

# Touch Therapy in Ty Gwyn School

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Headteacher

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# Basic information about the school

- New School opened on 27 September 2010
- Age range: 3 – 19 years
- Current roll: 127 pupils (capacity is 162) – 135 by May 2013
- Catchment area: Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan
- PMLD & ASD
  - P levels – P1 to P8
  - 43% Routes for Learning (RfL) – P1 to P3
- 44% Ethnic Minority
- 32% FSM

# Basic information (cont)

- Class sizes & staffing ratios
  - PMLD: 8 pupils - 1 teacher, 1 senior TA + 2 TAs
  - ASD: 6 pupils - 1 teacher, 1 senior TA + 2 TAs
- Additional Support
  - Health
    - Nursing
    - Therapies – OT, physio & SALT
  - Educational Psychologists
  - Sensory - HI/VI/MSI specialist teachers

# Basic information (cont)

- 24 teachers
- 3 Instructors
- 70 TAs – including 12 HLTAs
- Total number of staff: 130

# How do we organise Touch Therapy?

- All pupils
- Dedicated rooms
- 1 teacher & 1 TA – timetabled for 2 days per week
- 1 Senior TA – timetabled classes
- Millennium Centre – Leavers' Classes

# Learning & Teaching – Touch Therapy

- Touch Therapy policy
- Improvement plan
- Integrated planning with IEPs & IBPs
- Parental involvement
- Monitoring by SLT & Touch Therapy Co-ordinator → report to Governors

# Impact of Touch Therapy

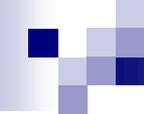
- Development of skills
  - Transferable
  - Communication
  - Sharing & turn-taking
  - Thinking
  - Decision making
  - Co-ordination
  - Motor

# Impact of Touch Therapy (cont)

- Improved self-confidence & self esteem
- Pupils feel:
  - valued
  - capable of success
  - safe within their environment
- Reduced anxiety
- Shared enjoyment by pupils & staff working together

# Impact of Touch Therapy (cont)

- Greater control & mobility of body e.g stretch curl & balance jump
- Improved:
  - body awareness
  - concentration
  - sensory integration



■ FUN!!!