



CLUSTER COLLABORATION POLICY

Purpose

The Darland Learning Community Cluster Collaboration Policy aims to establish a framework for effective collaboration between All Saints' Primary School, The Rofft Primary School, Park CP School, Holt CP School, St Peter's School and Darland High School. The policy seeks to enhance school improvement efforts, facilitate shared learning, and ensure a consistent, high-quality educational experience for all pupils within the cluster.

Vision

We are committed to creating a dynamic learning community where educational settings collaborate to raise standards, support professional development, and share best practices. Through this partnership, we aim to develop a sustainable, equitable, and pupil-focused approach to school improvement.

'A happy and aspirational lifelong learning community where every child matters'

Guiding Principles

- Collaboration and Partnership. Schools within the cluster will work together to identify and address shared priorities. Collaborative working will be the key driver for sustainable school improvement and pupil success.
- Equity. All schools will have an equal voice in decision-making processes, ensuring that each setting's unique needs are considered.
- Pupil-Centred Approach. Every action taken under this policy will prioritise the well-being, progress, and development of all pupils and staff.
- Continuous Improvement. Schools will commit to sharing expertise, resources, and professional development opportunities to foster a culture of continuous learning and improvement.

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteachers and Senior Leadership Teams

- Lead on the strategic direction for cluster collaboration.
- Ensure effective communication between schools.
- Promote joint planning and implementation of cluster initiatives.
- Identify common priorities for professional development and school improvement.
- Ensure a common focus to promote staff wellbeing across the cluster of schools.

Teachers and Support Staff

- Engage in joint professional learning activities, including shared resources and expertise.
- Collaborate on curriculum development, particularly in cross-phase projects (e.g., transition from primary to secondary education).
- Contribute to the development of shared resources that benefit the cluster.

Governing Bodies

- Support and monitor the implementation of the cluster collaboration policy.



- Encourage engagement with collaborative initiatives across schools.
- Provide feedback on the impact of the cluster's work on school improvement and pupil outcomes.

Pupils & Families

- Participate in cross-school events and activities that foster community and shared learning.
- Provide feedback on experiences across cluster initiatives to inform future collaboration.

Key Areas of Collaboration

Curriculum and Pedagogy

- Develop a common approach to curriculum design, focusing on continuity and coherence from early years to secondary education.
- Share expertise in implementing the Curriculum for Wales, ensuring alignment in core areas such as literacy (including Cymraeg), numeracy, and digital competence.
- Collaborate on innovative teaching and learning strategies, including formative assessment and feedback.

Professional Learning

- Create joint professional development opportunities, with a focus on leadership, teaching, and assessment.
- Establish professional learning communities (PLCs) within the cluster, through the School Partnership Programme (SPP) to focus on key areas such as wellbeing, inclusion, and curriculum innovation.
- Share best practices in the use of data (qualitative and quantitative) to drive school improvement.

Pupil Wellbeing and Transition

- Coordinate support for pupils transitioning between primary and secondary phases to ensure a smooth educational journey.
- **Develop shared initiatives to support pupil wellbeing, mental health, resilience and employability skills for the future.**
- Establish consistent approaches to safeguarding and pastoral care.

Governance and Accountability

The cluster will form a Cluster Leadership Group comprising of headteachers from all schools. This group will:

- Meet half termly to review progress, identify areas for development, and agree on actions for the following term and into the longer term.
- Ensure that resources, including staff time, are allocated efficiently and equitably across the schools to deliver identified priorities.
- Produce an annual report and transition plan outlining achievements, challenges, and plans for the future.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The success of this collaboration will be monitored through:

- Regular feedback from staff, pupils and families.



- Analysis of school data to assess improvements in key areas (e.g., pupil outcomes, moderation and standardisation, attendance, and engagement).
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of professional learning activities and their impact on classroom practice.
- External review or peer support to provide independent evaluation of progress.

Funding and Resources

The Cluster Leadership Group will:

- Seek external funding opportunities, including grants, to support joint initiatives.
- Share resources across schools where possible, reducing duplication and ensuring value for money.
- Use available funds to support professional development, curriculum enrichment, and pupil wellbeing projects.

Review and Amendments

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Cluster Leadership Group, with input from all stakeholders. Amendments will be made as necessary to reflect the evolving needs of the schools and the wider educational context.

Conclusion

The Darland Learning Community Cluster Collaboration Policy sets the foundation for a unified and strategic approach to school improvement. **By working together, our schools will be better equipped to meet the needs of all pupils and provide a supportive, high-quality educational experience that prepares them for the future.**

This policy framework draws on principles outlined in the Welsh Government's review of education partners' roles and responsibilities and aligns with best practices for collaborative school improvement.



Calendar of Cluster Collaborative Activities – 2025/26

	Teaching & Learning	Curriculum	Wellbeing, Equity & Inclusion	Leadership
Tymor Hydref/ Autumn Term	<p>Skills Day – Blwyddyn 5 & 6</p> <p>Darland Learning Community Network Meetings</p>	<p>Curriculum Leaders to meet to plan ‘securing pupil progress’ workshops for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience. (Humanities & Health & Wellbeing)</p> <p>Securing pupil progress workshops to take place for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience:</p> <p><u>Science & Technology</u> – Graphs, tables and analysis of data. (50% of cohort)</p> <p><u>Expressive Arts</u> - I can draw upon my familiarity with a range of discipline techniques in my creative work. (100% of cohort)</p>	<p>Year 6 Check in days @ Darland from Primary teachers</p> <p>Year 7 visits to Primary Schools across the cluster.</p> <p>Ongoing cluster sporting events</p> <p>Wrexham AFC ongoing collaboration – sports careers – relating to CWRE</p> <p>Pumpkin Carving Competition (Autumn 1)</p> <p>Decorate a Christmas Tree outside school – what is our culture? (Autumn 2)</p>	<p>Whole cluster collaborative day during staff training day with an agreed focus</p> <p>Headteacher Cluster meetings</p> <p>Minibus availability</p> <p>Ongoing peer mentoring and coaching as agreed</p>
Tymor Gwanwyn/ Spring Term	<p>Maths Problem solving workshops for Primary Schools at Darland High School critical thinking and problem-solving - CWRE</p> <p>Darland Learning Community Network Meetings</p>	<p>Curriculum Leaders to meet to plan ‘securing pupil progress’ workshops for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience. (<i>Language, Literacy & Communication</i>) (<i>Mathematics & Numeracy</i>)</p> <p>Securing pupil progress workshops to take place for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience. (<i>Humanities & Health & Wellbeing</i>)</p> <p>Modern foreign language support and sessions for pupils from Darland High School – employability skills</p>	<p>Wrexham AFC ongoing collaboration – sports careers relating to CWRE</p> <p>Cluster Eisteddfodau -</p> <p>Joint staff wellbeing day</p> <p>Ongoing cluster sporting events</p> <p>Toys through the Ages – explorative curiosity project (Spring 1) – relating to CWRE skills</p> <p>Easter Egg decoration competition. (Spring 2)</p>	<p>Headteacher Cluster meetings</p> <p>Minibus availability</p> <p>Ongoing peer mentoring and coaching as agreed</p>
Tymor Haf/ Summer Term	<p>Expressive arts sessions for Primary Schools at Darland High School</p> <p>Darland Learning Community Network Meetings</p>	<p>Curriculum Leaders to meet to plan ‘securing pupil progress’ workshops for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience. (<i>Expressive Arts & Science & Technology</i>)</p> <p>Securing pupil progress workshops to take place for agreed Areas of Learning and Experience. (<i>Language, Literacy & Communication</i>) (<i>Mathematics & Numeracy</i>)</p>	<p>Wrexham AFC ongoing collaboration – sports careers CWRE related</p> <p>Llay Show – entrepreneurial and enterprise skills CWRE</p> <p>Parent/carer transition meetings</p> <p>Extended transition and taster days at Darland High School</p>	<p>Headteacher Cluster meetings</p> <p>Minibus availability</p> <p>Ongoing peer mentoring and coaching as agreed</p>



Clwster Darland Cluster Cluster Collaboration Policy 2025-26

		Careers Fair to take place at Darland High School. Spelling Bee cluster competition Game 24 cluster competition	Ongoing cluster sporting events Schools in Bloom (Summer 1 & 2)	
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Wrexham City of Culture bid projects