

Equity Grant Overview for Ysgol Cynfran

The Equity Grant (formerly known as the Pupil Development Grant, PDG) is used to enhance the educational outcomes of pupils from low-income backgrounds and those entitled to free school meals (eFSM). Our school is committed to implementing sustainable strategies that rapidly improve outcomes for these pupils.

Our Approach at Ysgol Cynfran

To align with best practices in Wales and beyond, Ysgol Cynfran is committed to:

1. Developing targeted interventions:
 - a. Providing specific support to improve the attainment of pupils from deprived backgrounds.
 - b. Regularly monitoring pupil progress and evaluating the impact of interventions.
2. Integrating our Equity Grant strategy into the School Development Plan:
 - a. Ensuring that our strategy is evidence-based and forms part of a whole-school approach.
3. Balancing whole-school and individual support:
 - a. Implementing strategies that benefit both individual pupils and the wider school community, so that every learner can achieve their potential.

Equity Grant Allocation for 2025-26

- Total Allocation: £ 58,544

(The total budget for this academic year.)

Strategies and Activities for 2025-26

1. Learning and Teaching

- Provide professional learning focused on Enabling Learning and scaffolding independence in all classes.
- Deliver targeted literacy and numeracy interventions for eFSM pupils, including systematic phonics and small-group tuition.
- Audit and adapt learning environments to promote pupil choice, access to resources and independent learning.

2. Community-Focused Initiatives

- Establish pupil voice groups (e.g., Senedd-style groups) to strengthen belonging, engagement and decision-making.
- Partner with families to address attendance and engagement barriers via enhanced communication and family-learning opportunities.
- Provide nurture and wellbeing support for pupils with persistent absence or low engagement.

3. Wider Strategies for Well-being, Leadership and Raising Aspirations

- Develop staff learning partners and coaching to embed professional learning linked directly to SDP priorities.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of professional learning on classroom practice and pupil outcomes to ensure measurable improvement.

Budgeted Costs (2025-26):

- Learning and Teaching: £ 40,000

- Community-Focused Initiatives: £ 10,000
- Wider Strategies: £ 8,544

Outcomes from 2024-25

- SALT training for staff and TAs supporting pupils with ALN – staff are more confident; pupils showed improved communication and engagement.
- Teaching assistants working specifically with FSM pupils – measurable progress in literacy and numeracy; increased confidence and engagement among disadvantaged learners.
- ELSA and TIS sessions to support pupils' emotional wellbeing – targeted pupils demonstrated improved emotional regulation and wellbeing.

Externally Provided Programmes

Programme: Monster Phonics — Provider: Monster Phonics Ltd