



Ysgol y Cwm – How you can help

Ysgol y Cwm is probably the only Welsh school in the world constructed in recent years using exclusively private funding. It was created to provide a bright future for the Welsh language in the Andean region of Welsh Patagonia. Since opening in 2016, it has passed all formal Argentinean Ministry of Education tests with flying colours and has reawakened within the Welsh community in the Andes a desire to learn the Welsh language, practise Welsh culture and be aware of Welsh customs and history. Furthermore, its reputation is so positive, and the competition from the provincial public education system so poor in comparison, and the draw of the Welsh language and culture so strong that parents of more than 65% of the children at the school are from non-Welsh backgrounds.

However, the Argentine government doesn't care much for bilingual schools and, one could always believe, it is certainly not interested in its citizens learning a British language, therefore it gives no financial support for the Welsh teachers (from Patagonia and from Wales) at the school. Consequently, the school is suffering a shortfall of about \$1,000 per month, which cannot be met by squeezing parents harder nor by holding more fundraising events locally.

Although we have many supporters around the world, the only way, in the long term, that we can meet this shortfall is to attract new **Guardians**. That is to make a standing order in favour of the school for as little as £10 per month. If you can, please do. Patrons are recognised on their own special page on our website.

Alternatively, if you would like your, your company's or a loved one's name associated with the school, you could also become one of our "**Champions**" by sponsoring:

- A classroom;
- A tree in the grounds of the school;
- A wooden bench in the grounds of the school;
- A deserving child whose parents cannot afford the school fees;
- A Welsh teacher to come to Ysgol y Cwm for a year;
- A scholarship so that our best students could study in Wales.

Details of the above appear in the website, www.ysgolycwm.com

Other ways of helping the school include:

- Coming to Patagonia for a year at your own expense to teach in the school;
 - Ordering equipment from Amazon for use in the school (please see website);
 - Leaving money in your will;
 - Making one-off cash donations;
 - Organising fund-raising activities (for example, the Christmas Concert at Jewin Chapel in London in 2020, organised by Huw Edwards);
 - Buying franchised items (for example tea towels and books) from the school;
 - Seeking grants from Philanthropies.
- Every assistance will be recognised on the website of the school.

Ambassadors

These are individuals and groups appointed by the school who go out of their way to bring the school to the public's attention and increase its profile around the World. We are very proud to have them as important friends of the school. They include:

Huw Edwards, Sian Lloyd, Cymdeithas yr Hoelion Wyth, The Town of Aberteifi



Champions – Full Details (to appear in the website, not on this hand-out)

Champions will sponsor certain aspects of the school in the name of a loved one or a commercial enterprise. The school will evaluate all applications for Champions status, but please note that approval is not necessary automatic.

Sponsoring a classroom £5,000

An individual classroom will be sponsored for a period of 5 years. A plaque with the name of the person/organisation to whom the classroom is dedicated will appear prominently in the classroom and the children will receive a briefing on the person/organisation each year, following which the children will undertake a project to create certain items (pictures, sculptures, essays, for example), which will be sent to the sponsor. The name of the sponsor, the person to whom the classroom is dedicated and related briefing will appear on the School's website.

Sponsoring a tree in the grounds of the school £500

The school will buy a young tree native to the area and plant it in the grounds of the school. A plaque with the name of the sponsor or the name of the person to whom the tree is dedicated will be fixed to the ground beside the tree. The name of the sponsor, the person to whom the tree is dedicated and a photograph of the tree will appear on the School's website.

Sponsoring a bench in the grounds of the school £500

The school will commission the construction of a wooden bench from a local carpenter, weather-proof it and site it in the grounds of the school. A plaque with the name of the sponsor or the name of the person to whom the bench is dedicated will be fixed to the bench. The name of the sponsor, the person to whom the bench is dedicated and a photograph of the bench will appear on the School's website.

Sponsoring (annually) a child whose parents cannot afford the school fees £1,500

A short monthly video of an interview with the child, with as much spoken Welsh as possible, will be emailed to the sponsor. The name of the sponsor and a photograph of the child will appear on the School's website. The child will be chosen by the school.

Sponsoring a Welsh teacher to come to Ysgol y Cwm for a year £15,000

The teacher will be chosen by the school using its standard interview process and will travel to Patagonia between the beginning of March and mid-December. The sponsorship will include the cost of the flight from the UK to Esquel, local health insurance, a monthly salary equal to that paid by the Welsh Government scheme and local accommodation. The teacher will provide a monthly blog, which will appear on the school's website. The name of the sponsor, plus any information the sponsor wishes to provide, plus the name and a photo of the teacher, will appear on the school's website.

Sponsoring a scholarship so that our best students could study in Wales

Please contact the school for details of this sponsorship.

