

# **Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2021-2022**

Adroiddiad Blynyddol  
Llywodraethwyr i'r Rhieni





## Governors' Annual Report to Parents

### Adroddiad Blynyddol y Llywodraethwyr i'r Rhieni

### *A message from our Chair of Governors*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The school has had an extremely successful 2021/2022 with excellent results across both key stages.

Last academic year brought many challenges

- Class closures and Blended/distance learning
- Staffing

However, both in the Foundation Phase and in Key Stage 2 we continued to adapt, share, support and celebrate. The staff continued to focus on pupils' development of the skills within an exciting and stimulating curriculum, whilst remaining focused on the core of the well-being of your child.

As governors we recognise the efforts and good work of all staff in contributing to the school's continuing progress and in maintaining sector-leading practice in many areas.

Thank you to all children, parents and members of the community that make our school successful. Again, the last academic year has reaffirmed that together we are

“ Nurturing the hearts and minds of the future”

Best wishes,

Sarah Hiron

Chair of Governors

Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr



# School Aims / Amcanion yr Ysgol

At Penygarn Community Primary School we believe that we are all lifelong learners – children and adults alike. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone; it should be fun. Through our teaching we equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences help children to lead happy and rewarding lives.

We work hard to ensure that all children are given a wide range of the highest quality learning and teaching experiences during their time at Penygarn Community Primary School. We offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced, and teaching and learning experiences that are engaging, inspiring and empowering, and differentiated to meet children's individual needs and abilities.

Penygarn school staff and governors strive to ensure that the religious dimension of the school permeates all aspects of school life. The curriculum and learning and teaching experiences are intended to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, academic, emotional and physical development of the children at the school. They must prepare children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life in the twenty-first century. We provide an education within which children become

- **ambitious, capable learners** challenged to reach their full academic potential.
- **ethical, informed citizens** with opportunity to develop physically, spiritually, emotionally and socially.
- **healthy, confident individuals** ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.
- **ethical, informed citizens who** participate fully in Welsh Society and the '21<sup>st</sup> century global.

Aims:

We believe that every human being is uniquely created and has a right to be part of a community where each member is valued and respected for their own worth irrespective of sex, race, colour, creed, ability or religion. Our school offers to each member the opportunity to grow in the knowledge that he or she is valued. Our aim is to deliver the highest standard of education and care for all our pupils.





We aim for us all, as learners, to:

- feel safe and valued as part of a caring, community that celebrates success;
- be independent learners who are able to seek solutions creatively and co-operatively;
- be confident enough to take risks in our learning;
- experience and actively participate in a relevant, enjoyable curriculum that evolves to meet the needs of all;
- be polite and courteous;
- be proactive in our responsibilities towards our world
- be aware of and recognise our own learning needs and be involved in planning future
- be well balanced and healthy individuals

## How do school leaders and Governors promote school improvement?

At Penygarn Community Primary School, leaders have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making. Each member of staff and each governor is a leader of at least one aspect of the school's life, working as a strong team to improve and raise standards. Pupil voice, through regular meetings and surveys, mean that the whole school community is part of the consultation and decision-making process.

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team work with all aspects of the school community to identify priorities, plan and action developments for these, and to closely monitor impact and outcomes. The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and lesson observations; it also spends time on scrutiny of documentation and ensures that a rigorous appraisal procedure of the Headteacher and staff is adhered to.





## What we are trying to improve?

- Further Implement the New Curriculum for Wales through planning and pedagogy
- Maintain/improve standards in Literacy and Numeracy and develop a blended learning
- Improve pupil Wellbeing through Intervention programmes through pupil Voice, Learning Journals,
- Continue to develop bilingualism in the school.
- Develop Leadership through embedding the new teaching and leadership standards, Triad working, Research, Sharing Best Practice and Pupil Voice

## Our Governing Body Ein Corff Llywodraethol

Governor	Status
Mr M Ford	Chair of Governors
Mrs S Hirons	Vice Chair of Governors
Mr N Willis	Parent Governor
Mrs K Davis	Local Authority Governors
Mrs M Fitzgerald	Parent Governor
Mrs K Davies	Local Authority Governor
Mrs K Arnold	Teacher Representative
Mrs S Cox	Non-teaching Representative
Mr S Howell	Community Governor
Miss S Jones	Community Governor
Miss Jenkins	Parent Governor



The Governing Body and the Headteacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and by policies of the Local Authority (LA).

While the LA is the employer of staff, the Governing Body and Headteacher have separate and particular responsibilities for the selection and management of staff. The internal management of the school is the responsibility of the Headteacher.

The full Governing Body meets at least once a term.

In addition, sub-committees meet regularly to discuss specific issues. They report to the full Governing Body for formal ratification of proposals.

The minutes of Governing Body meetings are available from the clerk to governors:

### **Governors' links with classes and with specific areas of the curriculum**

These governors visit the school regularly to work alongside teachers in their chosen subject area. Working in this way they develop a clearer idea of how our school works, forge stronger links with teachers and develop lasting relationships with children

Area	Link Governor
Appointments (Personnel)	HT, M Ford, N Willis
Finance and Grants	Ht, M Ford, K Davis
Performance Management and Pay and Review Committee	S Hirons, M Ford,
HT + DHT Selection Panel	Governing Body- called as needed
Capability Committee	
Capability Committee Appeals	
Pupils Appeal	
Staff Disciplinary	
Grievance Committee	
Grievance PM and Pay Appeal	
Child Protection	S Hirons/ K Arnold
Looked After Children	S Hirons
Resources / School Performance/School Standards	M Ford
Governor / Link training	HT and M Ford
Closing the Gap	S Hirons and K Arnold
Additional Educational Needs	S Hirons
Self-Evaluation Champion	M Fitzgerald
Hwb Champion	N Willis
Health & Safety Co-ordinator	N Willis
HT Performance	K Davis, K Davies and M Ford
HT Performance Appeal	
Association of Schools Governors Rep	M Ford
TASG Representative	S Cox







# School Staffing Structure

## Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Head teacher: L Smith

Deputy Head: Lee Jones

ALNCO and Safeguarding Lead: Claire Evans

Foundation Phase			Key Stage 2			
J Stone	H Lang	K Arnold L Evans	N Beavan	P Smith	S Dumbleton	H Thomas
T Carrett	C Williams	S Busby and G	K Middle	S Lee	M Ledville Smith	R Jones
Otterstead						
Play Therapist			Family Liaison Officer			
S Morgan			K Daniels			

## Learning Support Assistants

L Jones	C Hall	K Jackson	T Wood	C Hunt	J Parker	C Cresse	E Williams	R Ryan
N Peddle	J Hern	S Hardwick	L Long	D Farrant	L McDonugh	S Cottrell	S Cox	
S Withers								

## Site Maintenance

P Lavender
A Caudal

## Midday Supervisors

J Morgan	K Taylor	C Lloyd
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## Administration

J Horgan	S Evans	K Samuels	T Willis
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# Financial Report for Parents



BUDGET 2021-2022		
Agreed Summer Term Budget 2021-22		
SCHOOL FUNDING	TOTAL FUNDING	1,557,078
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	TOTAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS	146,157
INCOME	TOTAL INCOME	68,773
	Total Funding, Grants & Income	1,772,008
EMPLOYEES	Total Employee costs	1,408,974
PREMISES	Total Building Costs	263,504
TRANSPORT	Transport	1,100
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	Total Supply and Services Costs	146,655
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,820,233
	Surplus 2021/2022	56,498
2021/2022	Balance as a % of Total Funding	3.39%







## Grants

The use of the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) and Education Improvement Grant (EIG) 2020-21 by Penygarn Community Primary School:

- The total number of pupils on school roll for September 2020 was 427- does not include Nursery age pupils.
- The school's pupil with free school meals population is 53%
- This is greater than the population for the previous year

The school undertakes the following activities in order to support and develop pupils facing the challenges.

- Provision of small intervention groups to raise standards in literacy and Numeracy skills including
- Provision of small intervention groups to raise standards in numeracy skills through the use of support for additional learning opportunities.
- Provision for emotional wellbeing and nurture groups.
- Development of social skills during playtimes through training of staff in positive playtime strategies and the staffing to support through activities at unstructured times.
- The costs for staff training to develop a numeracy rich learning environment
- The costs for training workshop and resources to support strategies for numerical reasoning across the school
- Family Learning workshops that support parents in a consistent approach with effective strategies to support spelling, reading and mental maths.
- Training and professional development for teaching staff to provide an engaging learning environment and outdoor provision.
- Training and continued professional development for all staff in readiness for the new Additional Learning Needs Act and the New Welsh Curriculum.





## Attendance Information Gwybodaeth am bresenoldeb

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their potential. In accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines, we cannot authorise parents to take children on holiday during term time for this inevitably has an adverse effect on their progress at school. We seek to ensure that children also appreciate the importance of coming to school regularly.

Extended holidays become a matter for consideration by the L.A. We also have clear guidelines from the Welsh Government which allow us to authorise absences for medical appointments, days of religious observations, external examinations etc. You are advised however; extensive amounts of authorised absence can be just as damaging to continuity of learning as unauthorised absence. Schools therefore need to authorise absence sparingly and only after careful consideration, particularly where pupils have a history of irregular attendance

## School Links with the Community, Business & Industry Cysylltiadau gyda'r gymuned, busnes a diwydiant.

The school is keen to promote links with local businesses and other organisations within our community and benefits greatly from their support.

We have strong links with both West Monmouth and Abersychan High School and the cluster Primary Schools. We aim to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 6 pupils as they move to High School. Visits are planned each year giving opportunities to attend a range of. Regular Liaison Meetings take place between teachers of all cluster schools in a number of areas including: English, Mathematics, Science, the Humanities, Music, Welsh, Assessment and Additional Needs. High School teachers visit in the Summer Term to meet the children of Year 6 and to consult with teachers. Teachers work hard to share all relevant information in the knowledge that regular liaison between teachers ensures progress and continuity during this important period of transition.

Musically, the school encourages children actively to participate in a wide variety of music groups, perform in concerts, listen to visiting music groups and celebrate the musical successes of our pupils by listening to the school guitar and penny whistle groups and individual and group performances in school. Instrumental lessons are given on a weekly basis by the peripatetic staff for pupils to learn string, wind, and percussion instruments. We are always pleased to celebrate the music examination successes of many of our pupils during the year.



Children have many opportunities to listen to a wide range of speakers from various agencies. These include our community police liaison officer, Assembly Members, school nurse, the fire brigade, and a wide range of parents and governors with specialist skills and knowledge. We continue to enjoy the positive contribution made by parents at the school. As in previous years, parents have been actively involved in the school in a number of ways. Parents have accompanied children on school trips while some give regularly of their time to support children's learning within the classroom

## Changes Made to the School Prospectus

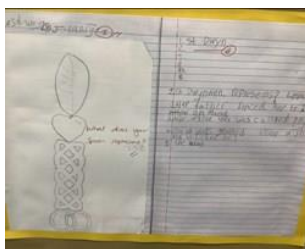
The School Prospectus has been revised during 2020-2021 and is available to download from our school website.

## Curriculum Organisation and teaching

At Penygarn Community Primary School, we support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that both adults at school and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching we seek to equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We recognise that people learn best in different ways: most lessons incorporate aspects to support pupils who learn best through visual, audio and kinaesthetic approaches. We aim to provide a rich and varied learning environment that supports children in developing their skills and abilities in a range of ways, in order to achieve to their full potential. Through our teaching we aim to:

- Support children in becoming confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners;
- Foster children's self-esteem and help them build positive relationships with other people;
- Develop children's self-respect and encourage them to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others;
- Show respect for all cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people;
- Enable children to understand their community and help them feel valued as part of this community;
- Help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens by celebrate the achievements of both children and staff.

The Additional Learning Needs Policy incorporates the statutory Code of Practice for Additional Needs and aims to provide equal access to the curriculum for all children.





## Welsh Language

## Yr Iaith Gymraeg

It is important that the children of Penygarn Community Primary School are taught Welsh as a second language. It enriches their knowledge and understanding of the culture and heritage of Wales. It develops their personalities and ability to contribute to the community giving them a sense of place and identity.

We recognise that very few children at our school who speak Welsh at home and that school is often their only contact with the language and culture of Wales.

The aims of teaching Welsh are:

- to develop pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing;
- to create a Welsh ethos within which to promote the teaching of the Welsh language;
- to create opportunities for children to enjoy the rich heritage of Wales;
- celebrate the traditions and culture of Wales;
- to offer children opportunities to perform and compete in Welsh during school assemblies, concerts and Eisteddfodau.

## Term Dates

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Thursday 02.09.21	Monday 25.10.21	Friday 29.10.21	Friday 17.12.21
Spring	Tuesday 04.01.22	Monday 21.02.22	Friday 25.02.22	Friday 08.04.22
Summer	Monday 25.04.22	Monday 30.05.22	Friday 03.06.22	Friday 22.07.22

## School Hours are as follows:

8.55 – 12.00 Morning session for pupils

10.30-10.45- breaktime

12.00-1.00 – Lunchtime

1.00- – 3.25 Afternoon session for pupils

3.25- End of the school day

## Anti Bullying

At Penygarn Community RC Primary School there is zero tolerance on bullying. We are committed to ensuring that bullying does not and will not negatively impact upon the wellbeing and educational standards of the children who attend our school. The anti-bullying policy has been updated to include sections on cyber bullying and to offer sources of support to parents, should they believe that their child is the victim of bullying. The school is determined to ensure that our school is a supportive environment that has an open and transparent attitude to bullying and the measures that we are taking to eliminate it.

## How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?

The development of healthy lifestyles is a target priority for our school. We encourage healthy snacks and reward pupils for bringing healthy lunches. We have established a 'Healthy Hwb' pupil group as part of our Y Senedd who will meet regularly, set targets and move the school forward in this area.

Pupils have access to drinking water throughout the day. The children take part in a range of activities to ensure that they feel safe, and staff and governors receive annual child protection training.

We incorporate the PSHE curriculum through class sessions, assemblies and circle times. Feedback from pupil and parent surveys are taken very seriously and comments are used to address any issues to ensure our pupils feel safe in school. St Patricks RC Primary school has robust safeguarding and child protection procedures including safe recruitment.

## Provision of toilet facilities

The school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. These toilets are cleaned on a daily basis







There is a range of activities available to pupils over and above the National Curriculum. We are always seeking to improve and enrich our provision to develop children's enthusiasm for learning. This includes the use of and development of ICT skills across the curriculum. Visits out and visitors in are widely used to support the curriculum and to make learning relevant to our children. This includes linking with our local and wider community.

The school usually provides a range of sporting and extra-curricular activities and children are consulted about choices of after school clubs. Some of those which are offered include cookery, football, rugby, netball, art and Coding Club. We operate a Children's University that provides further enrichment for the children. These courses include STEAM. Modern Foreign Languages Art to name but a few.

The School continues to support Parish Mass but this year via live stream basis.

Pupils have had the opportunity to engage in a range of home links .

The Parents Teachers and Friends Association of Penygarn is a small but highly dedicated and enthusiastic band of parents that have worked hard for the good of the children over the year. They have supported the school well with supporting trips, treats and resources.

***Thank you all very much; your support is really appreciated.*** Thanks to their generosity, we have been able to purchase a school defibrillator and provided Yr. 6 with wonderful leaving T shirts and goody bags

***The governors would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to Mrs Stokes for her work within the school.***

#### **Links with Wider Community**

The School pupil voice groups has continued to develop and continues to do good work and has an influence on school development; reviewing policies and school improvements.

Links with Gwent Police have continued to develop and all classes have enjoyed presentations by the police and Network rail on various aspects of safety and citizenship.







Pupils this year have been given the opportunity to engage in a number of community initiatives:

Penygarn continues to fly the flag for sustainable development, maintaining its Platinum flag for its work in Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship.

Penygarn maintains a Fairtrade status.

Penygarn maintains its links with Healthy School's Wales, being awarded Phase 3 leaf and continues to work towards developing this- again this work was cut short with the closure on the 17<sup>th</sup> March.

We have seen a great uptake of pupils learning to play an instrument.

Families and children continue to be very generous in supporting others. Last year we raised money for several charities thanks to everyone's efforts. Charities supported include , Macmillan, NSPCC, and Jeans for Genes, and Children in Need and cancer charities

### **Well-Being and Health Education**

We continue to work with all stakeholders to promote a healthy lifestyle. This is done through our Personal and Social Education programme.

There continues to be a universal acceptance and provision of fruit at break-time.

The percentage of children taking up the school meal service is steady.

Breakfast Club in 2020-2021 has been a great success. We can serve over 105 breakfasts a day.

We are compliant with all aspects of the Disability and Discrimination statutes.

**How are we making sure that  
every child gets teaching to meet  
their individual needs?**

As a school we wish to continue to build on high standards through exciting learning. The school identifies and supports children with specific needs including More Able & Talented children.

The school has named Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO) and More Able & Talented (MAT) Co-ordinator. Progress is carefully monitored and tracked, intervention programmes are in place and if external support is thought necessary, this is sought.





The school has a close working relationship with parents/carers as they are kept informed and involved. Pupil voice is sought in developments at Penygarn Community Primary school, including those in the curriculum.

Teaching Assistants reinforce and support learning effectively, working with groups and/or individuals depending on the needs identified.

Teachers assess all pupils' learning both formally and informally and targets are discussed and regularly reviewed with pupils. Minority and underachieving groups are supported and their progress is specifically tracked so that they attain their potential.

### **Intervention and support for pupils**

During 2020-2021 the school operated, ran and organised a number of intervention programmes to support our pupils.

- Rise and Shine
- TIS
- Fine motor skills programmes
- COMIt speech and language
- Watervoles provision
- Torfaen Play



*We are exploring and learning all about leaflets.*

