



PROGRAMME



INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

SPORTING MARVELS



Sporting Marvels is a well-established Rhondda-based charity that has been working in partnership with many of Rhondda's primary and comprehensive schools since 2003.

Through our dynamic team of positive Christian role models (The "Marvels"), we build quality relationships with local youngsters, encouraging them to be the very best they can be. The Marvels focus on introducing the children to a more positive mindset which we know will lead to them making better choices and therefore, enhancing their life experience.

The Mighty Marvels Health & Wellbeing Programme - the Primary & Junior schools part of what we do - is the foundation of our schools work, and is designed to encourage the positive social, cultural, moral and spiritual development of Key Stage 2 pupils. The 36-week PSE, RE & PE curriculum teaches values, strong character, healthy lifestyle and good citizenship, and all lessons are designed to encourage the Personal & Social Education of Year 6 pupils whilst meeting National Curriculum KS 2 criteria for all three focus subjects almost in their entirety - see our detailed Curriculum Compliance Document for more detail on this!

Through the Marvels' unique skill set and effervescence, and by utilising a broad range of coordinated topics and tasks, we increase the self-esteem of the pupils by challenging the way they think about themselves, their relationships, and about their community and the world at large. At 2 hours per week, with a 1-hour classroom lesson followed by a 1-hour sports lesson, our programme integrates seamlessly into school timetables, adding considerable value to the entire education process.



As you'll see throughout this brochure, we have built a successful track record of delivery and performance in around 75% of Rhondda's primary schools. The Headteachers of the schools we are currently partnering with are strong advocates for the services we offer, which also happen to be free of charge whilst schools remain supportive of our fundraising efforts with photos, videos, feedback, appraisals, etc. Considering all our Senior Marvels are Level 4 qualified and our Trainees Level 3 qualified (see page 22), enabling us to cover PPA if required, we're sure you'll agree that Sporting Marvels represents great value.

Our heart is to see our Mighty Marvels Programme benefiting every school in Rhondda, and we're sure it will prove to be an invaluable part of any primary school's Year 6 timetable!

Phil Lawrie

Philip Davies, LLB
Founder & Chairman
Sporting Marvels

Lawrie R. Davies, LLB
Managing Director
Sporting Marvels



"I used to be very secretive and a bit lonely, but SM has helped me be much louder and a lot less shy. I've changed so much that I have been given the main part in the school play. You've inspired me and I know you have inspired many others in the Rhondda too."

NAME WITHHELD, ONE OF OUR MIGHTY MARVELS PUPILS



The Mighty Marvels Programme has multi-various aims across a wide range of levels for every pupil, from the most gifted to those with learning difficulties. In no particular order of priority, the primary aims of the Mighty Marvels PSE, RE & PE Programme are:

- ✔ To facilitate and support the delivery of RE, PSE & PE in Rhondda's Primary & Junior Schools through the provision of positive Christian role models who exude life and encouragement, helping to increase self-esteem and achievement in Rhondda's young people.
- ✔ To encourage the positive social, cultural, moral and spiritual development of pupils, promoting good health and well-being.
- ✔ To give pupils a positive experience in a variety of sports and activities, encouraging them to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle.
- ✔ To teach pupils good values and principles through Old Testament and New Testament characters, and provide an overview of modern-day Christianity.
- ✔ To equip pupils with the skills to develop effective relationships, assume greater personal responsibility and make choices that will keep them safe from harm.
- ✔ To see pupils develop competence in a broad range of physical activities and remain active for a sustained period of time.
- ✔ To help pupils make positive life choices and develop their character and personal qualities, maximising their potential in all areas of their lives.
- ✔ To prepare pupils, in a practical way, for their transition to secondary school.



Prior to the New Curriculum for Wales, our Mighty Marvels Programme was devised to ensure that the National Curriculum Key Stage 2 criteria for Physical Education, Religious Education and Personal Social Education were met in their entirety, the only exceptions to this being swimming (PE), sexual education and sexual abuse (PSE) and in-depth study of non-Christian religions (RE). This model has essentially enabled Sporting Marvels, up to now, to cover around 2.5 subjects per week across the two-hour teaching time at each of our partner schools.

But with the New Curriculum for Wales being phased in over the next few years, we are in the process of updating our curriculum compliance in order to ensure our Mighty Marvels Programme continues to have a substantial educational benefit at Year 6 level. Of course, the New Curriculum for Wales actually gives schools more flexibility and discretion in how they form and teach the curriculum across the subject range. As such, the benefit of our Mighty Marvels Programme to schools, espe-

cially with the renewed focus on health and wellbeing, has increased, with schools able to broaden the scope of what they cover and how they go about this.

With the Four Purposes being the starting point, and aspiration for every child and young person in Wales being a key focus, we will ensure all our lessons are planned, prepared and delivered in a way that enables learners to develop as:

- ✓ 'ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives'
- ✓ 'healthy, confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society'
- ✓ 'enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work'
- ✓ 'ethical, informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world'

Whereas our current curriculum covers three Key Stage 2 subjects, once we've implemented changes to our

All our children and young people will be encouraged to develop as...

ambitious, capable learners who...

- set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge
- are building up a body of knowledge and have the skills to connect and apply that knowledge in different contexts
- are questioning and enjoy solving problems
- can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English
- can explain the ideas and concepts they are learning about
- can use number effectively in different contexts
- understand how to interpret data and apply mathematical concepts
- use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information
- undertake research and evaluate critically what they find

...and are ready to learn throughout their lives

healthy, confident individuals who...

- have secure values and are establishing their spiritual and ethical beliefs
- are building their mental and emotional well-being by developing confidence, resilience and empathy
- apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives
- know how to find the information and support to keep safe and well
- take part in physical activity
- take measured decisions about lifestyle and manage risk
- have the confidence to participate in performance
- form positive relationships based upon trust and mutual respect
- face and overcome challenge
- have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can

...and are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

enterprising, creative contributors who...

- connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products
- think creatively to reframe and solve problems
- identify and grasp opportunities
- take measured risks
- lead and play different roles in teams effectively and responsibly
- express ideas and emotions through different media
- give of their energy and skills so that other people will benefit

...and are ready to play a full part in life and work

ethical, informed citizens who...

- find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views
- engage with contemporary issues based upon their knowledge and values
- understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights
- understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices and acting
- are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past
- respect the needs and rights of others, as a member of a diverse society
- show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet

...and are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world



Alongside the Four Purposes, cross curricular subjects of literacy, numeracy and even digital, will continue to be integrated into our classroom lessons.

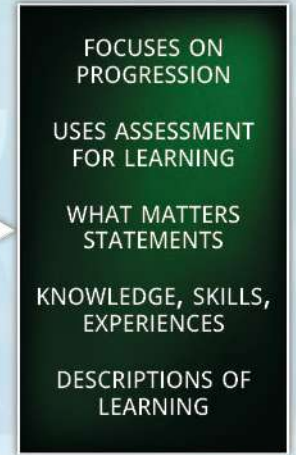
4 Purposes – Learner Needs



6 Areas of Learning & Experience



Raised Standards



current curriculum over the next 12 months in cooperation with our partner schools, Sporting Marvels will largely cover 2 of the 6 Areas of Learning & Experience, namely Humanities and Health & Wellbeing.

Alongside the Four Purposes, cross curricular literacy, numeracy and even some digital, will continue to be integrated into our classroom lessons.

‘What’ we teach has always been important to us, but what makes us so different to many outside of school agencies used for PPA, PE and non-core subjects provision, is the ‘HOW’ we teach and the ‘WHY’ we teach it!



In the New Curriculum for Wales, Pedagogy is at the heart of everything. It encourages teachers to consider the pedagogical approaches they will need to employ to support learners in realising the Four Purposes. Schools are encouraged to develop a strong vision of learning and teaching which considers the WHY and HOW as well as the WHAT, and Sporting Marvels’ heart to see Rhondda’s young people break through deprivation and glass ceilings, is a better fit for education than ever before. The new vision for Wales will recognise the integral role of the learning environment in supporting effective learning with 12 Pedagogical principles that outline what equates to good learning and teaching:

- ✓ maintains a consistent focus on the overall purposes of the curriculum
- ✓ challenges all learners by encouraging them to recognise the importance of sustained effort in meeting high but achievable expectations
- ✓ means employing a blend of approaches including direct teaching
- ✓ means employing a blend of approaches including those that promote problem-solving, creative and critical thinking
- ✓ sets tasks and selects resources that build on previous knowledge and experience and engage interest
- ✓ creates authentic contexts for learning
- ✓ means employing assessment for learning principles
- ✓ ranges within and across Areas
- ✓ regularly reinforces the cross-curricular skills of literacy, numeracy and digital competence, and provides opportunities to practise them
- ✓ encourages learners to take increasing responsibility for their own learning
- ✓ supports social and emotional development & positive relationships
- ✓ encourages collaboration

BY THE END OF TODAY'S LESSON WE WILL...

As this New Curriculum for Wales is phased in over the next few years Sporting Marvels will be working hard to ensure that our Mighty Marvels Programme, and our Marvels, are better prepared than ever to make a positive impact in the lives of Rhondda’s young people!



“The Marvels are a truly unique product and an invaluable part of our school community at Ysgol Nantgwyn. They engage outstandingly well with all pupils across the ability spectrum, and lessons are always current, well planned and presented to a highly professional standard. The advantages of having the Marvels work with our Year 6 classes are literally endless and it would require a book rather than an appraisal form to do them justice!”

KIRSTY RETALLICK, HEADTEACHER, YSGOL NANTGWYN

"Doing the Mighty Marvels lessons was unique and totally amazing. I loved the way we always talked about doing things as a team and the way my class became a team."

LEWIS, YGG LLYNCELYN



KEY FOCUS AREAS:

- Active citizenship
- Health and emotional well-being
- Developing thinking
- The Life of Jesus
- Bullying & Peer Pressure
- Moral and spiritual development
- Wales & the World
- New Testament characters
- Preparing for lifelong learning
- Developing communication
- Old Testament characters
- Working with others
- Christianity & Church
- Improving own learning
- Look after YOU!!

The Mighty Marvels PSE/RE classroom curriculum has been developed to cover the National Curriculum criteria for PSE and RE. As one half of the Mighty Marvels Health & Wellbeing Programme, the lessons go hand-in-hand with the PE sessions, helping schools meet and exceed a whole host of Key Stage 2 requirements.



With all schools required to “support and promote the personal and social development and well-being of its learners” the Mighty Marvels Programme equips Year 6 children with the skills to develop effective relationships, assume greater

personal responsibility, and make choices that will keep them safe from harm. In line with the National Curriculum for RE, pupils are given opportunities to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and use this knowledge to raise and respond to fundamental human and religious questions.

The Mighty Marvels Programme also takes an active role in increasing self-esteem and achievement of *all* pupils, and the Marvels constantly monitor the progress of each individual, via weekly evaluations and end-of-term tests. Using a tailored child-friendly version of the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Test, pupils are tested at the beginning of the academic year and re-tested in July. With a strong emphasis on choices and the importance of good character in pursuing a quality life and lifestyle, the Programme has a value which will stand *all* the children in good stead, whatever path they choose as they grow older.



As well as the key focus areas outlined, far left, our classroom curriculum makes a significant contribution to the children's...

- ✓ Communication skills - listening, speaking & reading
- ✓ Thinking skills - reflection
- ✓ Problem solving and decision-making skills - team building tasks & group challenges
- ✓ Study skills - targets & goal setting

Although the ongoing development of these skills is built into the Programme, careful lesson planning and preparation of tasks provide a range of different experiences and contexts. The ethos and structure of the Programme, together with the attitude and unique skill-set of the Marvels, ensures that the Programme has a hugely positive impact on all the pupils involved.

KEY CURRICULUM COMPONENTS:

► Active Citizenship

Pupils learn to respect themselves and others, explore conflict, bullying and their consequences, participate and contribute to school life and the community, and look at how injustice and inequality affects lives on both local and world levels.



► Health & Emotional Wellbeing

Pupils are encouraged to take increased responsibility for keeping their mind and body safe, and to deal with negative thoughts and feelings in the right way. They are also encouraged to think positively about themselves, the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle, the harmful effects of certain life choices like tobacco, alcohol and illegal substances, as well as the importance of personal safety.

► Moral & Spiritual Development

The children explore their personal values whilst learning new values; learn how every choice has a consequence; why there's a need for authority and



"What makes Sporting Marvels so different is how much you all care about us kids. It really shows and we all love how everything we do is fun and how much passion you all have."

LILY-MAE, CYMMER JUNIORS

rules in society and in life; and how cultural values and religious beliefs shape how people live their lives.

► Preparing for lifelong learning

Pupils are encouraged to value learning and achievement, the importance of various roles in the community, how learning will benefit them in the long term and amongst other things, allow them to earn money and increase their standard of living.

KEY TOPICS COVERED:

The majority of our schools have full year 6 classes: however we have developed a two year curriculum so that the few year 5/6 classes have different lessons the following year. Year 1 we look at The Life of David, The Life of Jesus and The Life of the Church. Year 2 we look at Old Testament Heroes, New Testament Heroes and the Life of a Christian. In addition, bullying, peer pressure, Wales and the World, Me and My World and Look After You have their own Special Lessons!

THE MARVELS "POD" SYSTEM:

Our full-time staff have all the necessary qualifications, skills and experience to deliver the Mighty Marvels Programme. In recent years we've seen massive benefit from having more than one Marvel deliver the Programme in each school. In addition to the obvious disciplinary benefits, it allows us to give extra assistance to the pupils who need it the most.

With top quality materials like the Mighty Marvels Journals, PowerPoint presentations, videos and of course, the unique relationships the Marvels are able to develop with the pupils, our classroom lessons are guaranteed to have a positive and profound impact on the children of Rhondda.



"Sporting Marvels is an incredibly inspiring organisation and I honestly can't speak highly enough of them! The Marvels are truly wonderful and exceptional people - quality role models - who are absolutely adored by our children, and we feel very fortunate to be able to count them as part of the family here at YGG Llyn y Forwyn! ...Without hesitation, I can say that Sporting Marvels surpasses anything I've ever seen in terms of Year 6 provision of this type. Their contribution to school life and to the well-being of our pupils is both enormous and very much appreciated!"

PETRA DAVIES, HEADTEACHER, YGG LLYN Y FORWYN



PE MODULES:

- Basketball
- Health & Fitness
- Netball
- Football
- Striking Games
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- Athletics
- Adventure

The Mighty Marvels PE curriculum has been structured so as to give Year 6 children a broad and enjoyable experience of sport, whilst providing opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way that supports their health and fitness and general well-being.

With all our PE lessons devised so as to meet the Key Stage 2 criteria of the National Curriculum for Physical Education, **the aims of the Mighty Marvels PE curriculum ensure that all participating pupils:**

- ✔ Develop sufficient competence to give them the opportunity to excel in a broad range of physical and sporting activities.
- ✔ Are physically active for sustained periods of time.
- ✔ Engage in competitive sports and related activities.
- ✔ Are encouraged to lead more healthy and active lives.
- ✔ The PE sessions work in harmony with the classroom lessons, and the character value/principle that is covered in the classroom is applied to the sports lesson in a practical/experiential way.

In addition, the lessons also focus heavily on developing communication skills, as well as problem-solving and decision-making skills across the broad spectrum of sports covered throughout the academic year. Our "Pod" System ensures that the children have consistent feedback so they develop an understanding of how to improve in different sports, and learn how to evaluate their own performances and successes.

Whilst all of the Marvels are proficient across a



wide range of sports, it is also compulsory for each senior Marvel to complete a Level 2 coaching award - either the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), Football Association of Wales (FAW) or Welsh Netball Association (WNA) coaching pathway. The skills learnt on these courses and other training provision, such as the Level 2 Instructing Exercise & Fitness, ensure our Marvels have the qualifications and skills necessary to deliver our broad PE curriculum. As you can see on Page 22, we provide opportunities for our team to gain so many more qualifications during their time as a Marvel. We know that this not only betters the Marvels but also increases the value of the team and the service we provide to the schools.

Throughout the Mighty Marvels PE curriculum, pupils learn to:



- Run, jump, throw, and catch in isolation and in combination.
- Play modified competitive games like netball, basketball, football, rounders and cricket, and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending in each sport.
- Develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through athletics, gymnastics and our Health & Fitness lessons.
- Perform sequences or dances using a range of movement patterns in the Health & Fitness module.
- Take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges, both individually and within a team dynamic, through our Transition Adventure Days, and via numerous modules that are built into our curriculum.
- Compare their performances with previous achievements and work towards improving their PBs (personal bests), which are measured through our beginning and end-of-year components of fitness testing. These procedures record pupils' aerobic fitness, flexibility, power and coordination, in a controlled environment that safeguards the confidence of the children whilst at the same time, encouraging them to do their very best.

The first set of tests take place during the Christmas Term, with the pupils retested during the Summer Term. This allows us to accurately evaluate the development of each pupil in respect of the aforementioned components of physical fitness.

Although our PE curriculum is designed to meet the criteria outlined and provide the primary schools with comprehensive PE cover, the lessons are created with strong emphasis on fun and enjoyment!! They encourage the children to participate in sport and maintain a healthy lifestyle outside of school. As a result, don't be at all surprised if your pupils are counting down the clock to their next Sporting Marvels PE lesson!!





THE MARVELS

SPORTING MARVELS



The marvellous Marvels!! Our entire team of front-line Marvels are all Rhondda born, bred and educated. Once influenced while pupils at Rhondda's Comprehensive Schools - and for most, at Rhondda's Primary Schools too - they're now positively influencing today's generation of school-children!



The primary aim of a 'Marvel' is to be a positive role model for what they teach. This being the case, Sporting Marvels always looks to employ quality, young, sports-minded Christians who ooze life and encouragement. However, as has been the case with many of our current workers, we take young people who have many of the raw attributes necessary to become a Marvel and take them through our 2-Year Training Programme until they develop into quality teachers, coaches and role models, ready to fulfil the role of a Sporting Marvel.

We want to help the pupils in the Mighty Marvels Programme to become the best that they can be; not just in the classroom or in sport, but in every area of their lives. It's why we put things like choices under the microscope and the reason whole person Health & Well-being is important to each of the Marvels as they encourage personal, social and emotional development. We believe this process helps steer children towards higher levels of achievement.



Though Sporting Marvels becomes part of the school on a weekly basis, the Marvel role is different to that of a teacher, as the Marvels create a unique platform for influence built on fun and relationship. The Marvels have a great track record for positively influencing the lives of young people, teaching them new things, and helping their development in a way that is different from teachers, and all whilst maintaining the requisite levels of discipline expected by the schools. Although Sporting Marvels is a Christian organisation we always ensure that our workers are sensitive to the beliefs, values and practices of those who follow other faiths and those who have no faith commitment.

Cathryn Knowlson, Headteacher, Cwmclydach Primary, below: “Sporting Marvels has been a part of our school programme for nearly fifteen years now and our children absolutely love the Marvels! They are all outstanding role models, and the delivery and content of the lessons



is fantastic, always engaging our pupils, and interacting well with all levels and abilities. We love being part of the Sporting Marvels programme and we look forward to continuing our partnership for many years to come.”

Tarian, Bodringallt Primary: “I love Sporting Marvels!! They teach us great things like the importance of forgiveness. If we don’t forgive someone, we will only end up hurting ourselves and will not be able to move on with our lives properly.”

Michelle, Jasmine’s Mam: “Your fantastic team is made up of amazing members; kind, caring, considerate, the list is endless. You have made such an impact on so many children’s lives throughout the years and I can’t thank

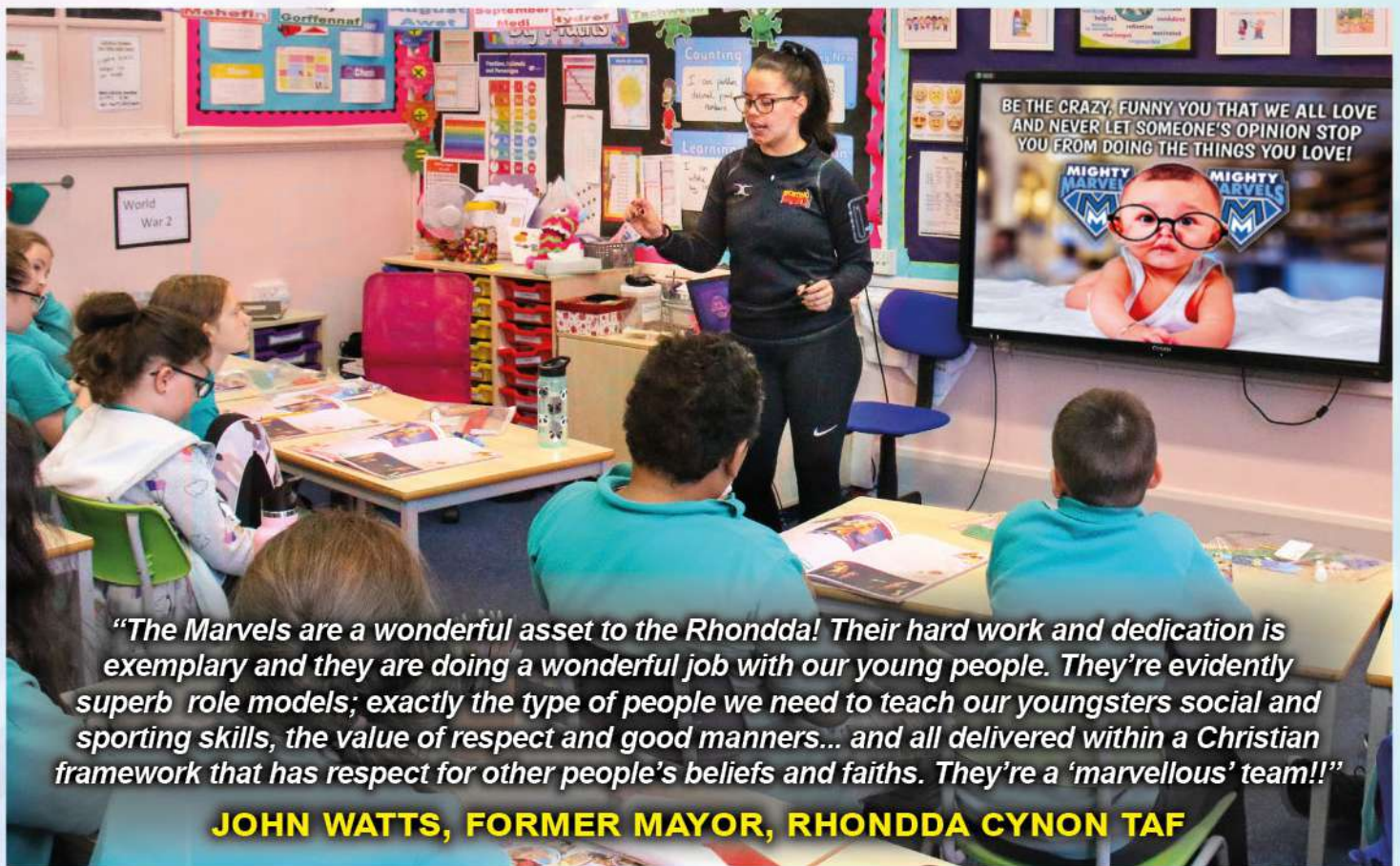
you enough for the opportunities you have given - and continue to give - to mine!”

Louise Reynolds, Headteacher, Treorchy Primary School: “We have two large Year 6 classes and the way the Marvels deliver the diverse RE, PSE & PE curriculum is really excellent. There’s always a buzz and excitement when the team arrive at the school! It’s very evident that the Marvels always want the very best for our pupils, and we have witnessed them having a positive and very significant impact on our children who thoroughly enjoy every lesson. It’s also been great to see the Marvels bond with all of our staff at Treorchy and our class teachers have complete peace and confidence leaving their classes in safe hands.”

Name Withheld (one of our Mighty Marvels pupils): “Last year was really hard for me because some bad stuff happened. When our Mighty Marvels lessons started I really liked the Marvels straight away. I told them about stuff and they were awesome and really kind-hearted. They all understood what I was going through. They have helped me feel so much more confident and shown me how to leave stress and anxiety behind. I really do love Sporting Marvels so much!”

Osian, Parc Primary: “Everyone was terrified of Goliath, except David. Despite his father and brothers looking down on him he was confident in himself and had the courage to take on the giant that everyone else was too afraid to challenge. That story really made me think!”





"The Marvels are a wonderful asset to the Rhondda! Their hard work and dedication is exemplary and they are doing a wonderful job with our young people. They're evidently superb role models; exactly the type of people we need to teach our youngsters social and sporting skills, the value of respect and good manners... and all delivered within a Christian framework that has respect for other people's beliefs and faiths. They're a 'marvellous' team!"

JOHN WATTS, FORMER MAYOR, RHONDDA CYNON TAF

Rachel Davies, Headteacher, Alaw Primary: "The way the Marvels interact with the children at Alaw Primary - not just the class they teach, but the whole school - is brilliant, incredible really!! They are so positive, so polite, always well-resourced and their unique experience, skills and passion help them to integrate into school life and make them invaluable to us as a school staff."

Paula Phillips, Headteacher, Ynyshir Primary: "The Marvels have been amazing since we started working with Sporting Marvels - nothing is ever too much to ask from them! They completely support our school policies and objectives and are seen as a key part of our team. We really appreciate their efforts with our Year 6 class and they are a credit to Sporting Marvels as an organisation."

Joanne, Hiedi's Mum: "You are all such a marvellous credit to the Rhondda! My two girls absolutely love everything about Sporting Marvels and everything about you all as individuals and people. You are such brilliant role models and

Kyl R Thomas
Huge thank you to all of you! You are amazing role models to our children! Can not thank you enough for all you do for them, Gracie has loved it!! Xxx

they love spending time with you! Lots of love from the Leonard Family xx"

Name Withheld (one of our Mighty Marvels pupils): "Sporting Marvels changed my life. I was very sad after being bullied and the Marvels helped me deal with it and be happy again. I will never forget it!"

Christian Coole, Headteacher, Darran Park Primary: "There's no doubt that our pupils look forward to their days with Sporting Marvels the most as they thoroughly enjoy the weekly classroom lessons and sports. The Darran Park pod are excellent at building relationships with our children and treat them all with patience and kindness. Along with the children, both the staff and parents love watching the end of year videos and we appreciate the work that goes into them! It's a great memory for the pupils."

Lisa David (Kieran's Mum)
Thank YOU for everything you do, you've had a massive impact in my boys lives and hopefully continue to do so, I truly believe uv been a major part in helping them become who they are today. So once again i thank you x

Nichola Davies
Amazing night Casey really enjoyed , we would just like too say a big thank u too all the marvels for all the time and hard work u put in with the children and a big thank u from Casey ysgol nantgwynx

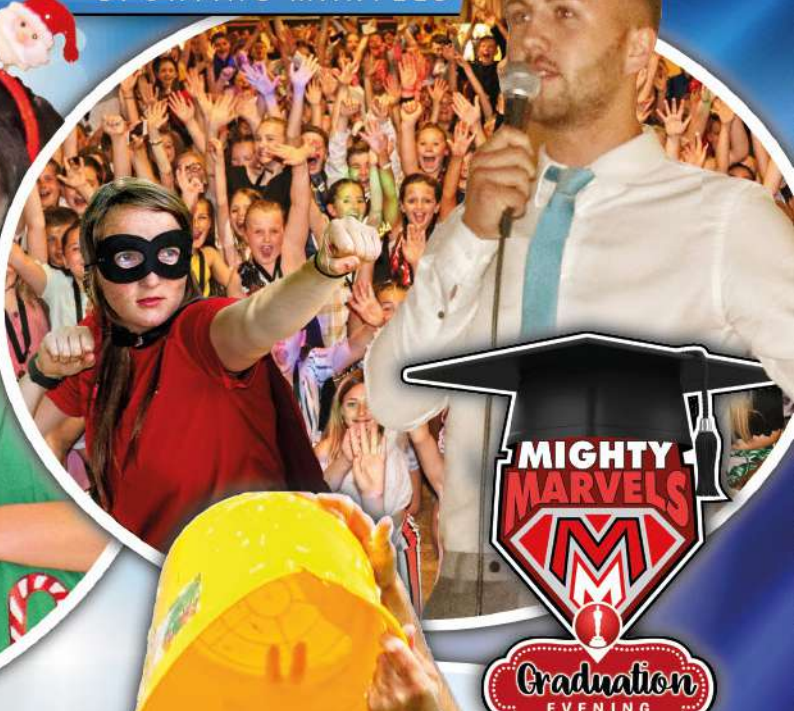
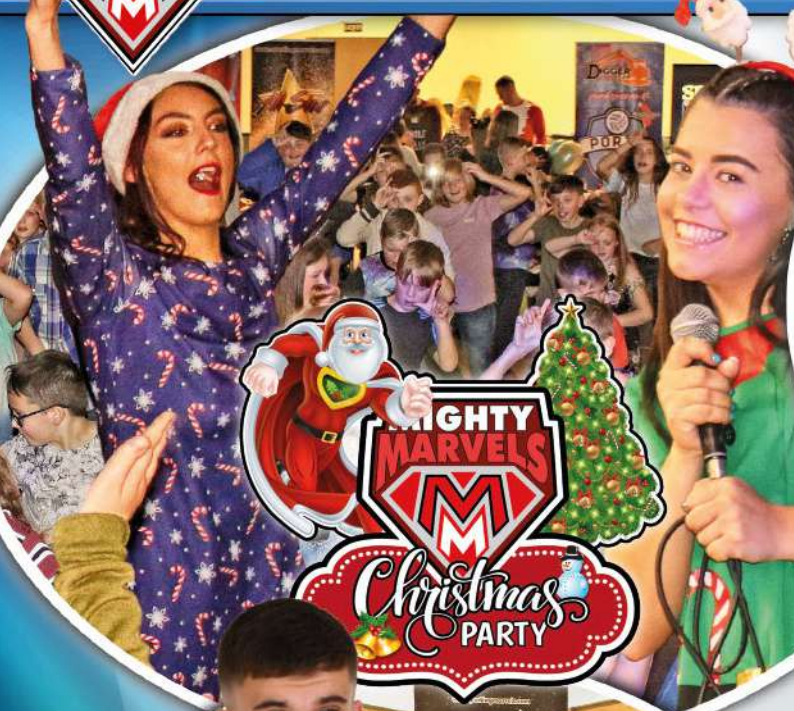




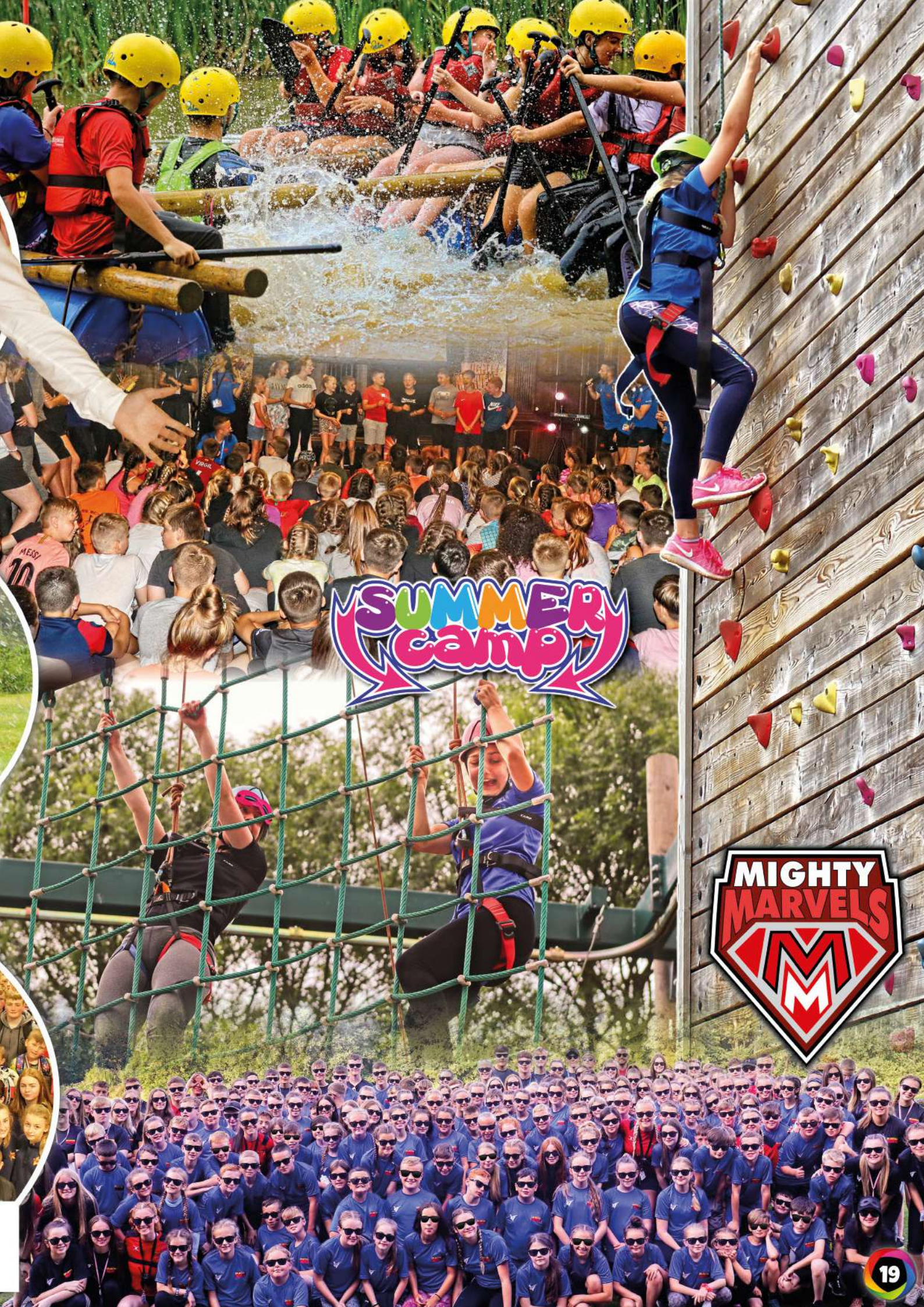
EVENTS PROGRAMME



SPORTING MARVELS



MIGHTY MARVELS EVENTS



SUMMER Camp



TRANSITION:

With the transition between primary school and secondary school being such an important step in any child's life, Sporting Marvels takes an active role helping to make that step as easy as possible for the pupils involved in the Mighty Marvels Programme. Our busy Events Programme gives every year 6 pupil numerous opportunities throughout the year to build relationships with other children from the same cluster of primary schools. With plenty of ice-breaker moments and fun sporting/team activities, it's the perfect environment for children to form new relationships with each other and with our young leaders who are part of the "All-Star Leadership Programme" in the secondary schools we work with. Starting these friendships at an early stage helps prepare them for the "big school" before they start Year 7 the following September.

We also have a full-time presence in the Ysgol Nantgwyn and Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhondda PE Departments, so when the primary school children from these clusters make the jump to Year 7, our Marvels will be there to help them feel more relaxed. And there's nothing better than regularly seeing a trusted face whilst getting to grips with a bigger environment!

For the secondary schools where we don't have a full-time presence, we are often able to run "Transition Adventure Days" on request. For this, we use the school's oldest pupils (who can then also be tasked with a transitional responsibility in September to help the primary school-children settle in) as Team Leaders so that the Year 6 pupils grow in confidence as they engage with them in a controlled and positive team setting.

Our out-of-school Events Programme has grown immensely since the early years of Sporting Marvels, with many of our out-of-schools events amongst the largest in Wales! Our most recent 4-day/3-night residential Summer-Camp totalled 240 young people!!

We aim to run at least one event each half-term, and all the Mighty Marvels children are invited. From our mega Sports Days, to our end-of-year residential SummerCamps, the Mighty Marvels Programme gives the children we work with the chance to stay active during holidays and meet new friends from other schools in their cluster, all whilst continuing to build stronger relationships with the Marvels.

Starting in October half-term with Mighty Marvels Head-2-Head, every pupil is invited for a day of sports and varied games, with fun being the top priority. This first event of each year gives the Marvels a perfect opportunity to interact with the children outside of the classroom setting, helping build the unique Marvel/ pupil relationship that creates such a great platform for positively impacting young lives. At Christmas time, with the weather and the busyness of the season making sports-based events impractical, the Marvels show their disco-diversity at our annual Mighty Marvels Christmas Party – an event notorious for having 4 x one week sell-outs in recent years! Our venues have got bigger and bigger each year as demand for this event has continued to grow

alongside our growing list of partner primary schools! After Christmas the Events Programme really gets going, starting with the Rhondda Netball primary schools' competition which our Marvels support each year, before leading onto our February half-term Just Dance Day focusing on provision for girls in particular.

Then, as spring arrives, we have our epic Sports Day & Water Day during the Easter holidays and Whitsun half-term respectively – both of which are RCT's best attended school holiday events. Our multi-faceted Events Programme helps us create some great memories for the Mighty Marvels children ahead of our spectacular finale, the Mighty Marvels Graduation Evening, held early July. We make a bespoke video for each school, featuring the children and their Marvels and they are also made available for leaving assemblies and for parents on request. This event is perfect for inviting parents and family to, and over the years it's really helped us build relationships with parents keen to learn more about what their kids get up to with us.

Working in complete harmony with the Mighty Marvels Programme, our Events Programme really helps to make the kids' Year 6 experience all the better... And, with SummerCamp during the six weeks holidays, the lucky ones get to finish it all off with the biggest of bangs, making memories that will last a lifetime!!





"You've inspired me to reach for the stars and no-one else in my life does that. Thank you! Anonymous"
NAME WITHHELD, ONE OF OUR MIGHTY MARVELS PUPILS

Sporting Marvels promotes good professional practice, and while our Marvels may not be PGCE graduates, we've developed an intensive Training Programme for all personnel to become experts in covering our focus subjects/areas - see our extensive Curriculum Compliance Document for more detail on this!

QUALIFICATIONS

Week 1:

- ✓ DBS Check
- ✓ First Aid at Work
- ✓ Safeguarding Children & Young People Level 2
- ✓ Education Workforce Council Membership



Year 1 (Trainee Marvels):

- ✓ Level 3 in Teaching & Learning (TA)
- ✓ UKCC Level 1 Sports Coaching
- ✓ OE Mental Health Children & Adolescents

Senior Marvels:

- ✓ Level 4 Education & Training (HLTA)
- ✓ UKCC Level 2 Sports Coaching

Additional:

- ✓ Level 2/3 Instructing Exercise & Fitness
- ✓ Level 2/3 Fitness Instructing
- ✓ Level 3 Personal Training
- ✓ Level 3 Children's Care Learning & Development
- ✓ Level 1 Netball Umpiring
- ✓ Level 3 Health & Social Care (Children & Young People)
- ✓ BA (HONS) Primary Education Studies
- ✓ BSC (HONS) Psychology
- ✓ LLB (HONS) Law



partnership with YHF Training & ACT Training (overseen by Pearson Education and in line with Welsh Government framework) has enabled us to equip our Marvels with the Level 3 Teaching & Learning (TA) and the Level 4 Education & Training (HLTA).

This comprehensive training process ensures that every Marvel has the qualifications, skills and experience to deliver the entire Mighty Marvels Health & Wellbeing Programme and enables each of our teaching "pods" to cover PPA if this is helpful to the school. The ability to add One Education's Child & Adolescent Mental Health qualification has also been a huge addition to our Training Programme recently. And there's no doubt this 13-module course has better equipped our Marvels for the pastoral-type mentor roles they play in the lives of young people, with their increased ability to understand the multitude of challenges many young people face today, further enhancing the positive impact they're able to have.

Of course, despite all our Marvels being fully trained and equipped to be huge assets to schools in an educationally substantive way, the unique training our Marvels receive inside the organisation is what really sets our team apart. There's no certification for this, but the ability to attract hundreds and hundreds of kids to out-of-schools/holiday events in the way that they do, speaks for itself, and all of our partner schools will agree, the way young people are drawn to our awesome role models is very unique indeed!

Alongside our internal training, all Marvels acquire a Level 1 (Trainee) and a Level 2 (Senior Marvel) qualification in Football, Netball or Rugby from the respective governing bodies (UKCC), the equivalent minimum levels for assistant (L1) and senior (L2) coaches in most South Wales sporting organisations.

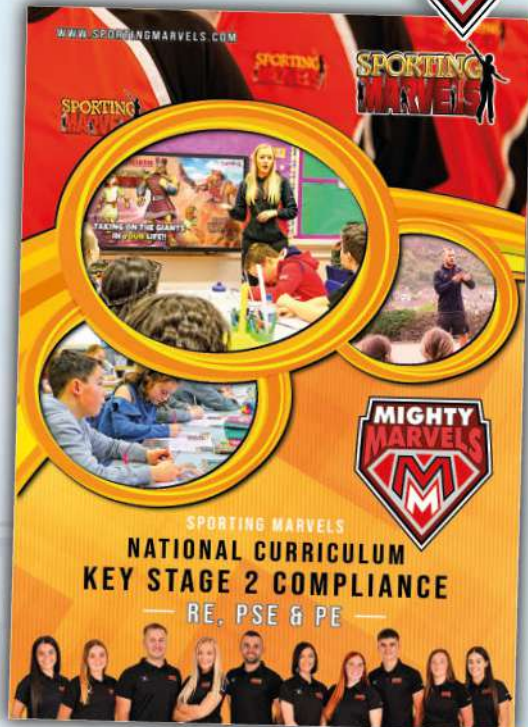
And, as you can see from our qualifications table, our

As the table on the previous page makes clear, all Sporting Marvels personnel are DBS checked and fully up-to-date with all Safeguarding and First Aid training, through internal training and Local Authority LSCB courses.

As you can see from the “Additional” section on the table, training for our Marvels doesn’t stop after they complete their Training Programme to become a Senior Marvel. Once they have acquired their Level 2 Sports Coaching qualification and their Level 4 Education & Training, we provide extensive opportunities to add other qualifications depending on preference. Our new partnership with The Open University has even made it possible for Marvels to undertake a number of degrees which tie into their current role or better prepare them in another employment area they are passionate about.

On top of this, we also have several policies in place that help the Marvels fulfil their roles, and all our staff are expected to adhere to the following:

- Sporting Marvels **Social Media** policy
- Sporting Marvels **Health & Safety** policy
- Sporting Marvels **Photo & Video** Policy
- Sporting Marvels **Code of Conduct**
- Sporting Marvels **Child Protection** Policy



All certificates, qualifications and policies, as well as other literature relating to our schools programmes, can be accessed by all of our partner schools on the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/oB-YAH8A2oTuiS2dmR2J5WEpdHM>



“Sporting Marvels’ delivery is always of the highest standard while the classroom practice, lesson structure and content are conducive to maximum learning. The Marvels are brilliant role models, and their caring way makes them a big hit with both children and staff. We value them very highly, as we do the support of Sporting Marvels generally. You’re making a real difference in hundreds of young lives!”

IAN EVANS, HEADTEACHER, TON PENTRE JUNIORS

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