



Dinas Powys Primary School

Newsletter

September 2025

Please remember to follow us on X (formally Twitter) @dinaspowysps

Croeso nol. Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed some well-deserved rest and sunshine.

We've had a fantastic start to the new school year. Over these two weeks, our focus is on helping the children settle back into their routines — and they've done so brilliantly! It's been lovely to see their enthusiasm, smiles, and eagerness to learn. Yesterday we had a superb Circus Workshop for junior children and Kinetic Theatre will be working with the infants on Friday.

Contact Details and School Communications

We welcome Miss. Bryony Hudson to school as admin officer on the infant site. Mrs. Anne Gush will be based at the junior site.

To help us stay connected and ensure we can reach you in case of emergencies, please make sure the Arbor parent app has your **most up-to-date contact details**, including mobile numbers, email addresses, and emergency contacts.

If you need to update any information or require assistance, feel free to contact either school office via office@dinaspowysps.co.uk — we're happy to help!

All communication regarding absences or general school queries should be sent to the **main school email address** rather than through platforms like Seesaw or Google Classroom.

School timings

We'd like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring children arrive on time each day. Punctuality helps the children settle quickly and get the most out of their learning from the very start of the day.

Here's a quick reminder of our daily timings:

Juniors:

First bell: **8:40am**

Start of day: **8:45am**

End of day: **3:10pm**

Infants:

Start of day: **9:00am**

End of day: **3:30pm**

Nursery:

Morning session: **9:05am – 11:40am**



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Afternoon session: **12:50pm – 3:25pm**

Please ensure your child arrives with enough time to walk calmly to their classroom before the start of the day. Your support makes a real difference — thank you!

School Term Dates

School term dates can be found at:


<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/schools/School-Term-Dates.aspx>

Attendance

We'd like to thank all our families for your continued support with school attendance. Last year, we came very close to reaching our target — and with your help, we're confident we can achieve it this year!

Our **whole-school attendance target** remains at **95%**, which is equivalent to missing no more than **10 school days** across the year. Regular attendance helps children make the most of their learning, build strong friendships, and feel confident in their routines.

We understand that sometimes absences are unavoidable, and we're here to help. If you ever need support with attendance, please don't hesitate to contact us — we're happy to work with you.

 **Please remember to inform the school on the first day of any absence**, as we operate a first-day response system to follow up on any unexplained absences.

Here's a quick look at how attendance percentages translate into missed learning time.

Attendance Rate	Equivalent to
90%	One day off every two weeks
80%	One day off a week
75%	If this level were sustained throughout a child's time in the juniors it would be equivalent to missing an entire school year.

Scooters and bikes

We love seeing so many children arriving at school on their scooters and bikes — it's a great way to start the day with some fresh air and exercise!

There is storage available at both the infant and junior sites for bikes and scooters. Just a gentle reminder: for everyone's safety, please ensure that bikes and scooters are **walked, not ridden**, while on school grounds.



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School Dinners

All pupils are entitled to receive a school meal daily, free of charge. Junior children have a choice of the main meal, jacket potato or baguette with a variety of fillings. There is a choice of baguette for Year 1 & Year 2 children on Thursdays. The menu is available on the school website and the Big Fresh Catering website

(<https://www.bigfreshcatering.co.uk/primary-menus/>)

You can see the meals chosen by your child on Parentpay.

Fruit Snack

We encourage all children to bring a fresh fruit snack for morning break. Snack is provided for children in nursery with a requested donation of £1 per week, payable through ParentPay.

Medicines

We are able to administer medicines in school where these are prescribed specifically for the child and are required four times a day. If your child requires medicine during the school day please contact the offices to request a form. Medicines can only be administered on completion of the form.

Flying Start

Based at the junior site, Dragonflies provides high quality sessional childcare for children aged 2-3 years, funded through Flying Start and the 2 year old childcare offer.

To find out whether you are eligible for Flying Start or the 2 year old childcare offer, please check your postcode via the link below:

https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/social_care/children_and_young_people/Flying-Start.aspx



Playworks, are a private provider of child-care that operates at school. The after school club runs Monday – Thursday from the end of the school day until 6.00 pm. The club provides care for both infant and junior children and is based on Infant School site.

Playworks Dinas Powys is a registered provider of the 30 Hours Free Childcare Offer for Wales, for children aged 3-4 years to check your eligibility

visit https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/social_care/children_and_young_people/Family-Information-Service/Childcare-Offer.aspx

Further information can be found at www.playworks-childcare.co.uk or by emailing enquiries@playworks-childcare.co.uk

Contact School:

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact school.

Tel: **02920 512151**

Email: office@dinaspowysps.co.uk

A copy of our complaints policy can be found on our website.