



Welsh Government plan, published September 2026

Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Plan

10-point summary

Clear national direction for literacy & numeracy

1

This Welsh Government plan, published September 2026, sets out a whole-system approach to raising standards, with literacy and numeracy recognised as essential foundations for all learning.

A clear expectation for systematic synthetic phonics (SSP)

6

Curriculum guidance will be updated to make expectations explicit. Welsh and English phonics provision will be reviewed and strengthened, including a national phonics guide for schools.

Strong focus on equity and early intervention

2

Poverty, ALN and language needs are central considerations. Early identification and timely support are emphasised across all phases.

Evidence-informed literacy & numeracy practice

7

Expert panels (Literacy and Numeracy) will shape national approaches. Professional learning will be expanded through Dysgu, Adnodd and CAL:ON.

Parents and carers as key partners

3

Government will develop accessible resources (Welsh, English and community languages) to help families understand how literacy and numeracy are taught and how to support learning at home.

Stronger assessment and use of data

8

Schools will be supported to use a wide range of assessment information to understand starting points (baseline), track progress and set meaningful, ambitious targets.

Strengthening early years foundations (0–3)

4

Child development, language-rich environments and playful learning are prioritised. Professional learning and bilingual approaches (e.g., Prosiect Pengwin) will support early identification of SLCN.

Welsh language learning embedded throughout

9

Welsh literacy is treated as integral to communication, not separate. New national principles for teaching Welsh (0–16) will be established.

Clear expectations for teaching (3–16)

5

Statutory year-on-year guidance for literacy and numeracy will be published in 2027 to support progression, challenge more able learners and ensure consistency.

Collaboration across all five foundations

10

Parents, early years practitioners, teachers, leaders and support partners must work together. The plan emphasises shared responsibility, consistent practice and joined-up support for learners.