



# Dosbarth Pili Pala

## Ysgol Llwyn yr Eos, Penparcau

### Class prospectus



# Dosbarth Pili Pala- Mission Statement

## PMLD resource base



Dosbarth Pili Pala provides specialist education and support for children who have profound and multiple learning difficulties. We aim to provide as many sensory opportunities as possible for your child to create an enjoyable experience. We seek to nurture their physical skills, self-awareness, knowledge and understanding of the world around them and their ability to communicate and develop a sensory awareness.



As a child spends time with us and develops, it could be said that he/she is climbing a ladder. Each step represents a skill, and that ladder is making that child more self-aware and independent. To meet each pupil needs they will follow a full and varied sensory curriculum tailored to meet their individual needs. They will learn to communicate in a manner appropriate to them with continued support from



our speech and language therapist. There will be a self-help syllabus that will run through all that we do to develop their independence in feeding, toileting and dressing.

All children in Pili Pala are supported by a team of trained, dedicated and experienced staff with several specialists outside agencies and qualified professionals visiting the children on a regular basis. These professionals include a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist, a speech and language therapist, the disabled children's team and the community nurse. Besides out of school activities like swimming, horse-riding and community outings our children spend time integrating into the mainstream classes to mix with their peers. It is our belief that the most effective learning takes place when both school and the home work closely together. We pride ourselves in excellent communication with parents and carers by building strong relationships.



## Our Aims



- To provide a safe and caring environment for the development of each pupil's intellectual, physical, social and emotional potential.
- To enable each pupil to develop to his/her self-identity and develop a positive view of themselves.
- To learn to live effectively alongside others and to value their own rights and responsibilities and those of their peers.
- To create and develop an attitude towards school and learning which will motivate them to become effective learners.
- To provide where appropriate access to mainstream education.
- To provide an individualised timetable for each pupil to meet their individual needs.
- To allow the children access to a sensory development programme to work on development of both gross and fine motor skills alongside independence and self-help skills.

## Our key areas of learning



- Personal and social development
- Wellbeing and cultural diversity
- Language, literacy and communication
- Mathematical development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the world
- Physical development with input from the school physiotherapist
- Creative development
- Integration sessions into the mainstream.
- Welsh language development

- *In Pili Pala pupils learning opportunities will be delivered through a highly structured approach based around themes and topics which are relevant to their everyday lives and interests.*

## Our themes



Our themes run on a two-yearly cycle. We link our themes to community outings in the local environment to enrich the pupil's experiences.

	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Year 1	Our senses	On the farm	Global Gardens
Year 2	All about me	People who help us	Our coastline

## Our staff



During your child's stay in Dosbarth Pili Pala they will be taught and supported by highly specialised staff.

In addition to being highly skilled in delivering intervention programmes for the development of literacy and numeracy, all staff have received specific training that enables them to compliment the role of the speech and language therapist and the physiotherapist.

We have members of staff fully trained and competent in Rebound therapy, specialist gastrostomy feeding, Buccal Midazolam training and we are all trained and up to date with manual handling procedures. In addition, all staff have basic First Aid skills with one person being identified as the lead First Aider.

# Meet our staff



Miss L Mayos  
Class teacher



Mrs N  
Davies



Mrs J  
Jones



Mrs M  
Mansell



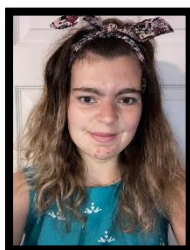
Mrs G  
Evans



Miss A  
Evans



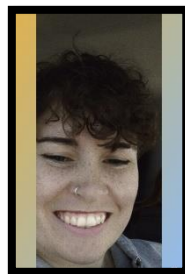
Mrs B  
Symons



Mrs  
C Swift



Miss  
Anna  
Williams



Jess  
Walker



Miss E  
Jones

## Speech and Language therapy



While in Pili Pala the pupils will benefit from sessions with our speech and language therapist. The children will be given a specific programme which will be followed weekly. The speech and language therapists work closely with teaching and support staff to meet the communication needs of all the children attending Pili Pala. They also have the opportunity to work intensely with small groups and with individual children. The children's individual communication targets set are incorporated into their Individual Education plans and their programmes are reinforced by resource base staff throughout the working week.

## Physiotherapy and OT



OT is a health care profession that helps individuals with difficulties achieve their maximum level of independence and achieving their potential in all areas of daily living, including work, play, self-care, and school. Occupational Therapists work with other key people involved with children and young people's lives such as families, other health professionals, education and social care.

**Pili Pala OT: Nerys Griffiths**



### ***Paediatric physiotherapy***

As paediatric physiotherapists we bring our skills as physiotherapists along with our specialist knowledge on child development and childhood conditions to treat babies, children and young people. We assess the needs of your child and agree with you and your child, if appropriate, a Physiotherapy plan for your child and family. As Paediatric Physiotherapists we take a 'whole person' approach to health and well-being, putting your child's best interests at the centre. We strive towards education, awareness, empowerment, self-management and active participation in your Physiotherapy intervention to promote, maintain



and restore physical, psychological and social wellbeing. We also strive to support parents and carers to enable your child to achieve their best possible outcomes into adult life.

***Who do paediatric physiotherapists work with?***

As Paediatric Physiotherapists we work as part of a multi-disciplinary team with the focus on your child being at the centre of the care we provide. We work alongside others as well as yourselves as patients, parents and carers to agree goals that will help your child. The professionals we work with include;

- Paediatricians
- GP's
- Consultants
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Social Workers
- Orthotists
- Podiatrists
- School Nurses
- Teachers
- Psychologists

***Where does physiotherapy take place?***

We work in a wide variety of settings to best suit your child's needs. These include

- Home
- Clinic
- School
- Nursery/crèche/playgroup
- Hospital
- Child Development Centre
- Hydrotherapy Pool

**Pili Pala Physiotherapist: Caryl Davies**

# The role of The Children's Disability Health Team



The role of the Key Worker / Specialist Health Visitor within CDHT is to co-ordinate services for children and young people aged 0-18 (and their families) who have a learning, physical or sensory disability that causes a significant difficulty in daily living.

Depending on the child's needs, some of the services offered may include:

- Support at the time of diagnosis
- Identifying needs of the child by undertaking an assessment and completing a care & support plan
- Referring into other services / to other agencies
- Sharing information with other professionals / agencies to help us work together for the best outcome for the child
- Promoting self-help skills
- Undertake a continence assessment
- Provide information on the following:
  - Benefits
  - Short breaks / sitting service
  - Direct payments

*"As a key Worker within CDHT I find that there is excellent communication with Pili Pala and sharing of information (with parents' consent) which results in the best outcome for the child and family. I attend each child's annual review that is on my caseload who attend Pili Pala, and I look forward to the coffee afternoon each year to see how the children have progressed and to see their work / their performance."* **Betty Wile Keyworker at The Children's Disability Health team.**

# Our IEP rationale



The IEPs (Individual Education programme) are worked on and assessed weekly then targets are changed termly if appropriate. If a child reaches a target before the term ends then the target will be changed in consultation with the speech therapist (if the target is speech and language related) or physiotherapists. The targets are derived by looking closely at the individual child and their needs and in consultation with the speech and language therapist, by referring to their current P scale levels and by using the targets set at the child's annual review.

Each child's IEP consists of five targets. To allow full coverage, the timetable is, as follows:

- Numeracy consisting of fine motor
- Literacy/speech and language
- Social and life skills
- Communication
- Independence

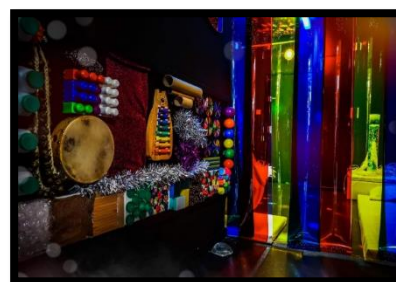
This timetable is for guidance only and can be changed, as the targets set depend upon the individual needs of the child.



## Our sensory room



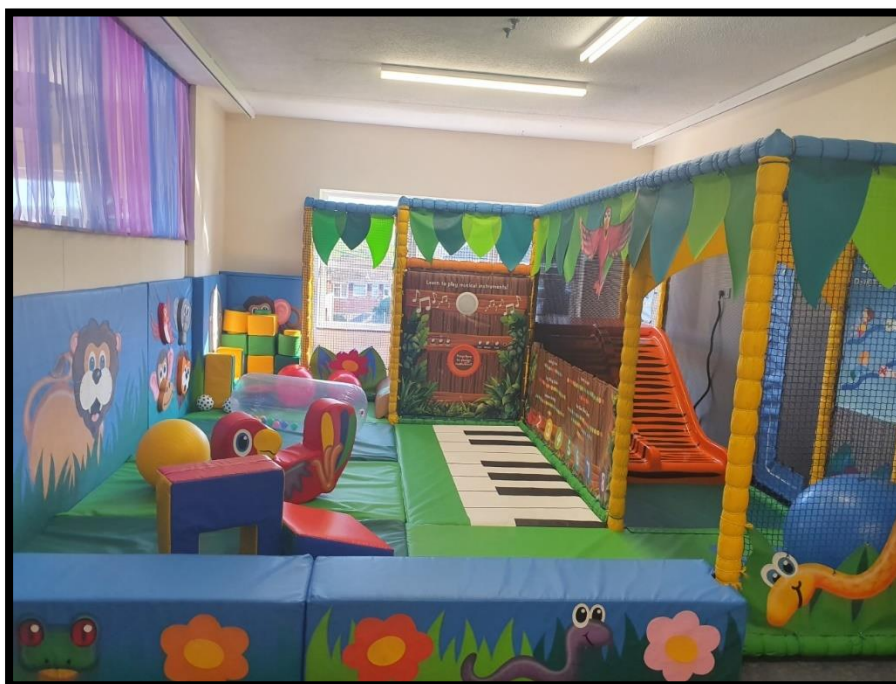
Our sensory room is a relaxation area where our pupils can have chill out time and gain some sensory stimulation through special lighting, music and objects. It can be used as a way of therapy for those children with limited communication skills. Our pupils can engage their senses and explore the variety of stimuli without risk or harm.



## Our soft play area



Our soft play area is new to Pili Pala. We were lucky enough to receive local charity funding to be able to create this amazing space for our children. Our soft play area encourages physical activity, social skills and imaginative play. It is an area which allows all of our children to play safely in a colourful and stimulating environment. This area also doubles as our space to carry out physiotherapy programmes.



## Horse-riding lessons



To develop children's gross motor skills and core stability we take them horse-riding on a weekly basis to the Rheidol riding centre. The centre is run by highly trained staff who have ample experience in working with horses and with children with additional learning needs. The children are guided around the arena and carry out a set of tasks to enable them to follow instructions and improve their physical abilities. Horse-riding is £2.50 per week and run on a rota basis so each child gets a turn.

## Swimming



As part of the child's physiotherapy programme we take the children swimming on a fortnightly basis to Plascrug leisure centre. For swimming they will need an appropriate swimming costume/trunk, a towel, a brush and shampoo. We like to promote self - care and cleanliness with asking the children to take a shower after each swimming session.

Swimming and Horse-riding sessions are currently on hold due to Covid19 restrictions. We are aiming to get these sessions back up and running for September 2022.

# Outdoor learning



Each term we set aside days to provide opportunities for our pupils to increase and rehearse their life skills in an outdoor/community setting.

We may visit the local parks, shops, cafes and beaches to enhance the children's life experiences.

All activities on these visits are linked to our current topic and extremely important not only for the pupil's academic learning but also their social and personal development.

Taking turns, waiting, queuing, learning to cross the road, reacting to new settings are all skills that are learnt and developed more effectively in real and meaningful situations.

They also provide us with excellent resources to create stories and early reading activities.

Going shopping for special ingredients gives us the opportunity for real "hands on" cooking and baking activities and of course sensory stimulation through tasting afterwards.

All these additional learning experiences add to the pupils learning experiences and personal development in the most effective way possible.

## Our school day



Our doors open at 8:45am with the morning sessions beginning at 9am. We have an open-door policy and are always willing to discuss daily concerns from 8:45am and/ or after 3pm when school ends.

If your child has been given transport provision it is important that they are ready to be collected at the given time so that they arrive in school alongside their peers.

If at any time your child will not be accessing the taxi provision it is important that you inform the taxi as soon as possible.

At these times it is vital to inform the school that your child will be late or, not be in school at all that day.

**Your child's safety and well- being is a priority for us.**

If at any time your child is to be collected by another adult it is vital that we are informed. In the interest of our child's safety "home time" is highly supervised and controlled and we would appreciate your co-operation at all times.

**NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE SCHOOL WITH AN UNKNOWN ADULT**

Milk and snack time are an important part of our day both socially and for additional learning opportunities. We will kindly ask you for a small amount towards the snack products at the start of each half term. We have toast and milk at morning snack and biscuits in the afternoon.

# Illnesses and absences



Children who are “under the weather” do not enjoy being in school. If during their time in Pili Pala your child becomes unwell or has an accident we won't hesitate to contact you.

Following any accident, we will enter all of the relevant information on an Accident report form for your child to bring home.

In the interest of your child's health and the additional physical and medical needs of your child it is vital that we have an up to date contact and medical form completed by yourselves. Please provide any additional contact numbers for work, relatives or neighbours in case we cannot contact you.

Please be aware that if your child is unwell with sickness we have a 48-hour policy in place before the child can return to school. (48 hours from the last bout of sickness).

## Our annual events



Every year we plan a variety of different events that the children can take part in. We pride ourselves in being culturally diverse and offering as many opportunities as possible to enhance their learning and life skills. Here is a list of a few events that we participate in each year:

- Rotary club disability gymnastics competition
- Multi skills disability sports
- Christmas concert and nativity productions
- Theatre visits to the Arts centre
- Annual coffee afternoon in Pili Pala
- Visit to the fair in Aberystwyth
- End of year school trip

## Contact Details



Ysgol Gymunedol Llwyn- yr- Eos

Penparcau

Aberystwyth

SY23 1SH

**Head teacher:** Mr Brian Evans - 01970 625 809

**Class teacher:** Miss Laura Mayos - 01970 625 565

**CDHT** (Children's disability health team) - 01970 627 016

**If you would like to visit Pili Pala please contact the LEA on 01970 633 711**