

Y Pant School Prospectus

2020-2021



Contents

Headteacher's Welcome	3
New Build	4
Easy Fundraising	4
Estyn	5
School Admissions	5
Code of Conduct	5
Uniform & Appearance	6
Sixth form uniform & PE Kit	7
Attendance & School Day	8
Friends of Y Pant	8
Transition Links	9
Curriculum	10
GCSE & Vocational Courses	11
A-Level & Vocational Courses	12
Careers & Work Related Education	13
Religious Education & Worship	14
Supporting Our Students	14
Sex Education	14
Additional Learning Needs	15
Basic Skills Development	15
More Able & Talented	16
Wellbeing & Pastoral Care	16
Safeguarding	17
Extra-Curricular & Enrichment Opportunities	17
Extended Provision	18
House System	18
Y Pant Parliament	19
Associate Student Governors	20
Westminster Trip	20
Financial Support	21
School Transport	21
School Meals	21
Communication	22
The Milk App	22
Reporting on Progress	22
Contact Details	23
Further Information	23

Headteacher's Welcome

Hello and welcome to Y Pant. The prospectus you are reading will give you a sense and a flavour of what we stand for as a school and what you, as parents, carers and pupils, can expect from us.

Choosing which school your child will attend to complete their statutory education is an important step and one which will set them on course for their future lives.

As a school we have a reputation which has been built over years for successful outcomes. These outcomes are a real celebration for us, but are attained by building a strong partnership with our parents, our pupils and a tremendous and unwavering commitment from our staff.

We are dedicated to our vision of Living Through Learning. This is underpinned through our collective belief in an educational experience which is high-quality, broad, and which creates opportunities for us all to get the best out of life at Y Pant. When you visit you will see a vibrant learning community with young people who really value the opportunities they are presented with at our school. Our ambition for our pupils is simple; We want them to be happy and healthy in school and in life, we want them to respect one another, their community and the environment in which we live and we want them to leave school with the very best educational outcomes, fulfilling their potential. We are very proud of our school, our pupils and our staff. Our outcomes all ensure we have a positive ethos, excellent standards and the very highest levels of pastoral care. We look forward to meeting you and working with you over the coming years.

Bev Cheetham Headteacher









New Build

In July 2015, contractors Morgan Sindall embarked on a 2-year, £24 million project to bring Y Pant into the 21st century. We moved into our new building in January 2017 and now enjoy up-to-date facilities including a large hall, purpose-built canteen, library, 6th form area and lecture theatre plus dedicated teaching rooms for most subjects. We also have a 3G Sports pitch constructed to FIFA Stage 1 recommendations, a new MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) facility and a new grass football pitch and two new sports pitches which have recently been completed.. We've seen the refurbishment of the existing drama and sports blocks with extensive hard and soft landscaping, new car park and pupil drop off area.

Our current project was the refurbishment of the Gym which is now complete and is a state of the art sports multi use facility. .. This is a fantastic addition to our school this year.

Easy Fundraising

We're always keen to raise extra funds to support children's learning in school. Easyfundraising is an easy way in which parents and carers can help us with this, without it costing a penny. Anyone can register to support Y Pant by visiting www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ypantschool. Then every time you click through the Easyfundraising website onto your favourite online retailers a donation is made to the school. In the last year we have raised over £1000 for the Learning Resource Centre in school by parents and carers clicking the link when the book holidays, order groceries or buy anything online.





Estyn

In January 2017 Y Pant was inspected by Estyn. We're delighted that Estyn recognised the hard work we do and awarded the school an Excellent rating in all 5 areas: standards; wellbeing and attitudes to learning; teaching and learning experiences; care, support and guidance and leadership and management. We are the first school in Wales to receive such a grading.

The School and Admissions

Y Pant is an oversubscribed 11-18 co-educational school maintained by Rhondda Cynon Taf education authority and managed by the governing body. The LA is responsible for pupil admissions to the school and parents and carers must apply directly to them.

Please see www.rct.co.uk

Code of conduct for pupil

"Respect for ourselves, others, our environment and our community."

We pride ourselves at Y Pant on having a successful and orderly school where pupils learn in a happy respectful environment. All pupils are expected to behave in a way which brings credit to their families, themselves and which also reflects the ethos of Y Pant School. Pupils are made aware of the school rules which centre on respect. Respect for themselves, others, their environment and their community. There will be times, however, where we will need to impose sanctions. We respectfully ask for the support of parents and carers with these.

The "Y Pant Way"

The "Y Pant Way" has three clear expectations that students are:

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe







Uniform and Appearance

Upon being accepted into Y Pant all students are expected to wear appropriate uniform to school. Uniform is available for purchase at the school shop which is open every Thursday from 3:15 – 6:00 p.m. The sale of uniform is organised by Friends of Y Pant.

School Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear full school uniform and details are given below. Pupils will sometimes try to effect changes themselves so be suspicious of such phrases as:

"Oh! They don't mind if ..." "Yes, it's quite all right to wear ..." "Everybody wears it ..."

Limits have been set within which there is some freedom of choice. However, no extension of these limits will be accepted. Please be aware that some stores will label items as school-wear which does not meet our standard.

IF IN DOUBT, RING THE SCHOOL

- 1. Black, full length, smart trousers. No jeans, chinos, leggings, jeggings or combat style. Skin tight trousers are not permitted.
- 2. Black, knee length skirt.
- 3. Royal blue Y Pant School jumpers only.
- 4. Light blue Y Pant School polo shirts or white shirt/blouse with school tie.
- 5. No visible under garments.
- 6. Smart black leather (or leather effect) shoes. No boots, canvas shoes, trainers or trainer shoes.
- 7. Outer garments: Coats or Y Pant School hoodies only. No denim, leather or leather-look. No other hoodies or tracksuit tops.
- 8. No makeup or nail varnish.
- 9. No jewellery other than a watch and/or one pair of plain studs in the lower ear-lobe.
- 10. No fashion accessories.
- 11. Only natural looking hair colour and sensible hairstyles. No patterns in hair or eyebrows.
- 12. No facial hair or tattoos.

Variation for Sixth Form

- 1. Navy blue Y Pant polo shirts or white shirt/blouse with 6th Form tie. Navy Y Pant jumper.
- 2. One pair of plain studs.
- 3. Plain nude-colour nail varnish. No false nails.
- 4. Minimal and discreet make-up. No false eyelashes.
- 5. Neatly kept and well-groomed facial hair.

PE Uniform

- Black/navy shorts, plus black/navy tracksuit bottoms for outside kit.
 (Tracksuit bottoms are an extra for colder weather and shouldn't be brought instead of shorts)
- White Y Pant logo polo shirt
- Blue Y Pant hooded sports jumper (for outdoor activities only)
- Y Pant rugby shirt for those participating in rugby
- Y Pant football/rugby socks for games activities, white sports socks for other activities.
- Football/rugby boots for those participating in football / rugby
- Sports trainers (appropriate for exercise and physical activity)
- Shin pads recommended for football/hockey

(Please note that no jewelry is to be worn in PE and long hair must be tied back. A plaster covering a piercing isn't sufficient due to safety considerations.)

Please label kit to avoid loss.

Y PANT SCHOOL UNIFORM (items with logo) is available from the school shop only.







Attendance and the School Day

Excellent attendance is vital to ensure pupils achieve the very best out of school. We monitor attendance carefully and school holidays during term time are not permitted except in some exceptional circumstances as laid out by the LEA.

8:30 - 8:50	Registration / Assembly
8:50 – 9:50	Lesson 1
9:50 – 10:50	Lesson 2
10:50 - 11:10	Break
11:10 – 12:10	Lesson 3
12:10 – 13:10	Lesson 4
13:10 – 13:50	Lunch
13:50 – 14:50	Lesson 5
14:50	End of school day for yrs. 7 – 11
14:50 – 15:50	Lesson 6 (6 th form only)

Friends of Y Pant

The school, and in turn the students, benefit tremendously from the work that Friends of Y Pant do. Any parents and carers wishing to become a part of this group are invited to contact the school directly.







Transition Links

The transition from primary to secondary school is a really important milestone in a child's life and something we want to make as smooth as possible. Transition is not a single event, rather a journey that starts in Year 6. We will be creating a video in which we invite children and their parents and carers to come and visit the school virtually and engage in a tour which will show you what we as a school have to offer.

We are very proud of our school, our pupils and of all achievements and the Y Pant video will present an opportunity to share this.

During Year 6, children from our cluster primary schools visit Y Pant several times to experience taster lessons and take part in a range of interactive activities. Pupils will have an opportunity to work with staff and pupils to support familiarity and encourage their active participation in our school community.

During the summer term, the Head of Year 7, together with senior members of staff and year 7 pupils visit each primary school to meet the children and give them an opportunity to ask questions. Our staff will engage with primary staff to share information and ensure that we are informed to help us to support all children who will be attending Y Pant School.

We hold a transition parents meeting here at Y Pant in the Summer Term so that parents and carers can find out everything they need to know before their child starts with us at Y Pant. A Transition information booklet will be available for parents to read to support preparation, provide key information and to build vital partnership incorporation pupil, parent and school necessary to make the educational journey a safe and purposeful one.

Note- Due to our current circumstances the events listed above may not be possible this academic year. We will continuously review this. As we will not be able to hold an Open Evening we will be creating a video that will be posted on our website and will be subsequently made available for you to see what our school has to offer.







Curriculum

Our school curriculum at Y Pant is broad with range of courses that are enjoyable, accessible and appropriate for our students. These comply with all the requirements of the National Curriculum in Wales.

We operate a two week timetable with 5 lessons per day for years 7-11 and 6 periods a day for years 12 and 13. In years 7, 8 and 9 pupils are divided into three bands plus a learning support class. These are determined by information we receive from the primary schools plus external assessment data. Classes are reviewed regularly to ensure all pupils are appropriately placed to maximise their learning. At Key stage 4 pupils are set within core lessons but taught as mixed teaching groups in the majority of others.

Year 7 & 8

Pupils study a wide range of subjects in years 7 and 8. These include: English, Maths, Science, Welsh, PE, IT, PSE, REP (religion, ethics and philosophy), Art, Drama, French / Spanish (on rotation), Geography, History, Music and Technology.

During Year 8 our students receive support and guidance in selecting their option subjects at Key Stage 4 which they study to GCSE or equivalent.

Years 9, 10, 11

Some subjects are compulsory in years 9, 10 and 11. These are: English, Mathematics, Numeracy, Science, Welsh, PE/Games, Welsh Baccalaureate.

Currently the majority of pupils also study English Literature. To complement these we offer a range of GCSE and vocational 'option' subjects such as History, Geography, PE, Sport, Computing, IT, Business Studies, Spanish, French, Resistant Materials, Ethics, Catering, Child Development, Textiles, Graphics, Media Studies, Drama, Music, Engineering and REP (Religion, ethics and philosophy). Depending on ability some pupils may be entered early for a GCSE course or achieve two qualifications from one option line. This is to maximise outcomes for our students.







GCSE & Vocational Courses at Y Pant

The following courses are on offer:-

Agored Cymru	Drama	ICT	Religious Studies
Art	Engineering	Life Skills	Retail Business
Biology	English	Mathematics	Spanish
Business	Equality and Diversity	Media Studies	Sport
Chemistry	French	Music	Textiles
Computer Science	Geography	Nutrition and Health	Welsh
Construction	French	Personal Finance	Welsh Baccalaureate
DT Product Design	Health, Social Care and Child Care	nd Physical Education GCSE & Voca	
Double Award	History	Physics	Courses
Science/Triple award			
Science			

Pupils will have a sit down meeting with a member of senior management to help them choose the right subjects for them.

A-Level & Vocational Courses at Y Pant

Y Pant has a thriving and highly successful Sixth Form. We offer a full range of one and two year courses, both academic and vocational, to accommodate all needs.

In order to offer an even greater range of choice the school operates a consortium arrangement with Bryn Celynnog Comprehensive School.

Entry to the 6th form is dependent on 5 good GCSE (or equivalent) grades at a C or above. Some subjects have additional requirements. All students are directed towards courses in which they are able to show progression.

All Year 12 students will be required to study the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification.

















Subject Choices

A-level at Y Pant

School	Α	В	С	D	E
	ICT	Art	Chemistry	Biology	Design Technology
	English Literature	Biology	Computer Science	Chemistry	English Literature
	Government & Politics	Business	Geography	Drama	Further Maths
	Physical Education	History	Music	Maths	Media Studies
Y PANT	Physics	Maths	Psychology	Medical Science	Spanish
	Religious Studies	Sociology	Welsh	Psychology	
		Travel & Tourism			
	Α	В	С	D	E
	Art	Health & Social Care	Biology	Chemistry	Applied Science
	Business	English Literature	Law	Criminology	Geography
	Further Maths	Physics	Media Studies	Design Technology	Maths
Bryn Celynnog	History	Sport (Double)	Public Services	ICT	Photography
	Sport (Single)				Psychology
	-				

To find out more about the subject we offer click here

Notes: If you select Further Maths you MUST also select Maths. If you select Sport (Double) you MUST also select Sport (Single)

Careers & Work Related Education

All pupils in years 7-13 receive careers education and guidance. Pupils are introduced to the world of work through talks, industrial visits and increasingly through computer based information and guidance systems.

All pupils aged 14-16 undertake work related education as part of the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification and as part of our Life Skills Curriculum. This consists of study modules, working with external providers and, for some, a period of work experience arranged in liaison with Careers Wales.

We hold an annual Careers Fair where we invite a wide range of work based representation to provide work place engagement and provide an interactive and collaborative insight into the world of work. We have an established careers programme which has a core aim of supporting pupils. Our programme is continually developing to ensure that we provide the most up to date support for all of

our pupils to assist in their choices and decisions for their futures.





Religious Education and Worship

All students undertake the study of Religion, Ethics and Philosophy. At Y Pant the syllabus reflects the values, morals and ethics of our society. The teaching and practices of many religions are incorporated into the schemes of work.

Each day pupils are given the opportunity to reflect on the thought for the day. Religious pupils may take this opportunity to pray.

Supporting our Students

Being a large, thriving, well established school we have a great deal of expertise in dealing with all types of student. We recognise that each child is different and it is our job to draw out talents and support students where needed. We have a duty to develop our young people not just academically but socially and emotionally.

Sex Education

Sex education is taught to promote a healthy life style. Taught within a moral framework and within a variety of subjects it is taught in line with our school policy. Parents and carers have a right to withdraw their child from this provision. A formal request should be made to the Headteacher if this is the case.

Additional Learning Needs

ALN provision currently covers support for our pupils in the three areas of Statements, School Action+ and School Action. This entails support from a highly specialised level of one to one intervention to a more generalised support with a particular Learning need in the classroom.

We have a LSA team who support pupils with diverse and wide ranging needs such as those pupils who are on the Autistic Spectrum, pupils with Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, pupils with Dyslexia, Dyspraxia and pupils with Physical Impairment.

We have regular and consistent support through external agencies for more detailed assistance. This involves referrals to teams such as Educational Psychology, Neuro Developmental and EOTAS. The support also stretches to Emotional Literacy to assist pupils with issues relating to Mental Health. Regarding Learning Support, we have a team of staff who deliver help and assistance for pupils to develop their Literacy and Numeracy skills so they can successfully access our curriculum offer here at Y Pant.

Basic Skills Development

As a school we place a great emphasis on the development of literacy and numeracy skills. We offer a wide variety of short and longer term interventions, tailored to individual student needs. Pupils from any year group maybe identified as needing support on a particular topic or a particular skill and will work in a small group or on a one to one basis with a number of our trained basic skills tutors.









More Able and Talented Students

As a school we are proud to have led the way in Wales by being a member of the NACE organisation (National Association for Able Children in Education) and recognise that approximately 20% of our students will be 'more able and talented.' Whether it be in a specific field: sporting, artistic, musical or across a range of subject areas the school is committed to ensure they are suitably challenged at all times.

Our more able and talented coordinator will ensure a range of opportunities throughout and in addition to the curriculum. Extra-curricular opportunities will also be offered.

Wellbeing & Pastoral Care

Working on the premise that our pupils will only flourish if they are happy we have a range of strategies and systems to support and nurture our students.

A highly experienced year 7 team, dedicated to ensuring pupils settle well into their first year of Y Pant will support our pupils when they join us. The Head of Progress and Assistant Head of Progress will move with the year group into year 8 and will remain with the year group through to Year 11. Each team of form tutors is led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Head of Progress and Assistant Head of Progress will oversee pupils' academic, social and emotional development. These are the people who will be the first port of call for any concerns parents or carers may have and are contactable via email or phone. Each year group will be assigned an email address which can be used throughout their time at the school.

For pupils who struggle socially we have ELSA trained nurture coaches who work with small groups of students during registration and lunchtimes. We also have an in house support worker who can engage with students who find the rules and routines of school a challenge or who may need additional social and emotional support. The Youth Engagement and Participation Service (YEPS) operated by the local authority can work with young people, schools, parents, carers and communities to ensure that barriers to attendance, engagement and participation in learning are minimised and where possible removed.

Counselling is available at the school through the 'Eye to Eye' service. This confidential support system has proven to be highly successful for a number of our students who are affected by a wide range of issues throughout their teenage years. Also available at the school is the support of an educational psychologist.

Safeguarding

We have a designated safeguarding team in school consisting of a Senior Child Protection officer and our Child Protection Officer. This team works closely with our extensive pastoral team to safeguard all of our pupils. Any concerns are reported and are then dealt with in a safe and appropriate manner. There are signs up in the school reception to raise awareness of our safeguarding team. Should you wish to discuss any matter with our safeguarding team please call and speak to reception who can put you in touch with the relevant staff.

Extra-Curricular and enrichment opportunities

Y Pant is a vibrant school offering a variety of activities and enrichment opportunities for students of all ages and abilities.

Within performing arts pupils could choose to join the school choir, band, orchestra, become a member of our Youth Theatre, undertake instrumental or vocal lessons or develop their skills as a 'techie' or stage manager. The department offers a range of concerts, performances and shows to nurture and showcase our young talent. This year our upper school pupils presented the outstanding "Return to the Forbidden Planet".

All pupils can enjoy the range of sporting activities on offer. Football, rugby, netball, football, hockey and athletics are just some examples of the activities open to our pupils. An annual ski trip has long been a highlight of the school year and our annual Sports Day can now return with the completion of our outside sports facilitiestraditionally this event sees nearly every pupil engaged in seeking glory for their house.

With such articulate students it is hardly surprising that Y Pant excels at debating. Teams in all key stages regularly compete for titles locally and nationally. The English department also offers regular theatre trips throughout the year.

Throughout the year there are many trips both locally, nationally and internationally that pupils have the opportunity to experience. Some examples of these have included New York, Barcelona, Paris, Sicilly and London.



Extended Provision

At Y Pant we have a YEPS Youth Participation Officer, Youth Re-engagement Officer and part-time Engagement Support Officers. Activities take place after school from 3.00pm-5.00pm from Monday-Thursday.

There are various activities that participants can access, such as sports, DJing, cooking and Warhammer. We also take pupils up to Llantrisant Leisure Centre to take part in free activities there. We take pupils' views into account when deciding the types of activities to put on.

House System

Each registration group is allocated to one of four houses:









Pupils get the opportunity to compete in sporting and academic house competitions throughout the year including the sponsored walk, the Eisteddfod and sports day.

House points are awarded during the year for such things as academic effort and achievement, citizenship, representing the school in sports or performing arts, attendance and positive values.

At the end of the year, the pupil with the highest number of house points in each house is given a cash award for their efforts.

The Y Pant School Parliament

The Y Pant School Parliament is made up of four ministries:

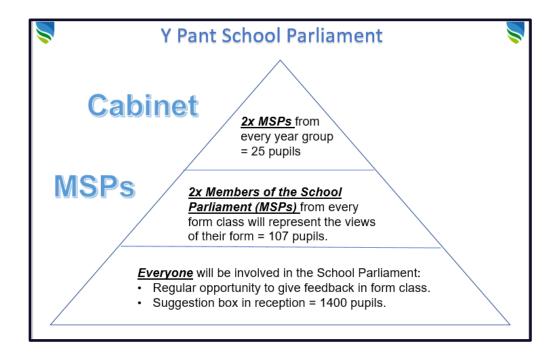
Y Pant School Parliament			
Ministry for Education			Ministry for Equality
* Teaching and Learning * Curriculum * Option Pathways	* Mental Health * Physical Health * Behaviour for Learning * Attendance	* Environment * Eco-Schools * School Profile * Extra curricular	* Anti-Bullying * LGBTQ * UN Rights of the Child * Buddy System

Everyone at Y Pant is involved in the School Parliament, as student's views are taken:

- During registration in regular collection of feedback.
- Suggestion box in reception.

Students have the opportunity to be elected by their form class as a form rep. Form reps will become MSPs (Members of the School Parliament). Every form rep will be linked to a ministry.

Y Pant School Parliament - Cabinet		
Year 7	2 pupils	
Year 8	2 pupils	
Year 9	2 pupils	
Year 10	2 pupils	
Year 11	2 pupils	
Year 12	2 pupils	
Year 13	2 pupils	
Senior Prefect Team	11 pupils	
TOTAL	25 pupils	



You can keep up to date with what is going on in the Y Pant School Parliament by following it on twitter:- @YPantParliment

Associate Student Governors (ASGs)

The Parliament elects Student / Governor Representatives as a link to the Governing body. We elect one student from Key Stage 3, one from Key Stage 4 and one from year 12. The Head boy and girl lead this team who attend governor meetings and feed-back on work and events that take place in school.

Westminster Trip

Each year the new members of parliament are given the opportunity to visit Westminster and take a guided tour around the Houses of Parliament. This is always a very well attended trip where learners gain an insight into the workings of the House of Commons, House of Lords and the passing of new laws.

Financial Support

Secondary school can be an expensive time for families but we do endeavor to keep costs down. We are able to access grant money from the Welsh Government to assist children in receipt of Free School Meals with access to educational visits and school equipment. These children also qualify for a uniform grant. If parents or carers are in receipt of any benefits or tax credits we would advise them to apply for Free School Meals via the Rhondda Cynon Taf website.

School Transport

The following school buses are provided by Rhondda Cynon Taf from the following areas:



Bus passes are issued in the summer term. Currently transport is provided free of charge by Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC for most children living in these areas.

School Meals

We operate one main canteen serving area in Ty Bwyta plus a satellite servery, Y Pantri. The service is provided by Rhondda Cynon Taf's Catering Direct and provides nutritionally balanced menus. Every day there is a main meal and dessert provided with a vegetarian alternative, a selection of pasta, noodles, pizza, filled rolls and baguettes, sub hot sandwich bar and the popular self-serve salad bar. The 6th form have their own dedicated coffee bar, Caffi Bach.

Space is also provided inside for children to eat their own sandwiches. The canteen is cashless – children have an account which can be topped up online using their unique number via the school website. Children in receipt of Free School Meals have a set amount (currently £2.80) automatically added to their account every day.



Communication

We are keen to keep parents and carers informed of the activities happening within the school. There are a number of ways in which we do this: the school operates a ParentMail for those parents and carers registered: an absence text service to monitor attendance; and the school website. We have a school Twitter page **@ypantschool** and an instagram page **y_pant_school** which is used to inform, celebrate achievement and advertise upcoming school events. The school office is open from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily.

For any questions or if you need any more information please feel free to call in and speak to reception, or alternatively you can email in to admin.ypantcomp@rctcbc.gov.uk.

The Milk App

From September 2018 we have introduced the Milk App. This is an extremely useful tool where parents can see what homework their child has been set and whether it has been handed in. Eventually we will be able to send our pupil reports via this system.

Reporting on Progress

When pupils enter Y Pant they are given a target grade based on all the information we have from the primary school and national measured tests. Pupils receive two grades – one for humanities subjects and one for mathematics / science based subjects. Pupils are tracked against these grades throughout their time at Y Pant.

In sixth form, pupils and staff discuss and mutually agree on a target grade for each subject being studied.

Parents can expect to receive a report each half-term. There are usually 4 short reports which gives parents a snapshot of their child's progress and one long report which includes teacher comments.

Heads of Progress review pupil progress each time this data is collected. If pupils are achieving ahead of their target grade in key areas then their target grade *may* be reviewed and moved up.

Pupils who are regularly underachieving in their subjects will be offered support.

Contact Information

Phone 01443 562250

Address

Cowbridge Road, Talbot Green, Pontyclun, Rhondda Cynon Taff CF72 8YO

Fax

01443 229248

Twitter

@YPantSchool

Instagram

Y_pant_school

Email

admin.ypantcomp@rctcbc.gov.uk

Further Information

Latest School Inspection Report www.estyn.gov.wales

Local Education Authority
www.rct.gov.uk

School Website www.ypant.co.uk

