

# Llanfyllin Transition Project

## A New Vision for Climate Responsibility and a Sustainable Future



### PSE and the Llanfyllin Transition Project

There are numerous points of contact between the aims and objectives of the Llanfyllin Transition Project and the Welsh Assembly's *PSE Framework 2008* (which will be revised for 2018). PSE is a basic subject to be taught to all pupils aged 7 to 19-years in Welsh schools. There is no prescribed curriculum for the teaching of PSE in schools. Instead teachers are encouraged to develop their own curricula based on the guidelines laid out in the *PSE Framework 2008*.

PSE lessons should enable pupils to develop essential skills that are applicable right across the National Curriculum. These include thinking skills (planning, developing and reflecting), communication skills (oracy, reading, writing and wider communication), developing ICT skills (finding, creating and presenting information and ideas), and developing numeracy skills (using mathematical information, calculating, interpreting and presenting findings). All of this is to be achieved through the study of several key themes throughout the PSE programme. The key themes outlined in the *PSE Framework 2008* include:

- \* Active citizenship
- \* Health and emotional well-being
- \* Moral and spiritual development
- \* Preparing for lifelong learning
- \* Sustainable development and global citizenship.

Although the Llanfyllin Transition Project has definite overlaps with several of these key areas, it is clearly most directly related to the theme of 'Sustainable development and global citizenship':

"Learners need to develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values to participate in individual and collective decision-making, both locally and globally, that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future. They need to be helped to understand the global forces which shape their lives and to acquire the ability to challenge injustice and inequality that will equip them to promote a more equitable and sustainable world.

Education for sustainable development and global citizenship involves learning about the links between society, economy and the environment and between our own lives and those of people throughout the world; about the needs and rights of both present and future generations; about the relationships between power, resources and human rights; and about the local and global implications of human activities and the actions that individuals and organisations can take in response to local and global issues. Concepts such as energy use, climate change, loss of biodiversity and the impact of global poverty are brought to life, understood, acted upon and evidenced through actions by learners, whilst at school or college and through their lives in the wider community."

(*PSE Framework 2008*, p. 14).

Further to this, the PSE Framework encourages several other general (though no less important) aims for the teaching of PSE in schools:

- \* To empower learners to participate in their schools and communities as active responsible citizens locally, nationally and globally.
- \* To foster positive attitudes and behaviour towards the principles of sustainable development and global citizenship.
- \* In PSE, learners are encouraged to engage in a wide range of personal and social issues that require decision-making and action through planning, personal responses, developing understanding, and reflecting upon outcomes for themselves and others.
- \* An emphasis on Wales, the nature of communities and the development of knowledge and skills to equip learners to participate in decision-making in communities locally, nationally and globally

*(PSE Framework 2008, pp. 4-13)*

With these aims in mind, we would be very interested in helping to develop taught lessons, activities and resources for PSE sessions that would further the goals of the Llanfyllin Transition Project (to encourage students to engage with the problem of climate change on a local level, to become involved in the decision making processes of the school and wider community in relation to energy consumption, sustainable development, transport, local economy, and so on), while also meeting the requirements of the *PSE Framework 2008* (key skills and core themes), and alleviating some of the pressure on teachers to produce their own learning programmes in PSE.

**[www.llanfyllin.sector39.co.uk](http://www.llanfyllin.sector39.co.uk)**

#### **References:**

*PSE Framework 2008*. Available Online at: <http://learning.gov.wales/docs/learningwales/publications/130425-personal-and-social-education-framework-en.pdf>