



# Heron's Bridge School

Ewenny Road, Bridgend. CF31 3HT

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Headteacher: Mr J Evans

## HERONSBRIDGE SCHOOL

Ewenny Road, Bridgend CF31 3HT

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### Development Grant (PDG) & PDG Early Years 2023-24

The Pupil Development Grant (PDG) is allocated to schools with pupils who come from low-income families and are currently known to be eligible for free school meals (e-FSM). There is also a PDG Early Years grant to support children in nursery and reception (age 3-5) in their first stage of their education.

Schools are expected to make the best use of this funding to implement sustainable strategies that will quickly bring about changes for learners eligible for free school meals.

Heron's Bridge School received £85,100 in the financial year 2023-24 as part of the Pupil Development Grant in Wales and £5,750 Early Years support. This money will ensure that the learning needs of some of the most vulnerable pupils are further supported by targeted learning activities.

As a school we have ensured that the use of the grant:

1. Must be part of our School Improvement Plan.
2. Identifies the needs of a particular groups of pupils
3. Spending should aim to raise standards in:
  - attainment/ achievement,
  - attendance
  - wellbeing
  - Should place the 4 Purposes of Curriculum for Wales and our School Values at the heart of all decisions

Heron's Bridge has a comprehensive plan, agreed and monitored by School Governors and CSC to promote progress and remove barriers to learning for students eligible for this funding.

We use the funding available to:

- Support learners and their families through the employment of a Family Liaison Officer and our Family Engagement Team to develop home/school relationships and assist parents and families in supporting their child's education (e.g. organising a wide variety of training & advice workshops, Story Café, Family Information Day, 'Get together Foster Carers', weekly drop-in sessions etc.)

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- Support Learners through the employment of a Well-being officer to co-ordinate interventions and therapies to best meet the well-being needs of pupils.
- To release staff for tailored made programmes and 1:1 interventions
- Support learners from deprived backgrounds to reach their potential through intervention programmes such as DIR Floor-time, ELSA, LAP/NAP/OLAP etc.
- Train staff to support our sensory learners through Touch trust and Signalong
- Purchase a wide variety of sensory learning aids and resources for the sole use of families, offered by our free to use loaning library. This includes a variety of ICT hardware.
- Train school staff to deliver nationally accredited training to families, such as NAS EarlyBird Plus, Barnardo's Cygnet, Sexual Health, Sibling Support, Sensory Awareness, Essential Autism etc.
- Provide an enrichment learning programme such as horse riding, college transition and music therapy.
- Ensure children are supported to access school trips, pantomimes and educational visits to facilitate Curriculum for Wales.
- The Early Years funding was used to undertake a Professional Enquiry which is ongoing this year:

***“How to embed the Four Purposes across the Foundation Phase classes using coloured lights and multi-sensory resources, to develop visual attention, cause and effect awareness and joint attention”***

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