



Annual Report to Parents (2019 – 2020)

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Welcome to the annual report to parents of Penygarn Community Primary School. Croeso I chi! We the Governors, staff and pupils, all follow and promote the school's mission statement:

Nurturing the Hearts and Minds of the Future

"Magu'r galon a'r meddwl o'r dyfodol"

Dear Parents/Carers,

This time last year, who would have thought that I would be writing this year's chairman's report in a middle of a global pandemic?

It's been an extremely challenging year at Penygarn Community Primary School for staff and pupils alike and I would like to start by thanking everyone, who has gone above and beyond to ensure the school continues to offer outstanding learning despite these unprecedented times.

I would like to welcome Louisa Sellars back from her secondment to Central South Consortium. While Louisa was away, Lee Jones stepped up into the Acting Headteacher position and Claire Evans stepped up into the Acting Deputy Headteacher post just in time to be faced with the challenges of COVID-19. Myself and the Governing Body cannot praise them enough for the fabulous job they did. Not only were they new to the positions but they also had the added pressures of planning how to deliver effective distance learning and then how to re-open the school successfully whilst ensuring appropriate social distancing and bubbles etc. A big thankyou to Louisa as well, who was always just on the end of the telephone to offer advice if needed.

I would also like to thank the teaching and support staff, who found themselves having to get to grips with delivering a whole new way of teaching and learning while we were closed which included regular pupil catch ups, online lessons and work packs. Thank-you to the Admin team, led by Mrs Stokes, who have ensured the continued smooth running of school and the ongoing communication and last but not least thank-you to our families for all the hours of home schooling you have delivered to keep the pupils of Penygarn learning. We should all feel very proud of what we have achieved whilst having to deal with the disruption of having our own children and family's at home and our own work commitments to honour.

I'm sure you will share with me my gratitude for all the hard work that was undertaken in these uncertain times.

On our return, the hard work has continued. Thank-you to the Site Manager and cleaning staff, who together have ensured that the school is not only clean but is constantly sanitised with a thorough new cleaning and disinfecting programme to keep staff and pupils safe. Thank-you to the Midday Supervisors and Canteen staff, who have helped the pupils settle into the new systems for Breakfast Club and lunchtimes and thank-you again to our school community for your continued support as we all learn to work together in these new ways.

Best wishes from all on the Governing Body.

Matthew Ford

Chair of Governors

Parent Governor Vacancies

When a vacancy arises on the governing body for a parent representative, the Local Authority will inform all parents of the vacancy and will make the necessary arrangements for the subsequent election. Every parent of a registered pupil at the school will be entitled to stand as a candidate and to vote at the election. Each parent will be provided with a letter via student post and a nomination form. The nomination form and personal statement must be returned to the school by the set date. Elections will be held by secret ballot. The next scheduled election of Parent Governors is November 2020

Annual Parents' Meeting

No petition for an annual parents' meeting was received during the year so no meeting was held under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales Act) 2013.

School Improvement Plan (2019 – 2020)

Our School Improvement Plan (SDP) is a pivotal document in the life and activities of our school. It is directly linked to our Self Evaluation Report (SER) and focuses on the achievement and wellbeing of pupils through teaching and learning, leadership and management.

There are many strands to what we do. The Development Plan anchors those strands within a context – that of maintaining and consolidating what is good and successful and building upon it to generate further success. It provides a framework, identifying things that are necessary to do in the short term and those that can be planned for future years.

The SDP generates a sense of purpose and direction. Performance Management targets for all staff, including the Senior Leadership Team and Headteacher are linked to the SDP. Local targets set are rooted within this document.

All staff and members of the Governing Body are involved in its preparation. It is available for parents to read. All can share in the forward movement of the school, helping to create a climate for improvement and achievement.

Priority outcomes for academic year 2019-2020

- Raise standards by:
 - Improving the quality of teaching & learning in Maths & Numeracy
 - Improving the quality of teaching & Learning in LLC including Welsh
 - Further embedding the DCF across all AOLEs
 - Further developing the quality of teaching & learning with a focus on learner participation
 - Further embed progress towards the realisation of a transformational curriculum for Wales by focusing on the four enabling objectives
- R1 Improve pupils' extended writing and numeracy skills across the curriculum, particularly in key stage 2
- R2 Raise standards in ICT
- R3 Improve attendance
- R4 Improve the provision for developing pupils' understanding of the Welsh dimension
- R5 Ensure that teaching is consistently good in all classes

Community Links

School Health Nurse	Year 3 – Kerb Craft	Police/PCSO
Breakfast Club	Year 6 Taster Days – Abersychan/West Mon (Virtual Sessions due to Covid19)	Road Safety
Year 6 climbing	Laura Roynon - Assembly	Pontypool Eisteddfodd
Year 5 swimming	Environmental Grant	Pontypool Community Council Concert
Scholastic Book Fair	Fire Service	Design to Smile
Fundraising - various	Welsh Week	Sports Tournaments - various
John Muir		