



A HOLISTIC EDUCATION THAT PREPARES CHILDREN FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY

At Nant-y-Cwm Steiner school, we provide an inspiring education for ages 3 - 14 which promotes a love for learning and respects each child for their individuality.

We may not know what the future holds, but we know our pupils will be ready to meet it. Nant-y-Cwm Steiner school offers a comprehensive education that cultivates creativity, responsibility and a sense of resourcefulness. It is a perfect education for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.





LOCATION

Our beautiful school is set on the banks of the Cleddau river, surrounded by temperate rainforest and ancient Welsh land.

We have multiple buildings across our 6 acre school grounds, including the 150 year old main school, two purpose built kindergarten classrooms, a main hall, woodworking room and outdoor classroom.

The Nant-y-Cwm community woodland sits behind our grounds, and our pupils are incredibly lucky to have the phenomenal resource available to them. The children enjoy forest walks, spend time at the roundhouse building fires, and have science lessons immersed in nature.

Each Kindergarten building also benefits from it's own contained garden, for the children to explore safely.



The traditional Welsh stone school house has been renovated to incorporate the architecture that makes Steiner-Waldorf schools distinctive across the world. Our 'Main School' classrooms are bathed in golden light and filled with natural materials - wooden desks, plants, nature corners and gentle colours. The edges are rounded and irregular creating the ideal space for creativity - it's the perfect place for a child to learn, and feel comfortable whilst doing so.



We have two Kindergarten buildings. One is nestled on banks of the river in a purpose built cob and turf-roof building, designed by the late famous eco-architect Christopher Day MBE (a founding parent of our school). The building has been recently listed with CADW for its cultural significance.

This beautiful building is famous in Wales for its inspiring early years setting - the classrooms inside are cosy, with small nooks designed for little children to feel safe and comfortable, everything the perfect height for a young child.



Our second Kindergarten building sits atop the orchard hill, and is a beautiful cabin with large windows overlooking the school. Featuring underfloor heating and the familiar Steiner-Waldorf early years interior, it is a truly inspiring place for a young child to spend their first days away from the home.



YOUR CHILD'S JOURNEY THROUGH NANT-Y-CWM

FAMILY GROUP 0-3 YEARS

The first step on the journey at Nant-y-Cwm starts with Family Group. These sessions are designed from 3 months up to 3 years, and provide a nourishing and wholesome experience for both baby and adult alike.

The sessions run from 10 am until 1pm, and take place in one of our Kindergarten rooms. The children get time to gently explore the simple wooden toys, dolls, crocheted animals and natural building blocks, whilst parents get a moment to relax and chat.

Each session parents and babies bake organic bread together, kneading and feeling the dough, and parents complete a seasonal craft activity whilst children join in or play independently.

A snack is shared in reverence, including freshly baked bread, organic fruit and herbal tea. Children and adults both enjoy this moment to come together and replenish.



KINDERGARTEN 3-6 YEARS



Kindergarten is a magical space: a home from home where children can feel the security of our extended family. Imaginative play has a very important role in a child's development and forms a major part of the kindergarten day. We work with a strong rhythm that remains the same from day to day and week to week, from season to season and year to year. The rhythm becomes deeply rooted in the children, allowing them to know what each day will bring.



The children learn through imitation: the teachers take on domestic and artistic tasks which inspire the children to join in. They enjoy the natural toys made from wool, wood, cotton and silk, which feed the imagination and nourish the senses. The children use their imaginations to build, play, organise, paint, draw, create and much more.

Outside the children enjoy the safely contained gardens around each of our kindergartens. Here they are free to run, climb, skip, dig, splash, and watch the beetle as he crawls along the wall... The concentration they show in these activities is the beginning of a deep-seated reverence for the natural world as well as a love of learning.

Our seasonal songs, rhymes, stories and celebration of festivals support the rhythms and reflect the turning of the year.



- Kindergarten is from 8:45am - 1pm, Mon to Thursday.
- Afternoon care is available from 1pm - 3:30pm each afternoon (we usually offer this once your child has settled in).
- Thursday morning is 'adventure day.' Children explore the woods and take part in outdoor activities and crafts as well as building dens and cooking over an open fire This is available for children 4 years and over.
- We provide a mid-morning snack for the children each day. (Afternoons & adventure day - please pack your child a healthy snack)



MAIN SCHOOL 6-14 YEARS

The children begin their formal schooling at age 6, when they join Class 1 in the main school. We operate a mixed class system, thus classes are paired 1&2, 3&4, 5&6, 7&8. We find that children in mixed classes have increased social and emotional understanding, engage in both collaborative and independent learning with greater ease, and have more positive peer interactions. It is the work of the class teacher -who will stay with the class for up to eight years - to hold the children as a family. Teachers are responsible for each individual's pastoral care as well as their academic progress. The group is held as a whole and this creates a sense of community throughout the school. The children feel recognised, respected and valued.



DAILY RHYTHM

The day starts with a morning verse, followed by ring time (which includes music and poetry) after which the main lesson starts. A main lesson focuses on a particular theme for several weeks, and within the main lesson both literacy and numeracy are utilised. The aim is for the children to experience the subject with their 'head, heart and hands'. Building upon knowledge and skills from one main lesson to the next, children form a complete picture and gain an understanding and appreciation for the connections and links between areas of knowledge that discreet subject teaching does not facilitate. The subjects chosen for study deepen in complexity with each age group – from the imaginative world of the 7 year old, to studying anatomy, astronomy and physics with 14 year olds. They are taught by appealing to the creativity of the child, with drawings, practical activities and painting as well as written work.



The children spend the rest of their day in subject lessons: -

ACADEMIC

These include French, English and Maths. French is taught in classes 1 to 3 through games, poetry and song which actively and playfully involve children in language, and writing, reading and formal grammar are introduced from Class 4 to 8.

PRACTICAL

These include gardening, woodwork, handwork, and games.

We have a beautiful dedicated handwork room nestled in the back of our school, where our thoroughly skilled handwork teacher, Ailsa guides the children through crafting different Steiner-Waldorf handwork projects. From the fingers to the brain, handwork develops important neural pathways. In class 1 the children learn to knit and make soft animals, this continues further into dolls and socks. Through the years the children learn knitting, crochet, cross stitch, hand-and machine sewing, pattern making and many other useful skills.



ARTISTIC

The arts are taught in a holistic and imaginative manner. Lessons include eurythmy, painting, drama, clay modelling, drawing and music. In music all children

In music all children learn the pentatonic pipe and the recorder through imitation and develop a musical ear before learning formal music notation.



AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE PRESSURES OF EXAMS

Instead of traditional cycles of formal assessment and the pressure that accompanies them, we focus on narrative assessments, teacher observations, and qualitative feedback, which provide a comprehensive understanding of each student's academic and personal development. This approach encourages a more nuanced and multifaceted evaluation, taking into account a child's emotional and social growth alongside their academic achievements.

We aim to promote a deeper understanding of each child's unique strengths and challenges, fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment.

After Nant y Cwm I attended Whitland School and studied 11 GCSE's. I gained A* s in all. I have curiosity and a love of learning- I'm interested in expanding my own knowledge. This came from my time at Nant y Cwm.

Nant y Cwm is really good at creating spaces. Each classroom is a cosy, homely haven of calmness, and a haven where I wanted to learn. A space that was designed to help me feel safe and it helped me focus on my learning and development.

NyC has given me confidence in my own values, and myself as a person, which allows me to put myself forward and express myself..

- Ellion Gipson, 10 years at NyC

WHAT IS STEINER - WALDORF EDUCATION?



Steiner-Waldorf education draws on the ideas of early 20th Century philosopher, Rudolf Steiner. Steiner developed a model of education that aims to enable each child to become their true self, equipped to lead a life of their choosing and to contribute positively to society as a force for good in the world.

It centers on nurturing a child's intellectual, artistic, and practical capacities, tailored to their developmental stages. The philosophy values the individuality of each child, encouraging a love for learning, ethical responsibility, and a sense of community.

It is respected worldwide for its ability to produce very able young people, who have a strong sense of self and diverse capacities that enable them to become socially and economically responsible citizens.

WHY CHOOSE A STEINER EDUCATION?

In today's digital era all information is readily available at the touch of a button, and educational approaches that focus on memorisation and rote learning no longer serve our children. A Steiner education develops knowledgeable children who are creative problem solvers, who are curious, think critically and are conscientious. These qualities underpin a successful life, and make our students stand out from the crowd.

As well as the academic advantages, students at Nant-y-Cwm enjoy the benefits of a heart-centered, holistic school. They feel respected, encouraged, and worthy, and this lays the foundation for healthy self-esteem, confidence, and emotional intelligence, which are a spring board for the rest of their life.



HOW WE DELIVER THIS AT NANT-Y-CWM:

- **Holistic Curriculum:** The curriculum is designed to address the whole child—the head, heart and hands.
- **Developmental Approach:** The curriculum is tailored to the developmental stages of each child. Subjects are introduced at times when the child is deemed developmentally ready.
- **Continuity of care:** Each class typically has a teacher who stays with the same group of pupils throughout their journey, allowing the teacher to understand the individual needs and development of each child.
- **Interdisciplinary Learning:** Lessons are taught with connections drawn between different subject areas. This approach aims to provide a more interconnected and meaningful understanding of the world
- **Creative Expression:** Artistic activities are integrated into the academic curriculum to engage the imagination and creativity of students.

ADMISSIONS

FAMILY GROUP

To book onto one of our family group sessions, please email Max at info@Nant-y-Cwm.co.uk. You can join a trial session before booking the term.

We require booking and payment for termly blocks, and do not offer 'ad hoc' availability (this ensures our sessions are sustainably booked and that the groups have familiarity for the children).

KINDERGARTEN

When you feel your child is ready to start Kindergarten, application forms can be completed and returned to the office. Your child's teacher will arrange a home visit in order to better understand and meet the needs of your child. Children can join the Kindergarten at any stage between the ages of 3 and 6

MAIN SCHOOL

Applications for new families and those already in Kindergarten can be sent to the office. A trial week for children of any age can be arranged, allowing you and your child to experience their class and the school before making a decision.



The School accepts admissions all year round, allowing pupils to start at any point in the academic session. Prospective pupils and parents have a chance to visit the school 'in action' during Open Tours.

To book an open day, visit

WWW.NANT-Y-CWM.CO.UK

We are also be happy to answer your questions:

TEL: +44(0)1437 563640

E: INFO@NANT-Y-CWM.CO.UK

FEES PER ANNUM FOR 2023/2024

Kindergarten (3 day): £2,845.00

Kindergarten (4 day): £3,760.00

Main school (classes 1-8): £6,300.00*

*Sibling Discount of 30% per subsequent child is available to children in the Main School.

Fees are payable as one yearly payment, three termly payments, or a monthly payment plan.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES 2023/2024

Family Group session: £10 per single child family, £12 for two children

Kindergarten afternoon when booked termly: £16.50 per session

Kindergarten afternoon session ad hoc: £21 per session

There is a £30 application fee upon applying for a place for your child. A fee deposit of £300 is payable for all new admissions. This deposit will be held on account and will be refunded to the parent/guardian at the end of the child's attendance at Nant-y-Cwm Steiner School if all fees have been settled in accordance with the financial agreements in place.



A full list of our policies and procedures can be found at:

WWW.NANT-Y-CWM.CO.UK/POLICIES

WWW.NANT-Y-CWM.CO.UK

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