



GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT

YSGOL Y WERN 2023 - 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

It gives me great pleasure to be able to present this year's Annual Report which covers the school year September 2023 to July 2024. As a Governing Body, we must provide you with specific information, determined by legislation in relation to the School. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the school year and celebrate the achievements of its pupils, recognise the commitment of the teachers and staff and wider school community.

It is this year that we found ourselves at a significant milestone in the history of Ysgol y Wern, where after an extraordinary 36 years of dedicated service, 24 of these as Headteacher, Moira Kellaway retired. Under Mrs Kellaway's guidance, Ysgol y Wern flourished. She championed the school at every opportunity, fostered a culture of kindness and respect and ensured that the school was a place where every student feels valued and respected. Mrs Kellaway's leadership has not only shaped the lives of the students who have walked through the school's doors but has also left an enduring legacy that will benefit future generations. In her retirement, we wish Mrs Kellaway all the happiness and relaxation she deserves and thank her for the years of unwavering commitment to Ysgol y Wern, we are profoundly grateful.

Ysgol y Wern will continue under the leadership of our Deputy Head, Mrs Nia Jones for the next academic year, with a search for a permanent Head teacher resuming in the new year. I want to thank Mrs Jones for taking on this role and myself and the Governing Body look forward to working with her and the wider school staff.

The school continues to achieve its objectives, which is testament to not only the teachers and support staff, but also the hard work and dedication of pupils, parents and wider school community. The work of the Parents Teacher Association continues to be nothing short of outstanding, with numerous activities being arranged throughout the year which has raised essential money for the school which is benefited by all. I want to say thank you for your efforts and encourage new parents to support the committee in continuing its success.

There were many successes this year; the Eisteddfod, sporting activities, dramas and dancing. The end of year show Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was the pinnacle of the year, which for those who had the opportunity to watch it will

agree that it was outstanding and a fantastic production. We wish our Blwyddyn 6 all the very best in their journey through High School.

I am very grateful to fellow Governors who gave up so much time to support the school and work with the school staff. You are welcome to get in touch with the Chair of Governors or the Headteacher should you want additional information following publication of this report. We thank all parents, guardians and wider school community for your continued support.

Best wishes

Hannah Fernandez, Chair of Governors

AUTUMN TERM 2023

- 62 in the Nursery Class
- 88 have been accepted into three reception classes
- 70 Year 1
- 90 Year 2
- 91 Year 3
- 86 Year 4
- 85 Year 5
- 89 Year 6

Total Pupils on roll: Reception - Year 6: 599

Nursery 62

Total: **661**

There were 661 pupils attending the school in September 2023 with the Headteacher, the Deputy Headteacher and 19 full-time teachers and 8 part-time teachers, alongside the Additional Learning Needs teacher. The school has an effective team of Teacher Assistants who help in the Foundation Learning and support pupils with Additional Learning Needs. The supporting team includes a full-time finance bursar and two part-time secretaries, a caretaker, lunchtime supervisors and kitchen staff.

Staffing

Following 36 years (24 of them as Headteacher and the rest as Deputy Headteacher) we said goodbye to our Headteacher Mrs Moira Kellaway. All the school staff wish her well on her retirement and thank her from the bottom of their hearts for her dedication to the school.

Teaching appointments: Three newly qualified teachers were appointed: Mr Steffan Jones, Miss Leri Edwards and Mrs Llinos Davies. One teacher was appointed - Mrs Francesca Burchill.

We said goodbye to Miss Abbie Phillips at the end of the year.

Governing Body

Type Name

Hannah Fernandez-Arias (Chairman) LEA	
Nicholas Brown (Vice Chairman)	P
Moirra Kellaway	H
Mike Landers	LEA
Cecil James	C
Rhys Evans	C
John Rawnsley	C
Nia Jones	TR
Helen Walker	TR
Angharad Naylor	P
Margaret Kemp	LEA
Nia Griffiths	P
Maxine Chichester	P
Lowri Powell	P
Bethan Proctor	LEA
Hannah Carlson	CLC

LEA: Local Education Authority

H: Headteacher

C: Community

P: Parent

TR: Teachers' Representatives

SNA: Non-Teaching Staff

CLC- Clerk of the Governing Body

Arrangements for the next Governing Body election - The Education Authority and the School will inform parents/carers of the arrangements for any opportunities to be part of the Governing Body and election arrangements.

School Improvement Plan 2023 - 2024 reviewed and agreed:

- 1) Further develop a community of readers and a culture of reading across the school in order to foster and maintain lifelong readers who have access to and understanding of a variety of texts**

Members of the Languages, Literacy and Communication Team attended "Rethinking Reading" Training. INSET was presented by the teachers on strategies to develop fluency and understanding. The teachers trialled the strategies in their classes e.g. Managing the Game, Responsible Independent Reading, Introducing Vocabulary. A variety of types of

reading take place in the classes - whole class reading, paired reading, group reading. Reading and comprehension sessions - training the learners to interpret rich texts

2) Further develop, implement and monitor pupils' progress through effective tracking systems

Invested in the Traciwr System to track learners' progress over a period of time. The new system is an effective basis for progress discussions between teachers.

3) Use pedagogy effectively to deepen and improve learning and teaching

Whole school training on pedagogy by 'Impact Wales' focusing on how cognitive science can improve the quality of teaching and learning. Following the training, the teachers set out to conduct their pedagogical inquiry on 'Daily Reviews'. It was agreed that the strategies succeeded in deepening the learning and that the learners generally recalled their previous learning more successfully.

4) To deepen the understanding of our school community in order to recognize and celebrate the diverse cultures of our area, Wales and the wider world

A grant was received from the Arts Council for the Cynefin Project (Year 5). Creative Practitioner 'Teifi Emerald' was appointed to lead the project in Year 5. Several visitors were invited to the school to hold workshops and a rap 'Dere Gyda Fi' was composed. A podcast was recorded for the whole school as a celebration and played on Radio'r Wern.

INSET Training Days 23-24

4/9/23- Safeguarding. Curriculum for Wales

28/9/23- Glantaf Cluster Schools- Areas of Learning and Experience workshops under the guidance of the Consortium

6/10/23-National Education Show- Staff visiting different seminars with a focus on pedagogy.

8/1/24 Pedagogy- Using a cognitive principle to deepen the quality of learning and teaching. Training from 'Impact Wales'.

3/5/24 Humanities

22/7/24- Areas of Learning and Experience Workshops

Curriculum for Wales

Safeguarding

- Staff have received safeguarding training

- The school's Designated Senior Person for Child Protection was the Headteacher Mrs Moira Kellaway with Mrs Nia Jones and Mrs Helen Walker as deputies
- The school planned activities for Anti-Bullying Week
- Regular visits by the Health and Safety Officer
- External light installed

INSET - Full details of courses attended by staff between September 2022 - July 2023 were presented at Governing Body meetings.

2024-2025 Term Dates

	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Finishes	Term Ends
Autumn	02/09/24	28/10/24	01/11/24	20/12/24
Spring	06/01/25	24/02/25	28/02/25	11/04/25
Summer	28/04/25	26/05/25	30/05/25	21/07/25

Teaching and Learning

Several aspects of the School Improvement Plan were presented to the Governing Body during the year by the school staff.

Equal Opportunities

The school is committed to ensuring equality. The Governing Body, Headteacher, staff and pupils strongly believe in promoting the concept of equal opportunities for all individuals. All forms of prejudice and discrimination based on race, gender, belief, language, sexual orientation, disability or age are opposed.

Additional Learning Needs

The school follows the ALN Act and understands that high quality teaching and learning meets the needs of all learners and supports inclusive education. Mrs Elin Kate Confrey is the ALN Coordinator. The ALN Coordinator identifies learners who need additional support and plans and advises other members of staff on what interventions are needed. This is done during progress discussions with the teacher when discussing if the learner has made suitable progress from their initial starting point. The school works closely with external agencies e.g. the Educational Psychologist and the Inclusion Service. Mrs Confrey works closely with parents and holds regular meetings with parents. All the staff have received ALN training.

Disabled Pupils

- There are two disabled toilets and handrails to assist children with moderate physical disabilities.
- Equality of opportunity is a priority

- Improving the information collected about disabled pupils, disabled parents/carers, disabled employers and disabled service users is a priority

School Language Category - a specific Welsh-medium school

Use of the Welsh language in the school

- Welsh is used across the school as the main language in all areas of the school's work and the extracurricular activities.
 - Pupils receive an introduction to English in Year 3.
- Welsh is the school's natural language of communication. Communication between parents/carers and the school is bilingual.
- The Welsh language is promoted in all aspects of Ysgol y Wern's life and work.
- The school ensures that there is continuity and progression through careful planning and development in terms of the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of curricular and extracurricular activities.
- Pupils who begin Welsh medium education at a later stage can take advantage of the provisions of the Language Immersion Centre organized by the Education Authority.
- The pupils transfer to Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf where they continue with the Welsh education. During Year 6, pupils have opportunities to take part in transition activities.

Community Relations

- £380 was raised towards Macmillan cancer care.
- £1340 was raised towards Children in Need.
- £617 was raised towards LATCH charity
- £610 was raised towards Velindre Hospital during Wear Red for Wales
- £502 was raised towards Save the Children during Christmas Jumper Day
- Following our Thanksgiving Service the children's donations were presented to the Cardiff Food Bank.
- A Year 5 pupil won the Castell Howell Competition and as a result his design is now on a lorry which travels around Wales. An iPad was presented to him and £2500 to the school as a prize.
- The School Choir performed at a Christmas service in Llandaff Cathedral
- Following their success in the first round in Cardiff, our Clarinet Group were invited to perform at a 'Music for Youth' concert in Birmingham
- The school reached the Carol y Wyl final and appeared on S4C's Prynhawn Da programme
- The Clarinet Group was invited to perform at the Cardiff and Vale County Music Service secondary schools Show at St David's Hall.
- The school competed in the Cerdd Dant Festival held in Cardiff. Our recitation party were awarded second prize.
- Year 2 children enjoyed performing at this year's Tafwyl festival.

Curriculum

- Curriculum evenings were held in each year at the beginning of September
- Four pupils are members of the city's Welsh Schools Senedd and attended meetings at Tŷ Hywel. One of the aspects the children chose to work on this year was promoting the Welsh language in the Community. They created posters and distributed them across Llanishen businesses.
 - Residential visits - Year 4 (Urd Camp Cardiff), Year 5 and Year 6 Urd Camp Llangrannog
 - Magistrates in the Community Workshops Year 6
 - Health and Wellbeing Committee lead a service during Children's Mental Health Week
 - Cluster collaboration during twilights on the Areas of Learning and Experience
 - Year 5 pupils part of the Cynefin project provided by the Arts Council and Welsh Government.
 - A School Eisteddfod was held with houses competing against each other in the school hall.
 - Many pupils took part in the Glantaf Cluster Orchestra Concert
 - Year 4 received PBuzz lessons as part of the provision by the County Music Service
 - The school was awarded the PSQM Primary Science Quality Mark recognizing our commitment in scientific leadership, teaching and learning.
 - Year 6 received a weekly German lesson from Glantaf school and Year 5 received French lessons
 - Schools' Police Officer held workshops on keeping safe
 - Book Day was held where everyone celebrated reading with a number of fun activities organised.
 - A number of children competed in the Urd National Eisteddfod this year. A harpist from Year 4 won first prize in the harp solo Year 6 and under and the textile group came first.
 - Year 6 took part in an enterprise initiative - selling bird food bundles to parents
 - The school planned activities for Anti-Bullying Week with the School Council/Wellbeing Committee reviewing the Anti-Bullying Policy.
 - Year 5 and 6 performed the musical Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf
 - Workshop for Year 6 by Bardd Plant Cymru
 - A performance of Wind in the Willows by the Theater in Education company 'Image Theatre'
 - Year 2- 'Kerbcraft' workshops on road safety

Health and Safety

- A Health and Safety Officer visited the school regularly.
- Fire drills conducted

- The School's insurance allows a pupil to be in the School from 8.40 a.m onwards (Breakfast Club 8.20a.m- 8.40 a.m) In the afternoon the Nursery leave at 3p.m and the rest of the school at 3.20p.m. Parents/carers are expected to show their presence on the school site by contacting the Office at the main entrance. You must park carefully around the school and no vehicle will be allowed to park on the school site to drop off or pick up their children at the beginning/end of the day. Parking in disabled/grass parking spaces must be avoided. As we have a number of pedestrians, who reach the site on foot, we ask parents/carers to park further away from school(if using a car). Parents are also encouraged to use Templeton Avenue again parking further away before walking. No cars should enter Llangrannog Place. We ask this in order to keep our school community safe.
- The external doors are secured using a special fob. All visitors must first go to the School office to sign in and receive a visitor badge.
- There was not a single case of breaking into the School during this academic year.

Policies and Strategies

The School constantly reviews policies in order to ensure the best provision for the learners. During 2023-24 those relating to Health and Safety, Child Protection and some curricular aspects were reviewed. Copies of the policies are available at the school or on the website.

Toilet Arrangements and Facilities

The school has a sufficient number of toilets for the pupils who are registered at the school. The facilities are cleaned every day by the Education Authority's Cleaning Service.

Free School Meals

By the end of the year all classes were offered a free school lunch. It is the choice of the parents to accept the offer or provide their own packed lunch.

Sports and Extracurricular Activities

The school provides a variety of sports activities in all aspects of Physical Education. The pupils are given the opportunity to develop a competitive element when competing in various competitions throughout the year. The school also ensures that it takes every opportunity to compete in every sporting event organized by the Urdd. Our Mixed TAG Rugby Team experienced great success this year in reaching the quarter final at the Urdd National Competition in Aberystwyth. The school takes part in friendly games in order to give our pupils further experiences of competing on the sporting field. Year 6 received cycling lessons from the County. A cycling club was started as an extra extracurricular activity.

As part of the physical education curriculum Year 4 had swimming lessons. It was wonderful to see so many pupils from the School taking part in the Urdd

Eisteddfod this year. I would like to thank the staff for coaching and all the children who competed.

Healthy Eating and Drinking

The school promotes healthy eating and drinking, and is keen to adopt healthy eating patterns throughout the whole school. Pupils are encouraged to eat healthy snacks during break time only. Nuts are not allowed in school due to severe allergies. Nursery to Year 2 pupils receive free milk every day. All pupils are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school daily and are aware of the importance of drinking water.

Changes to the School Prospectus

The prospectus is revised and updated regularly. A copy of the prospectus is available in the school office.

Excluded Pupils

No exclusions.

Transition

Pupils at the end of Year 6 usually transfer to Ysgol Glantaf. The School has an excellent partnership with the secondary school and implements effective transition plans.

The School Budget

- The Governing Body approved the School Budget.

CARDIFF COUNCIL/GYNGOR CAERDYDD				
SCHOOLS OUTTURN OF EXPENDITURE/CANLYNIAD GWARIANT YSGOLION 2023-2024				
Governing Body/Corff Llywodraethu of:		Ysgol-y-Wern		
	Governor Approved Budget/Cyllideb a Gymeradwywyd gan y Llywodraethwyr		Actual Expenditure/ Gwariant Cyflawnedig	
	£	£	£	£
Staffing costs/Costau Staff				
Teaching Costs/Costau Addysgu	1,664,328		1,628,987	
Special Needs Teachers/Athrawon Anghenion Arbennig	54,553		54,408	
Teachers for statemented pupils/Athrawon ar gyfer disgyblion sy'n destun datganiad	0		0	
Short Term Supply/Llanw Byr Dymor	0		0	
Long Term Supply/Llanw Hir Dymor	42,741		70,516	
Special Needs Support Staff/Staff Cymorth Anghenion Arbennig	90,120		131,703	
Nursery Assts/ Teachers Aides / Adult Helpers/Cynorthwyyr Meithrinfa/ Cymhorthion Athrawon / Cynorthwyyr	231,604		262,670	
Foreign Language Assistants/Cynorthwyyr Ielthoedd Tramor	0		0	
Technicians/Technegwyr	0		0	
Mid Day Supervisors/Gorychwylwyr Canol Dydd	16,779		10,389	
Library Staff / Attend Officer/Staff Llyfrgell / Swyddog Presenoldeb	0		0	
Administrative Staff/Staff Gweinyddol	50,112		63,995	
Non teaching supply costs/Costau llanw staff heb fod yn athrawon	0		0	
Training Costs/Costau hyfforddi	130,561		82,745	
Other Staff Costs/Costau staff eraill	129,797		67,087	
Performance Management/Rheoli Perfformiad	0		0	
Total Staffing Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Staff		2,410,595		2,372,500
Premises Related Costs/Costau Eiddo				
Caretaking Staff/Staff Gofalwyr	38,651		34,044	
Domestic Staff/Staff Domestig	15,446		11,338	
Grounds Staff/Staff y Tir	7,500		5,162	
Cleaning Costs/Costau Glanhau	73,251		68,235	
Energy Costs/Costau Ynni	88,375		87,277	
Rates/Cyfraddau	32,635		32,635	
Repairs and Maintenance/Atgyweiriau a Chynhallaeth	104,966		40,534	
Water/Dŵr	8,000		7,826	
Total Premises Related Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Eiddo		368,824		287,052
Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant				
Pupil Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Disgyblion	0		0	
Staff Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Staff	0		73	
Vehicle Costs/Costau Cerbydau	0		0	
Total Transport Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Cludiant		0		73
Supplies and Services/Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau				
Teaching Materials/Adnoddau Addysgu	35,000		26,968	
Equipment, Furniture, Materials & music tuition/Offer, Dodrefn, Deunyddiau a hyfforddiant cerddoriaeth	170		1,860	
Library Books & Materials/Llyfrau a Deunyddiau Llyfrgell	0		0	
Catering Costs/Costau Arlwyo	2,100		2,613	
Unallocated / Savings to be found/Arian heb ei ddosbarthu / Cynllion	66,864		0	
Communications Equipment and Services/Offer a Gwasanaethau Cyfathrebu	2,675		6,622	
Consultants Fees/Ffioedd Ymgynghorwyr	0		0	
Examinations Fees/Ffioedd Arholiadau	0		0	
Games & School Activities/Gemau a Gweithgareddau Ysgol	3,000		4,947	
Clerk to Governing Body/Clerc y Corff Llywodraethu	900		664	
Other office costs/Costau swyddfa eraill	13,215		20,868	
Printing & Stationery/Argraffu a Deunydd Ysgrifennu	14,500		13,203	
Pupil Exclusions/Gwaharddiadau Disgyblion	0		0	
Subsistence and expenses/Cynhallaeth a threuliau	0		0	
Total Supplies and Services/Cyfanswm Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau		138,424		77,746
Central Services/Gwasanaethau Canolog				
School Meals/Prydau Ysgol	0		0	
Service Level Agreements/Trefniadau Lefel Gwasanaeth	17,651		17,168	
Total for Central Services/Cyfanswm ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Canolog		17,651		17,168

The school's budget was used to ensure the best possible educational experiences for pupils and to ensure appropriate resources for them. The current system enables us to keep year groups of the same age with the funding available

Parent Teacher Association

The Governing Body would like to formally note that it appreciates all the hard work of the PTA. The money raised gives invaluable support to the teaching and learning at Ysgol Y Wern. A full report of the activities and the money raised is available from the PTA.

Attendance 2023/24

Attendance - 96.7%

Authorised absences - 3.1%

Unauthorised absences-0.2%

Progress on the School's Action Plan following Estyn Inspection

The school has met the recommendations of the 2018 Estyn Report.

Please contact the Headteacher if you want further information about the school's development.

Thank you again as parents/carers for your commitment to the school; your support is an important part of your children's educational and social development and to the unique culture of Ysgol y Wern.