

YSGOL BWLCHGWYN C.P.



Governors' Annual Report to Parents
Academic Year 2016 – 2017

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Dear Parents / Guardians / Carers,

Please find enclosed the Governors Annual Report to Parents, for the academic year September 2016 - July 2017. Please note this does not cover the *current* academic year – we'll report on that next year, when we've been able to analyse the results of the School's efforts!

The Governing Body has a legal requirement to present this report to parents within the academic year following the year reported on. A very busy year has meant that this report has come to you a little later than we might have liked, but we feel that it's contents are very encouraging nevertheless.

Bwlchgwyn School continues on its upward path. The appointment of a new Headteacher, Mr. Dylan Williams, has given the school an extra boost as it has benefited from an injection of new ideas and approaches, enthusiastically supported by our skillful, committed and caring teaching and support staff.

Our talented and hard-working pupils are also benefiting from the development and use of new and creative teaching methods that put the child's needs at the heart of primary education. It's plain to see from the results contained in this report that this is having a positive effect on their learning and personal development.

The School Assessment for this period – prepared by GWE and the Welsh Government – which can be seen on page 4 of this report, places us in the second highest category for Standards and also for the Capacity to Improve. We're proud of that, but recognize that we can still do better: after all, as the badge says, we Aim High!

The Governing Body, too, continues to learn and improve as it develops its focus on, and links with the School's activities.

So, on behalf of the Governing Body, I say a heartfelt thank you to everybody that works so hard to help this School succeed: Parents, Carers, Grandparents; Staff; Governors; the Friends of Bwlchgwyn PTA; and most importantly our children. Each plays a vital role in making the School a safe, welcoming and creative place to learn.

The Governing body is proud to represent you. We will do our very best to support and assist the School in what are likely to be challenging times in 2017-18 and beyond.

We wish you a lovely summer break.



Jerry Wellens - Chair of Governors

WHO'S WHO ON THE GOVERNING BODY

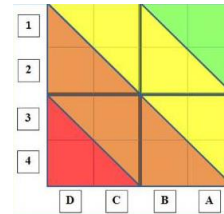
Name	Governor Role	Term
Mr Dylan Williams	Headteacher	01/09/16 – ex officio
Miss Samantha Jutson	Teacher	15/09/15 – 24/11/19
Mr David Jackson	Staff	22/09/14 – 21/09/18
Mrs Claire O'Brien	Parent	06/12/16 – 05/12/20
Mrs Mary Hext	Parent	18/11/14 – 17/11/18
Ms Edwina Lewis	Parent	25/11/15 – 24/11/19
Jane Williams	Community	03/07/2017 – 02/07/2021
Sarah Tomlinson	Community	03/07/2017 – 02/07/2021
Jeanette Bassford Barton	Add. Community	11/07/2017 – 10/02/2021
Mr Jeremy Wellens	Local Authority	01/03/16 – 29/02/20
Mr Adrian Williams	Add. Local Authority	01/09/16 – 31/08/20
Cllr David Kelly	Add. Local Authority	01/05/14 – 30/04/18

SCHOOL CATEGORISATION

The most recent categorisation was published in January 2017. This is an external assessment of our school standards and support needs and represents the view of GWE and the Welsh Government.

The Governors are pleased to report that Bwlchgywn School is categorized as:-

Standards – 2
Improvement Capacity – B
Support Capacity – Yellow



Further explanation can be found at www.mylowalschool.wales.gov.uk

CLASS ORGANISATION

The school currently has four classes.

Early Years caters for full time Reception and part time Nursery pupils.

Class 1 is our Foundation class for Years 1 and 2.

Class 2 is our lower Key Stage 2 class for Years 3 and 4.

Class 3 is our Upper Key Stage 2 class for Years 5 and 6.

CURRICULUM

Our Early Years and Foundation classes work to *The Foundation Phase framework for children's learning*. The framework sets out a curriculum that:

- Has at its centre the holistic development of children and their skills across the curriculum.
- Promotes learning through first-hand experiential activities that include play/active learning.
- Is planned as a progressive framework which covers four years (3-7 years) to meet the diverse needs of all children, including those who are at an earlier stage of development and those who are more able.
- Involves indoor and outdoor environments that are fun, exciting, stimulating and safe.
- Is appropriate for children in Wales.

The 2008 National Curriculum orders state that the school is obliged to teach the following Core and Foundation Subjects:

Core: English, Mathematics, Science and Welsh.

Non-core: History, Geography, Technology, Information Technology, Art, Physical Education, and Music. Religious education must also be taught.

Since the Donaldson Review, the organization, planning and delivery of the curriculum in schools in Wales is undergoing a transformation and is in a period of flux. The new curriculum will be available to schools from Early 2019 and will be in place and being delivered by 2022. This time is very exciting, and our school has taken the initiative to anticipate and plan for the coming changes, using a child centered approach to planning and growth mindset principles, whilst still fulfilling our statutory obligations regarding the new 2015 orders for English and Maths and the soon to be replaced 2008 orders detailed above.

BILINGUALISM AND CURRICULUM CYMREIG

Ours is an English medium school. Welsh is taught as a Second Language and pupils enjoy practising their Welsh skills in everyday situations.

To help promote the Welsh language, Class 1 pupils had the opportunity to attend the singing Jambori at Ysgol Bro Alun and Year 5 pupils attended a residential course at Glan Llyn.

MUSIC TUITION

Peripatetic teachers of strings and woodwind attend school and offer tuition for ten pupils. School has to pay a significant contribution to the costs of peripatetic teachers attending school. A charge of £40 per pupil per term applies to this provision.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN)

The School provides support for pupils with ALN in compliance with the current Code of Practice. Children are screened using procedures in school which allow us to make early intervention. Children are placed on our ALN register and are supported by the class teacher and ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) initially. If necessary assistance from an external source is requested and if agreed may involve a specialised programme of work, additional learning needs teacher or Educational Psychologist. In June 2015 we had twelve pupils on our register. Our ALN children receive differentiated work on a daily basis to allow them full access to the curriculum at their level.

Pupils who are More Able & Talented (MAT) are also recognised and catered for within the classroom situation and by involvement in special projects.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Under the 1980 Education Act, parents are free to express a preference for the Secondary School of their choice. In July 2015 our Year 6 pupils moved on to four local schools including Ysgol Clywedog, Ysgol Grango, St Josephs, and Castell Alyn, Flintshire.

TRANSITION

We have good links with all secondary schools our pupils move to and again this year, a planned programme of transition activities took place within our Cluster. As a school, we regularly make use of Clywedog facilities during our weekly swimming sessions and attend many other activities throughout the year. Year 6 pupils who were transferring to that school attended two full transition days on site as well as the Common Transfer Day. Pupils attended other schools according to their own transition programmes.

ACCESSIBILITY

The school is fully accessible to all children according to their needs and requirements. Integration into mainstream classes is in accordance with Local Authority policy and guidelines. All entrances to school have ramp access. Handrails have been provided to the emergency exit from the reading room. Doorways to disabled toilets have been widened with doors opening outwards.

School Policies

The Governing Body has a Governance Assurance Statement which includes all statutory and recommended policies which are reviewed on a regular basis. Copies of all Governing Body Policies are available in school on request.

School Sport

Pupils enjoyed PE lessons in gymnastics, dance, swimming and games including, tennis, football and athletics with visiting coaches providing welcomed expertise. The school football team competed against other cluster schools during the year and took part in a mini tournament.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Priorities for the year 2016 – 17 were determined by thorough self-evaluation, and were as follows:-

Key Priorities for 2016 – 2017

- 1. Continue to raise standards in writing throughout the school and improve boys attainment**
- 2. Improve procedural methods in maths to raise standards in fractions and using written and mental calculation strategies**
- 3. Build physical and professional capacity to implement Digital Competence framework**
- 4. Improve standards in PSD and implement whole school ethos of responsibility in line with clear behaviour policy**

Other Priorities for 2016-17

- Develop the role of the Governing body in how to effectively challenge the school to improve further.
- Develop the learning environment inside and outside the school
- Improve community links through positive engagement with local organisations
- Review assessment and tracking procedures and implement whole school tracking records

Education Improvement Grant

EIG – Foundation Phase (notional)	£29,304
EIG – Other (notional)	£ 4,997

School use of the EIG:-

To work towards the Foundation Phase ratios	£39,304
To improve literacy and numeracy (Utilised towards TA salaries)	£ 4,997

Pupil Deprivation Grant

Total PDG 2016 -17

£ 2,082

School use of the PDG:-

Utilised towards TA salaries delivering targeted support in literacy (including phonics) and numeracy for FSM and LAC pupils.

Additional Services

Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew

The Bwlchgwyn Out of School Club was established in 2005, for the benefit of the pupils and parents at Bwlchgwyn School, offering After school & Breakfast Club. In 2009 a brand new Management Committee established the club as a Limited Company, as well as a Registered Charity, and made it their mission to purchase a self-contained building. Following a number of successful grant funding applications, together with a loan from WCBC, a newly re-furbished modular building was installed in July 2011. "The Cabin", as the building is now known, is for the sole use of the out of school provision. The installation of The Cabin allowed us to extend the services offered to include: Breakfast Club, After-School Club, Holiday Club and Nursery Plus for children aged 3-11 years. Since September 2014 we also now offer a playgroup session between 1:10pm - 3:10pm every Monday and Thursday, for all children aged 2+. All clubs are collectively known as The Cabin Crew. Children of Bwlchgwyn School are all welcome to use the clubs as well as children from surrounding areas being able to attend the Holiday Club, Nursery Plus & Playgroup. Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew has become a vital community resource for many local families and is of huge benefit to Bwlchgwyn School. We are extremely proud of the findings of our most recent CIW inspection, (this can be viewed by visiting WWW.CSSIW.org.uk) as well as being awarded 'Out of School Club of the Year' for the second year running, at the Wrexham Childcare Awards 2015. We hope this report gives parents confidence of the extremely high standards of childcare offered at Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew.

The scheme is wholly managed by BOOSC Ltd T/A Bwlchgwyn Cabin Crew, voluntary management committee. The committee employ appropriately qualified and experienced staff in accordance with the regulations laid down for registration purposes by the Welsh Assembly Government's Care and Inspectorate Wales (CIW).

It is to the school's advantage to offer additional services such as this to our parents and to the wider community and it helps to make our school even more appealing to prospective parents. By looking at other schools in and around the Wrexham area, it is evident that this kind of Out-of-School club, in conjunction with the WG Free Breakfast Initiative supplementing the school day, has become the norm and is no longer the exception.

The Governing Body has always given its support to this venture and is now very pleased to see how successful it has become. We are also very fortunate that our Head Teacher, has been very supportive and understands the role of the club and how it interacts with the school. The Governing Body looks forward to the continued success of this partnership and the benefits that it will bring to our school.

School Toilets

The Welsh Government provides guidance on good practice with regard to the provision of toilets in schools. The Governing Body is aware of this guidance and its implications with regard to our school. There is adequate provision of toilet facilities with Fresh air units installed.

Foam soap dispensers and warm air hand dryers are provided. The toilets are cleaned and inspected on a regular basis and pupils are allowed access whenever necessary. There have been several improvements and decoration to the KS2 toilets this year

Healthy Schools

The School has retained its healthy school status and provides a range of activities and provision that fulfill this role. All pupils are encouraged to be active and take part in regular exercise either in school or as part of an extra-curricular activity.

We provide healthy snacks throughout the whole school which fulfill - and in Key Stage 2 surpass the recommended guidance from Wrexham County Healthy Schools team. A wide range of fruit and vegetables is available and co-ordinated by the pupils themselves, who order, monitor, prepare and share the snacks.

Attendance

TOTAL ATTENDANCE	94.54%
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AUTHORISED ABSENCES	UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES
% SESSIONS	% OF SESSIONS
5.46	0.00

The total attendance for the year was **94.54%** which was a little below our challenging target of 96.5% attendance rate. Authorised absences stood at 5.46% and unauthorised absences at 0%. We would like to thank all parents for helping us to work towards our targets.

We understand that there are occasions when parents need to take children out of school during term time and whilst this does tend to impact on our attendance figures, we are grateful to all parents for keeping these absences to a minimum. As a reminder, if you intend to take your child out of school during term time, would you please write a letter explaining the reason and hand it in to the Head teacher. Authorisation of 10 school days is not an automatic right and is dependent on previous attendance and punctuality. A letter will be sent in response confirming the request once records have been consulted.

Community Links

The School continues to have a close relationship with Christchurch and Canon Pam has visited several times throughout the year to lead pupil assemblies. Parents were invited to our Harvest Service in the Autumn Term, Christmas carol service and St David's Day celebrations in the Spring Term. The choir sang at the Christmas Carol service at Bwlchgwyn Church.

BUDGET SUMMARY STATEMENT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR - 1ST APRIL 2016 - 31ST MARCH 2017

BUDGET HEADING	EXPENDITURE PLANNED BUDGET	EXP EXPENDITURE – ACTUAL	BALANCE
EMPLOYEES	307,065	309,477	-£2,412
PREMISES	£42,518	£43,922	-£1,404
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	£17,536	£16,940	£596
SUPPORT SERVICES	£25,748	£25,748	0
OTHER INCOME	£50,717	£60,870	10,153
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	£348,581	£335,217	£13,368 3.83%

SCHOOL FUND

As at 31st March 2016

Brought forward (statement 395) £ 4,580.69

Add income £19,250.34

Less expenditure this period to date £16,368.85

Balance (as per statement 410) £7,462.18

School fund is a business account which is audited and reported annually to the Local Authority audit department. The balance represents working capital which fluctuates throughout the year. For example, the balance above included over £1,000 which represented fees paid by parents for a residential trip, yet to be invoiced at that time.

SESSION TIMES 2016– 2017

Session Times

	<i>Nursery</i>	<i>Infants</i>	<i>Juniors</i>
Mornings	9:00 - 11:30	8:50 – 12:00	8:50 – 12:10
Afternoons	-----	1:00 – 3:15	1:00 – 3:15

Comparative Data 2015-16

Foundation Phase (Nursery to Year 2)

During the pupils' time in the Foundation Phase they are assessed in 6 areas of learning: Language Literacy and Communication, Mathematical Development, Personal and Social Development, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative development. Three core areas (Language Literacy and Communication, Mathematical Development and Personal and Social Development) are assessed through ongoing teacher assessment, determining the attainment of each pupil at the end of the phase in Year 2. The expected outcome at the end of Foundation Phase is Foundation Phase Outcome 5, with those pupils exceeding the level reaching Foundation Phase Outcome 6. Below you will find comparative benchmark data detailing how the School performs in relation to schools in the Local Authority and across Wales.

Language Literacy and Communication			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Outcome 5+)	100%	87.9%	88.1%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Outcome 6+)	46.2%	41%	38.1%

Mathematical Development			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Outcome 5+)	100%	91.1%	90.3%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Outcome 6+)	46.2%	39.8%	38.7%

Personal and Social Development			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Outcome 5+)	100%	95.1%	94.7%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Outcome 6+)	53.8%	57.7%	61.3%

Key Stage 2

Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to Year 6)

During the pupils' time in Key Stage 2 they are assessed 12 subject areas : English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh, History, Geography, Technology, Information Technology, Art, Physical Education, and Music. Religious education must also be taught. Three core areas (English, Mathematics and Science) are assessed through ongoing teacher assessment, determining the attainment of each pupil at the end of the Key Stage in Year 6. The expected outcome at the end of Key Stage is National Curriculum Level 4, with those pupils exceeding the level reaching National Curriculum Level 5. Below you will find comparative benchmark data detailing how the School performs in relation to schools in the Local Authority and across Wales.

English			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Level 4+)	100%	92%	91.1%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Level 5+)	61.5%	45.6%	44.7%

Mathematics			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Level 4+)	100%	92.9%	92.2%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Level 5+)	53.8%	48.8%	47%

Science			
	School	Local Authority	Wales
Pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Level 4+)	100%	92.9%	92.2%
Pupils achieving at the higher outcome (Level 5+)	61.5%	47.3%	45.4%