

Establishing the foundations of life



Inspiring a love of learning now and forever

Governors' Report to Parents 2019

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Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Annual Report from the Governing Body and I hope you find it interesting and informative.

In the report we, the Governors, take the opportunity to summarise the responsibilities and activities of the Governing Body. Much of the life of the school, its statistics and achievements are listed in the report, and we hope that this will give an indication of the caring and vibrant learning atmosphere provided at Ysgol Penyffordd.

We have a Governing Body with governors from various backgrounds and perspectives. Some of us are Ysgol Penyffordd parents while others have links with the local community. We work very closely with the Head teacher and the whole staff to see that Ysgol Penyffordd continues to offer the best education possible for your children. The Governors set and oversee the various policies that guide the school towards fulfilling its aims and objectives. Many of the Governors are involved in the life of the school on a regular basis. This involves attending meetings and so much more. I thank my fellow governors for their support and unwavering commitment to the good of the school.

It is undoubtedly the tremendous efforts of Mrs Mulvey and the entire school staff, both teaching and non-teaching, which makes Ysgol Penyffordd such a special school, and we offer our thanks to them for that.

Ysgol Penyffordd benefits from the efforts of parents, too, in many ways. In what are extremely challenging financial times, I must thank and commend the work of the Friends of Penyffordd School and their fundraising efforts. On an individual basis, too, parents' and friends' generosity with time and resources is invaluable in enhancing the school-life of children at Ysgol Penyffordd. I would like to thank you, the parents and guardians, for your ongoing support of your children and the school. The results are plain to see.

You will see from the report that the children have enjoyed a great variety of activities this year, both inside and outside the classroom.

I welcome your views and if you do wish to discuss any aspect of this report with me, or have any questions connected to our work as governors, please contact me via the school office. We have a busy time ahead with the completion of the new school building and I know that everyone is excited for what the future holds for our school community.

Mark Rothero
Chair of Governors

School Council

Ysgol Penyffordd is a creative environment and there are lots of fun ways to learn. Our education here is the best. We work as a team and do lots of active learning. We are a happy school and we make each other smile.

Eco School Committee

Mission Statement: We are committed to recycling in school to save energy and to help keep the seas and oceans clean and safe for animals. We want to support all members of our school to save energy.

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

The strategies, targets and objectives contained in our regularly reviewed School Improvement Plan are currently on course for completion by their scheduled dates.

The main targets for 2017/18 year were:

Priority One: To raise standards of skills and performance of pupils in ICT and digital competence.

Priority Two: To raise standards of skills and performance of pupils in Maths and Numeracy.

Priority Three: Increase active pupil participation

Priority Four: To ensure good levels of wellbeing for all pupils.

All of the main targets were achieved. Schools from within and out of Flintshire came to visit the school to look at our good practice.

The Governors confidently advise that the school has had a very successful year. We recognise the ability, commitment and enthusiasm of all our support staff and the co-operation of the parents in helping the school to continue to achieve this level of success.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017/18

	Budget 17/18	Actual spend 17/18	Difference
Balance from 2016/17	43,129		
Employees	876,061	889,124	-13,063
Premises	53,074	54,279	-1,205
Transport	-	-	-
Supplies	46,152	50,511	-4,358
Meals	-12813		
Service Level Agreements	33,797	36,439	-2,641
Income	-88,583	-164,015	75,432
TOTAL	950,817	901,732	49,085

*Note: No Governor has claimed any monies.

Pupil Deprivation Grant

Pupil Deprivation Grant

The Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) is one of the Welsh Government's principal means of providing financial support for three main priorities for schools:

- Improving standards of literacy
- Improving standards of numeracy
- Reducing the impact of poverty on educational attainment

The grant is to be utilised to overcome any additional barriers that learners from disadvantaged backgrounds face which may prevent them from attaining as well as their peers.

In September 2018 Ysgol Penyffordd had 292 pupils on roll; the school's Free School Meal and Looked-after children (LAC) population was 6.8%.

The total allocation of the PDG to this school for April 2018 – March 2019 is £17,250 and the school has undertaken the following activities to support pupils facing these challenges: Provide increased support for wellbeing including a nurture group on both sites. Making family engagement a key priority – involving family members in their child’s learning in a wide variety of ways. Funding music lessons and residential trips for pupils who are eligible for free school meals.

Ysgol Penyffordd’s PDG plans will be regularly scrutinised by the Governing Body and monitored by the Local Authority.

Friends of Penyffordd School (FOPS) donations 2017- 2018

FOPS donated a fantastic £7,000 to the school last year and raised a significant amount which they are saving to buy outdoor play equipment for the new build. The school used FOPS donations to purchased computers for the Infant and Juniors sites. FOPS funds were also used to subsidise the cost of educational visits and experiences for the children in school, including theatre and residential visits. The contribution of FOPS is enormous and much appreciated.

RASCALS After-School Club

Rascals After School Club operates in both the Infant and Junior School. The clubs which are registered with Care Inspectorate Wales offer high quality care for the children who attend. The clubs can cater for over fifty children each evening and eligible parents can get help towards fees through the Tax Free Childcare Scheme. There are some vacancies most evenings but Tuesdays and Wednesdays are particularly busy. All staff are showing their commitment to the club by taking training courses and Playwork qualifications.

Below is a list of the after school clubs which have been offered by the school.

Rugby, Football, Netball, Ukulele, Golf, ICT, Minecraft, Lego, Coding, Eco-Club, Cheerleading, and Choir. The governors would like it noted that the clubs are run on a voluntary basis by staff, in their own time and would like to express their gratitude to the staff for their dedication.

ATTENDANCE

	Percentage of Sessions
Attendances	95.6%
Possible Attendance	100.0%

School Attendance Policy

Good attendance is vitally important to a child’s development. A telephone message to explain a child’s absence is required; the Office will chase this up if a child is absent. All absences are logged on the school’s electronic register and our figures are reported to our Local Authority. Holidays must not exceed two weeks during the academic year and holiday forms must be signed in advance then approved by the Head teacher.

Consideration is given to the child's previous attendance, plus the proximity to assessment periods. These forms are available from school. School monitors absence very closely. Parents receive termly letters detailing the attendance of each child. The children respond well to the attendance cup which is awarded weekly.

MATTERS DISCUSSED DURING GOVERNORS MEETINGS 2017-2018

18th June 2018

- Agreement to land request made by the Bowling Club. Alternative land availability for the Football Club.
- Head Teacher's report on Self Improvement Plan priorities & budget. Progress towards priorities discussed.
- New school build update – construction on schedule.
- Feedback from Governors on the recent Governors in School Day. Individual Governor reports.
- RASCALS update – staff vacancies/ recruitment, qualification requirements. Service provision.

30th April 2018

- School development – Presentation given on the Oracy programme. General update on School Improvement Plan.
- Land request by Bowling Club/ Football Club. Desire for an agreement to be reached between the two clubs.
- Finance update – recent budget information. Campaign for fair funding for schools – letter to be written to Welsh & National Government from the Governing Body.
- New school build update. Traffic calming measures.
- Self Evaluation Report – school governance & evaluating against criteria.
- Governor training. New Data Protection Regulations.

12th March 2018

- Request made by Penyffordd Bowling Club for a piece of land owned by the school, to allow for additional parking. Potential conflict with Penyffordd FC who also have interest in the land for changing rooms.
- Approval given to Wynne Construction to undertake an aerial survey of the new build using a drone.
- Dates for the commencement of work on the new school. Funding for outdoor equipment. Concerns raised over points on the design of the new school.
- Head Teacher's Report. Progress towards the school's priorities discussed.
- Finance – Budget management, cost savings, campaign for a better settlement from Flintshire County Council.
- Grounds Maintenance – negotiation of a new contract.
- RASCALS – ongoing issues re: recruitment & retention of staff.
- Governors in School Day – date suggested.

24th January 2018 (Extraordinary General meeting)

Response to a meeting held by the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to discuss cuts in the Flintshire Education budget & subsequent meetings held with the Local Authority Finance Officer.

15th January 2018

- Election of Governors. Re-appointed Governors – Parent / Local Authority/ Community/ Staff. Newly appointed Teacher Governor.

- Sub-committee & Link Governor appointments made.
- Verbal report given by the Head on the four priority areas of the Self Improvement Plan.
- New school planning permission postponed.
- Travel Plan – how traffic & parking could be managed during the building of the new school & once it is built. School working in conjunction with the Local Authority.
- Ratification of policies.
- Impact of the proposed ‘flat budget’ for schools from Flintshire County Council.
- Feedback from the meeting between Additional Learning Needs Coordinator & Governors. Discussion around pupils currently requiring additional support.

20th November 2017

- Appointment of new Clerk to the Governing Body.
- New Community Governor, David Walker welcomed.
- Re-nomination of Parent/ Local Authority/ Staff/ Teacher Governors.
- Discussion held with Staff regarding inappropriate comments made about the school & its staff on Social Media.
- Head Teacher’s Report.-Progress towards school priorities discussed.
- Letters written by Community Council & the Governing Body to be taken to a meeting with the Design Commission for Wales in Cardiff.
- Hiring & Lettings re: access to the football pitch & changing rooms by Penyffordd FC. Keyholders.
- Date set for Governors in School Day.
- Report feedback from Phil Lord from GwE.

6th November 2017 (Extraordinary General Meeting)

Notification received by the Design Commission for Wales stating how the School, Community Council & Governors were opposed to the design of the new school. Representatives to meet with the Design Commission in Cardiff to promote their full support of the development.

25th September 2017

- Election of Officers.
- Vacancy for Clerk advertised.
- Review of sub-committees.
- Self Improvement Plan. Allocation of Governors to priority areas.
- Self Evaluation Report – New format to reflect new inspection framework.
- Attendance – holiday requests & unauthorised absences.
- Update on the new school build.
- Hiring & lettings policy- approval from Governors.

OUR SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER

- The Ysgol Penyffordd choir performed at the Butterflies Stroke Association and at the Summer Fair.
- We raised money via a Macmillan Coffee morning, daffodils were sold in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care, poppies were sold in aid of Remembrance, for The Royal British Legion, food collected at the Harvest Service was donated to a local foodbank.
- Family engagement is a key priority for the school. Family members enjoyed several family engagement sessions.
- The school and Castell Alun work very closely together to ensure an excellent transition for the children when they move to high school. This includes several members of staff contributing to meetings at Castell Alun, visits from Castell Alun staff, activities involving children throughout the juniors and Castell Alun children and staff.
- The Year 2 children performed a dance at Theatr Clwyd as part of the Dancefest.
- Pandemonium Theatre Company performed on both sites.
- The Flintshire Peripatetic Orchestra performed for the children.
- PC Debbie Barker, School Liaison Officer visits the school regularly to deliver important topics such as Internet Safety.
- Rev Adam Pawley and the 'Open the Book' group visit both sites regularly to conduct services and to help with the RE curriculum. The children have visited Emmanuel and Trinity Chapels for Easter and Christmas services.
- Parents and community volunteers, have helped us to deliver a broad range of after-school and other extra-curricular activities. Many thanks to them.
- FOPS meetings are held, alternately on the infant and junior sites and their fund-raising goes from strength to strength.
- We continue to host a number of visits by members of the local and wider community including local banks, the police, the fire service, health professionals, the library service and various charities.

The 2019 Governing Body

Type of Governor	Name	Term Ends
Chair and Parent Governor	Mr Mark Rothero	January 2022
Vice Chair and Community Governor	Mrs Jill Pye	May 2021
Parent Governor	Mr Paul Archer	January 2022
Parent Governor	Mr Paul Povey	October 2020
Local Education Authority Governor	Vacancy	
Local Education Authority Governor	Mrs Cindy Hinds	January 2022
Local Education Authority Governor	Mr David Williams	January 2022
Community Governor	Mrs Sue Holmes	January 2022
Community Governor	Mr Jim Foley	October 2022
Community Governor	Mrs Sue Lewis	May 2021
Minor Authority Governor	Mrs Pat Ransome	
Teacher Governor	Mrs Claire Griffiths	January 2022
Staff Governor	Mrs Jane Littler	January 2022
Head Teacher Governor	Mrs Jayne Mulvey	

Toilet Policy

The school has several toilet blocks, separate boys and girls for the children to use, they are situated around the school close to all classrooms. These toilets are monitored regularly and cleaned daily.

Additional Needs Policy

Every child experiencing Additional Needs will be welcomed and valued as an individual. Mrs Jan Papper is the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator. Ysgol Penyffordd, through policy and practice, aims to identify and support such pupils in accordance with the guidelines offered in the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs. To do this the school identifies the level of the pupil's needs by assessing Maths, Reading and Spelling twice a year, and follows up parental queries and concerns. Some children, a small minority, are assessed by the Senior Inclusion Support Teacher or by the Educational Psychologist and other agencies. Parents and Pupils are consulted at all stages of referral.

More Able and Talented

At Ysgol Penyffordd we recognise that we have more able and talented children. Individual children should be encouraged to develop their attributes, skills and potential within a learning environment that embraces equality of opportunity and provision. Abilities and talents will emerge in a wide range of subjects and fields. It is important to develop the whole child. Schools and individuals can thrive in a culture of ambition and aspiration.

Making provision to meet the needs of More Able and Talented pupils therefore will benefit ALL pupils' Curriculum of Opportunity.

Contextual Assessment Data for end of Key Stage 2 2017-18

Below is shown the assessment data for Year 2 and Year 6 children in the summer of 2018.

Y2

Subject	O5+	O6+
Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator (FPOI)	89.1%	
LLC	89.1%	51.4%
MD	91.9%	64.9%
PSD	94.6%	86.5%

Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator (Number of children achieving Outcome 5 in all core subjects). Percentages denote the children achieving Outcome 5 or above.

Y6

Subject	L4+	L5+
Core Subject Indicator (CSI)	96.9%	
English	96.9%	69.7%
Oracy	100%	72.7%
Reading	96.9%	75.8%
Writing	90.9%	36.4%
Maths	96.9%	51.5%
Science	96.9%	72.7%
Welsh	84.8%	18.2%

Core Subject Indicator
(Number of children
achieving level 4 and

above in all core subjects)

Percentage denotes the children achieving level 4 or above

PROGRESS SINCE LAST INSPECTION

The school was last inspected in Spring, 2015, by a team of Estyn inspectors. There were three recommendations for the school following the inspection, which have been addressed via a Post Inspection Action Plan.

Recommendation 1

Improve standards of writing and feedback across the school.

Recommendation 2

Develop consistency in teaching across the school.

Recommendation 3

Ensure equality of provision across the sites.

This recommendation relates to provision for breakfast and after-school clubs. Both sites now have access to both.

Action: All recommendations have been fully met and completion was authorised by the Local Authority

STAFF CHANGES

2017-18 Appointments

Ms K Guillot – Teaching Assistant

Mrs M Hurley – Teaching Assistant

Mrs J Hough - Cleaner