

I am very pleased to write this short introduction for our school transition booklet. I have had the privilege of being the Headteacher of Ysgol Pen y Bryn since 2014.

On behalf of our pupils, staff and governors I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming you to our school. Ysgol Pen y Bryn, situated in the community of Clase, Morriston, is a busy, forward-looking school that provides education and specialist facilities for pupils aged 3 to 19 with a wide range of additional learning needs.

The world has changed greatly over the past four months as we face the unprecedented challenges presented by the Covid-19 global pandemic. As I write this introduction, we are deeply engaged in planning for an uncertain, immediate future that requires us to find new and creative ways of keeping in touch, supporting our pupils' wellbeing and ensuring remote and distance learning. Indeed the process of transition to our school will be different this year, but rest assured we will do everything within our power to make it as effective and enjoyable as we can.

First and foremost pupils are at the heart of all that we do at Pen y Bryn. We have a long standing commitment to provide all pupils with the very best learning experiences as well as empowering them to make important decisions about future developments within the school. We are a Rights Respecting School and we work within the guiding principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Article 12 - *Pupils are enabled to fully participate in a meaningful and inclusive way* – is central to life at Pen y Bryn. Listening to our pupils is a natural expectation at our school. My job is to support our pupils and make a difference. This can only be achieved by listening to them.

At Pen y Bryn we aim to promote and develop our pupils' learning, self-esteem, behaviour and confidence by providing rich and individualised learning opportunities for them to develop their skills and understanding, and create an exciting school community which is child-centred, empowering and inclusive. We have also embraced the THRIVE philosophy and approach across the school.

Staff and governors are firmly committed to our school vision ***Believe it, Achieve it*** and our core values '***Pen y Bryn CARES***' which guides all aspects of our work. I hope that this transition booklet gives you some insight into what to expect when you become a member of our wonderful school community.

The very best wishes

Gethin Sutton