

Dyffryn Nantlle Schools' Climate Assembly



CREU • CYMUNEDAU • GWYRDD

GWYRDDNI

COMMUNITY • CLIMATE • ACTION



BACKGROUND

GwyrddNi is a community based, community led climate change action organisation. It brings people together in five areas in Gwynedd to discuss, learn about and take action locally on climate change.

To find out more about GwyrddNi visit our website: <https://www.gwyrddni.cymru/>

As part of this work we have been working with the schools in the GwyrddNi areas to provide an educational programme to match the ethos and theme of the work in the community.

In the Dyffryn Nantlle area we have been working with Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle, Ysgol Talysarn, Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Rhosgadfan.

The educational programme has been designed with six aspects:

- A workshop in the school on Climate Change
- A tour around the community to experience some of the climate solutions that are being implemented locally
- A Climate Assembly
- Presenting the findings of the Schools' Assembly to the Community Assembly
- Climate Action
- Celebration of what has been achieved

I would like to thank all the schools that are part of the scheme for their enthusiastic collaboration.

WORKSHOP

During the spring and summer terms of 2022 we held Climate Change workshops with Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle, Ysgol Talysarn, Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Rhosgadfan.

The aim of the workshop was to ensure that we:

- Look at different elements of our communities and how they are linked
- understand what the greenhouse effect is
- understand the carbon cycle
- understand how burning fossil fuels and failing to look after the natural world intensifies the greenhouse effect and thus causes global heating.
- understand that it is global heating that causes the climate change that we are experiencing at the moment

- consider how climate change affects people around the world, including ourselves here in Wales
- understand that finding ways of living where we do not burn fossil fuels and we look after the natural world would make a big contribution to slowing down and reducing the impact of climate change on our communities
- feel comfortable discussing feelings about climate change and realise that it is possible to convert negative feelings into positive ones when taking action.

Here are some pictures of the workshops across the GwyrddNi areas.



TOUR

- During the 2022 autumn term the children and young people on the programme were given an opportunity to experience some of the climate solutions that are already being implemented in our communities.

The aim of the tours was to realise:

- that it is possible to respond to the climate emergency
- that it is possible to respond to the climate emergency here in Dyffryn Nantlle and to get a taste of the responses that have been developed so far
- that there is no single solution to the climate emergency but rather a wide variety of solutions.
- that a community response to the climate emergency also contributes a number of other benefits to us as individuals and to our communities.

In Dyffryn Nantlle we visited or took part in a workshop with:

- The Wild Garden
- The Make and Repair Space
- The Community Allotments
- The Digital Space
- Dyffryn Nantlle Community Transport
- Llyfrgell y Petha (library of things)

We are most grateful to all the staff and volunteers from Yr Orsaf and Llyfrgell y Petha for making the tours a success.





ASSEMBLY

The Dyffryn Nantlle Schools' Assembly was held in Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle on 10 November 2022.

It was attended by 25 children and young people from Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle and Ysgol Rhosgadfan.

The aim of the assembly was to:

- consider and note what is important to us in our communities
- visualise a future where we have done everything within our ability to respond to the climate challenge.
- develop ideas that will help us to reach that future.

We did this:

- as individuals, by thinking about and drawing a picture of the places in our community that are most important to us and putting them on a map of the valley
- as individuals, by imagining a future where we have done everything within our ability to respond to the climate challenge. Sharing this with our group in order to find elements of the vision that we had in common with the rest of the group. Sharing these with the rest of the Assembly and recording them so that it was possible to create a common picture of the future that we desire.

- as a group by developing ideas that will help us to ensure that a specific element of the vision comes true and record them on a special pro forma.



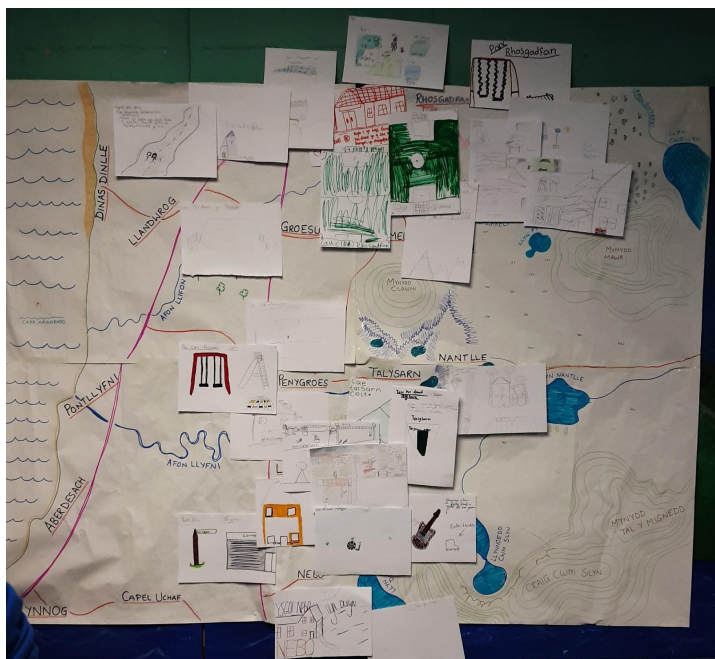
We would like to thank Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle for hosting the Assembly.

ASSEMBLY FINDINGS

These are the findings of the Dyffryn Nantlle Schools' Assembly.

The things in our communities that are important to us:

These are the things that we want to preserve as we respond to the climate challenge in our communities. Also, these things could help us to move towards the sort of future that we desire.



Our parks including Parc Rhosgadfan and Parc Cwtin in Penygroes

Cae Cled, Rhosgadfan

The hill in the park where we slide down on our knees

Moel Tryfan

The Mountain Rangers in Rhosgadfan

Our football pitches - in Groeslon, Llanllyfni, Talysarn and Penygroes

The Co-op in Penygroes

Our schools, our school playing field and in particular the place where we grow pumpkins after school.

Rhosgadfan Chapel Rhosgadfan Hall Lon Las Eifion

Llyn Dulyn The Pumphouse in Dorothea quarry The large trees where we climb

The Quarryman's Arms, which is not open now Our homes and our friends

Our vision for our community in 2040:

This is how our community will be when we have done everything within our ability to respond to the climate challenge.



Our houses will be modern and large enough. We will use materials to build them that do not harm the environment. We will use waste plastic to insulate them. There will be solar panels on every house. We will create an eco modular building industry in Dyffryn Nantlle that will create jobs for people here. Every house will have a large enough garden to grow food.

We will eat local food. We will grow food at home and as a village. We will buy food from the farm. There will also be a local shop from which to buy food. There will be enough healthy food for everyone.

We will wear clothes that we have made ourselves.

There will be no waste plastic.

We will generate energy for the valley using wind, water and the sun.

We will travel less and when we travel we will do so on bikes, scooters and electric cars. There will also be an electric train that will travel through the air.

The valley will be full of plants and wildflowers. There will be many trees, which will be full of birds.

In the summer the weather will be hot and in the winter the weather will be cold.

We will be able to receive education at home if we wish, with computers to help us to understand more.

We will get enough outdoor exercise and we can go for a walk without it being interrupted by any harm at all. Moel Tryfan and the parks will be full of children playing. There will be enough places for people to get together and on fireworks night there will be one big bonfire instead of many small ones.

Our ideas for action that will help us to achieve the above future:

Housing

Improvements to the houses in Dyffryn Nantlle.

Every house will be producing renewable energy and solar blinds for windows will have been invented.

A scheme where people can exchange houses in order to meet their needs.

Energy

One huge windmill – community owned – in the big field close to the big mountain.

Solar panels on the roof of all the schools and every house producing renewable energy.

Food

A community farm under common ownership with a farm shop selling the food.

A mini farm in the school with a shop to sell the produce. The farm will grow fruit trees for people to climb to pick the fruit. Organise a fruit growing competition and a tree climbing competition to pick the fruit.

Support for people to be able to grow food and flowers in their gardens or in a community garden.

A scheme to provide boxes to grow healthy food by the roadside so that anyone needing food can pick it.

Transport

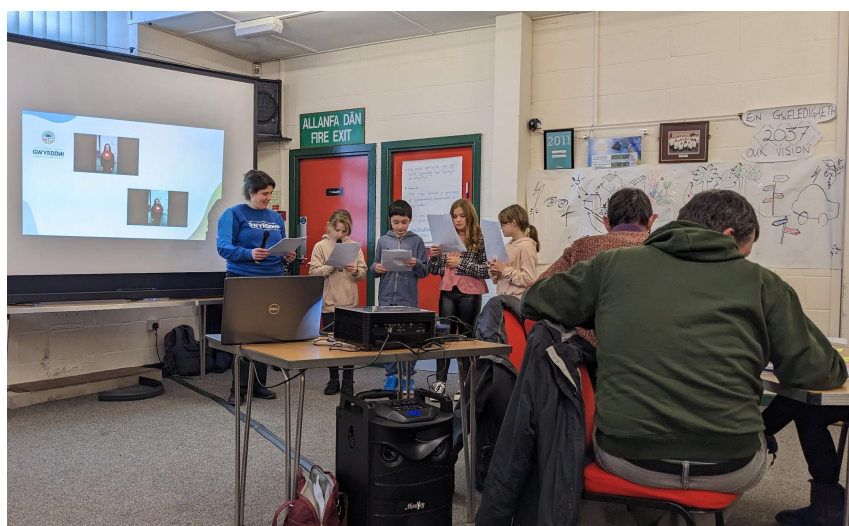
Build on the idea of the Library of Things – so that people can borrow electric scooters.

A free electric train that goes around the area.



PRESENTATING TO THE COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY

The findings of the Schools' Assembly were presented to the Dyffryn Nantlle Community Assembly on 11 December 2022 by Ella, Mia, Abby and Steffan from Ysgol Rhosgadfan.



The Assembly was very pleased to hear the opinions, aspirations and ideas of the children and young people.

"It was great to have the visit from the local primary school kids as well showing their hopes and aspirations for the future. It was really moving really. One thing that I noticed was really good was that they're quite blue sky in their thinking so they're not sort of so bogged down in the practicalities of things as the adults are which is great because you can lose sight of things that you want to aim for because you think oh well it's not practical, you can't do that for this, that and the other reason and why not aim high, aim for the best outcomes." - Martyn, Dyffryn Nantlle Assembly member

The children and young people's ideas were used as a basis for developing the ideas of the Assembly for inclusion in the Dyffryn Nantlle Climate Action Plan during the Community Assembly.

NEXT STEPS

The children and young people, and the GwyrddNi schools will look forward to seeing how the children's ideas play a part as the Assembly develops a climate action plan for the valley.

We will also proceed to implement the final parts of the education programme, namely climate action, and celebrate what has been achieved over the last year.

You will be able to see these developments on the GwyrddNi [social media sites](#).

