae yna wefannau ac apiau ar gael i ti.

Why not start doing the little things today to help your child learn in Welsh? There are websites and apps out there to help you.

CYMRAEG

Y man cychwyn ar gyfer gwybodaeth a chyngor am addysg Gymraeg, yn ogystal â sut i Fyw, Dysgu a Mwynhau yn Gymraeg.
llyw.cymru/cymraeg

This should be your first stop for information and advice about Welsh-medium education, as well as how you can Live, Learn and Enjoy in Welsh.
gov.wales/cymraeg

CYMRAEG I Blant For Kids

Mae Cymraeg i Blant yn cynnig pob math o weithgareddau hwyliog i blant a'u teuluoedd, gan gynnwys sesiynau tylino babi, ioga babi, stori a chân, sesiynau magu hyder yn y Gymraeg a llawer mwy.

Cymraeg for Kids offers a wide range of fun activities for children and their families, including baby massage sessions, baby yoga, story and song sessions, story and rhyme time sessions, sessions to build confidence in using Welsh with your child and much more.
Cymraeg i Blant

mudiad meithrin

Mae Mudiad Meithrin yn trefnu Cylchoedd Ti a Fi ar gyfer babanod a Chylchoedd Meithrin ar gyfer plant o ddwy oed hyd at ysgol gynradd ar draws Cymru.

Mudiad Meithrin organises 'Ti a Fi' parent and toddlers group and offers nursery groups for children from two years old until primary schools across Wales.
meithrin.cymru

mae addysg yn dechrau **yn y cartref**
education begins **at home**

Mae ymgyrch Mae Addysg yn Dechrau yn y Cartref yn cynnig amrywiaeth o adnoddau ardderchog a llawer o awgrymiadau syml a chyngor i rieni a gofalwyr.
dechraucartref

Education Begins at Home offers a range of excellent resources and lots of simple tips and advice for parents and carers.
beginsathome

Cyw

Digon o gemau a rhaglenni i ddiddanu plant ifanc yn Gymraeg gan S4C – ar gael fel gwefan symudol, ap neu ar BBC iPlayer.

Plenty of games and programmes in Welsh for pre-school children by S4C – available as a mobile site, app or on BBC iPlayer.
s4c.cymru/cyw

Urdd

Os oes gen ti blant hŷn mae ap yr Urdd yn cynnig digon o syniadau o weithgareddau sydd ar gael yn dy ardal di yn Gymraeg.

If you have older children the Urdd's app offers plenty of ideas for activities in Welsh in your area.
urdd.cymru