



Curriculum and Qualifications

A new National Curriculum will ensure that all children leave education with a positive understanding of the history of Wales and the cultures of their communities.

Schools will ensure that young people develop key skills, including literacy, numeracy, IT skills and thinking skills, and an understanding of climate change and the environment.

It is vital that our children understand the technology that surrounds them, through coding and advanced computer technology development lessons, such as the Raspberry Pi device.

To counter the growing deficit in language skills, Plaid Cymru will ensure that modern foreign languages are taught from an early age, and introduce a compulsory modern language GCSE so that our pupils can compete in a global economy.

Plaid Cymru wants all young people to stay in education or training to 18, so that they can get the right skills for employment or higher education.

Funding

We recognise the impact poverty has on a child's education and success in later life, and the effect on the wider economy. We will therefore continue to ensure disadvantaged pupils are helped to reach their full potential, as we have done by supporting the Pupil Deprivation Grant, and by further supporting schools to ensure effective early intervention. Plaid Cymru will support methods which will help children to overcome the challenges that a disadvantaged position may present.

All local authorities will be required to have an accurate and up-to-date Welsh Education Strategic Plan to meet the call for Welsh language education in their county and adequate funding will be provided within local education

authorities and consortia for these to be delivered, including the requirements for new schools, staff and other resources where needed.

Provision for children with special educational needs will be reviewed to ensure resources are used in the most effective way.

Plaid Cymru will put in place a programme to develop new and modern schools to replace unsuitable school buildings

We will ensure that schools co-operate and learn from each other's best practices and allocate funding so that this can be planned.

Plaid Cymru will continue to oppose the 'free school' model of education promoted in England and will not follow this model in Wales.