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Our vision for the Cwm Rhondda Cluster

We shall make the Rhondda valley proud of Wales,
and Wales proud of the Rhondda valley.

The roots of yesterday stretch through the land,
stretching and feeding our long history,
creating a vibrant school community
belonging today, inclusive of us all.

We have the power in all of our hands today,
to create a better tomorrow



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An introduction to Cwricwlwm Cwm Rhondda

- During the past 4 years staff, learners, governors and parents have been working together to turn the vision of “Cwricwlwm Cwm Rhondda” into a reality.
- This presentation provides a brief insight into some of the learning experiences our pupils in Year 7 will have during the Autumn term in Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhondda.
- Each area of learning has developed their curriculum with the skills that are integral to developing the four purposes, whilst developing cross-curricular skills in literacy, numeracy, digital competence, relationships and sexuality education, human rights education, diversity and work-related experiences.
- By the summer of 2024, the school's assessment and reporting procedures will allow a clear understanding of pupil progression.



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Year 7 Curriculum Model

“Cwricwlwm Cwm Rhondda” is built on the 6 Area’s of Learning:

- Maths and Numeracy
- Language and Communication
- Science and Technology
- Humanities
- Creative Arts
- Health and Wellbeing



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Year 7 experiences in Numeracy and Maths

This term's work has been developed on the theme of '**Number and Algebra**'.

During the term pupils will experience:

- Solve problems related to Place Value, Fractions, Percentages and Decimals, The Four Operations and Money.
- Solving problems related to Algebraic Sequences, Symbols and Procedures and Solving Equations.
- Explore the history of famous Mathematicians, careers that depend on Mathematics and use Mathematics in a real-world context.



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Year 7 experiences in Language and Communication (Cymraeg)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of “**My square mile**”.

During the term, pupils will have opportunities to:

- Respond to oracy, reading and writing tasks.
- Develop their oracy skills by presenting information about themselves and their area.
- Develop their reading skills by reading a variety of reading pieces.
- Analyse reading pieces and literary techniques and learn how to compare their content.
- To write persuasively and creatively.



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Year 7 experiences in Language and Communication (English)

The first term's work is developed around the theme of “**Childhood**”. During the term, pupils will have opportunities to respond to oracy, reading and writing tasks. The subject's skills are developed through experiences of discussing and presenting information, personal and creative writing, and reading a variety of material. Pupils will learn to analyse what they have read, including writing about how writers create character.

During the term pupils will have the opportunity to:

- Develop their collaborative talking
- Use their presentational talk skills
- Read for understanding
- Read for analysis
- Present transactional writing
- Develop creative writing
- Enhance their knowledge of grammar and punctuation



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Year 7 experiences in Language and Communication (English)

In term 1, there will be specific opportunities to:

- Write in a range of forms, including the first person
- Familiarise themselves with verb tense
- Structure their writing appropriately to meet the demands of tasks
- Focus on mind-mapping development strategies for vocabulary and ideas
- Develop planning skills
- Talk about their own lives and experiences
- Develop their use of figurative language e.g. similes
- Read appropriate novels
- Discuss how characters are presented
- Analyse how words create meaning and effect
- Develop extended writing e.g. a story or an autobiography
- Talk about their local area
- Reflect on local facilities
- Discuss how writers persuade, persuasive language techniques



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Year 7 experiences in Language and Communication (German)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of **'All About Me'**.

During the first term, pupils will develop their confidence in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. They will begin to understand and use subject specific linguistic terminology to discuss their learning and investigate grammatical rules. They will recognise and be able to use the present tense to talk about themselves.

During the term pupils will experience:

- Challenging traditional and negative stereotypes of 'The Germans'.
- To begin to understand the differences and similarities between German and German speaking cultures and Wales.
- Developing strategies to understand the main points of what is being expressed.
- Developing strategies to express their own ideas so that they can be understood.
- Developing numeracy skills in German to change cardinal numbers to ordinal numbers.



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Year 7 experiences in Science and Technology (Science)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of **“The laboratory and safety”**.

In the first half term:

- Pupils will study the rules of the laboratory, safety symbols, equipment in the laboratory, the Bunsen burner, writing a scientific method, practise line graph skills.
- Pupils will be given a target against success criteria.
- Pupils will conduct an investigation into the temperature that water boils. They will design a method and table for the experiment and plot a line graph of the results.
- Pupils will be given a success criteria and assessed against the success criteria.
- They will be given a target and the opportunity to improve.



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Year 7 experiences in Science and Technology (Science)

In the second half term pupils will study the theme of “**Habitats and ecosystems**”.

During the second half term:

- Pupils will study biodiversity and studying ecosystems.
- Pupils will study the ecosystem in the school grounds.
- Pupils will study habitats and the adaptations of organisms to survive in this habitat including penguins, camels and polar bears. They will study how they compete to survive.
- There will be an end of topic test where pupils will get a percentage and targets against a success criterion. The pupils will practise questions in response to the feedback following the test.
- Pupils will practise the skills of fair testing and scientific predictions. pupils will next design a prediction and fair test for an experiment on how the size of the group of penguins affects body temperature.
- Pupils will learn how to produce food webs, food chains and food pyramids and describe how living things compete for specific resources and depend on each other for survival.



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Year 7 experiences in Science and Technology (Digital Technology)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of '**Interactive Quiz on Safety in the Laboratory and Workshop**'.

During the term pupils will plan and create an interactive game that develops an understanding of an area of work studied in Science or Design and Technology lessons.

The game may include:

- Pictures, Sound, Animations and Transitions;
- Buttons and Hyperlinks to websites to find out more information;
- Challenging questions that will lead learners to learn more about staying safe in a laboratory or workshop.



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Year 7 experiences in Science and Technology (Technology)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of **Habitats and Ecosystems**. Where students will research and design a bug hotel using reclaimed resources to help wildlife.

During the term pupils will experience:

- Pupils will work independently and within a team to problem solve.
- Pupils will collect primary and secondary research which will lead to design ideas.
- Develop 2D design ideas into 3D final drawing incorporating isometric skills.
- Pupils will proceed to create their final design through prototyping.
- Pupils will learn practical skills from using hand tools in the workshop – such as flat files, coping saws and power drill.
- The result will be a completed, wooden bug hotel created from scratch.



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Year 7 experiences in the Humanities

This term's work has been developed on the theme of **'The Olympic Games past and present'**.

During the term, pupils will learn about the history and development of the Olympic Games. Pupils will develop oral skills by responding to information and expressing opinions about the Olympic Games. Pupils will develop numeracy skills in analysing maps of the world. Pupils will learn about the history of Muhammad Ali and develop skills to consider the knowledge and judgment of certain historical events. Pupils will expand their reading skills by reading and researching about the religion of Islam and evaluate many different ethical standpoints. Pupils will delve into the history of Black Power and Apartheid in South Africa. In studying the history, they will delve into present-day South Africa, teaching about its geography. Pupils will develop their creative skills creating a pamphlet on the current Olympic Games creating an information sheet about South Africa as a country.



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Year 7 experiences in the Humanities

During the term pupils will experience:

- Practicing their map skills, e.g. directions of a compass
- Organising information about the Olympic Games
- Research into a series of religions, countries and historical genealogies.
- Develop reading skills whilst reading about Muhammad Ali, Black Power and Apartheid.
- Ability to analyse information to arrive at opinions.
- Create information sheets and creative pamphlets on Olympic-related topics.
- Identify different religions – similarities and differences of religions.
- Improve mapping skills by labelling different maps related to the work.



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Year 7 experiences in the creative arts (Art)

This term's work has been developed on the theme of “**Identity**”

During the term pupils will experience:

- Develop key creative skills.
- Explore colour theory.
- Learn how to correctly mix colour and tones.
- Build skills when making observational drawings to scale.
- Research and respond to the work of Matisse, Michael Craig Martin, and Keith Haring.



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Year 7 experiences in the creative arts (Music)

This first half-term's work has been developed on the theme of “**Polyrhythms**”.

During this half term, pupils will experience what polyrhythms are by listening to examples, performing within a class ensemble and composing their own polyrhythms.

The second half-term's work has been developed on the theme of “**Me, myself**”

During this term, pupils will experience using Chrome Music Lab to compose music that represents different emotions.



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Year 7 experiences in the creative arts (Drama)

This terms work has been developed on the theme of _____

During the term pupils will experience:



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Year 7 experiences in Health and Wellbeing

During the term pupils will experience:

Wellbeing lessons

- *Ideal images* - How society expects us to look, How has this changed over the years, - What does this cost - time and cost ·
- *How to appreciate ourselves*
- *Motivation*
- *Conflict management*

Physical education / fitness

- A variety of competitive activities - Hockey, Netball, Football, Rugby.
- Short term changes from exercise, physical and mental adaptations.



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How can you support your child's learning?

- Ask your child describe some of their learnt experiences during the day.
- Encourage your child to read regularly. The reading sources could be anything from novels to websites and apps.
- If your child has an interest in the news, take advantage of this to discuss local and national current affairs to further develop their knowledge and interest.
- When looking at household bills, discuss with them what the bill shows and the various options of how to pay. This is a valuable life skill.
- Try to relate some of the family's weekend activities to what they are learning at school at the time. It will help make learning more fun.
- Encourage your child to do the best they can with their homework and to complete it on time.