

Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary

GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2023-2024



Happy Together, Learning for Life
Dysgu Hapus, Dysgu Byw

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Chair of Governors

Mrs M. Thomas
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Furzeland Drive
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Clerk to Governors

Mrs R. Tucker
c/o Bryncoch CIW Primary School
Furzeland Drive
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We have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report to Parents for the year
2023/2024

School Language Category - English

Welsh Language Pupils are taught Welsh Second Language

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Once again it is time for the parents of our School to receive the Bryncoch Church in Wales Governing Body Annual Report to parents. A warm welcome to everyone at the beginning of a new & exciting school year especially to any new pupils and their parents/carers who have recently joined our School.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Marc Sinnett as the Headteacher of our School. By now most of you will have been able to see/meet him & so will have had the opportunity to see for yourselves that Mr Sinnett has a lot to offer our School which means the ethos & high standards we have come to expect are not only maintained by our enthusiastic, hardworking staff but strengthened. We look forward to working with Mr Sinnett to the benefit of our School.

We would like to thank not only Mrs Rose but all members of staff for the sterling work that has been achieved during a prolonged period without a permanent Headteacher. We are blessed by having a staff who are dedicated to our School.

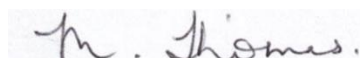
As we have come to expect our staff have worked alongside parents/carers and the wider community towards the shared goal of providing the best educational experience and opportunities for our children, in a caring, nurturing, and supportive environment in keeping with our School Vision.

We are most fortunate to enjoy the support of an active P.T.A. It was so pleasing to see the large number of supporters meeting with Mr. Sinnett recently to plan their programme. We look forward to giving them our support.

We have sadly had to say good-bye to two people who have also served our School faithfully. One being Mr Melding, a very popular member of staff much loved by pupils and highly respected by all who knew him. We wish him a long and happy retirement and hope that he will keep in touch. The other being one of our governors, Mr Adrian Parker, who again was a committed member of our Governing Body, we would like to acknowledge his commitment to our School.

As a Governing Body we are proud to be part of Bryncoch C.I.W. Primary School, and we are privileged to be part of a school which strives to support every child to achieve their potential no matter what that may be. The Bryncoch Community is most fortunate to have our School in its area.

Kind Regards



Margaret Thomas

Chair of Governors
Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr

1. ANNUAL MEETING WITH PARENTS

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body on matters which are of concern to them.

There has not been a meeting with parents to report back on to you in this report. No meeting has been requested by parents.

2. GOVERNORS

The Governing Body is made up of volunteers who give their time freely and it is their continued support that helps to guide the management of the school through their role as a critical friend.

Composition of the Governing Body 2023-24

Name	Governor Type	End of Term
Mrs M. Thomas (Chair)	Foundation PCC	07.11.27
Rev S. Bodycombe (Vice Chair)	Foundation Ex Officio	Ongoing
Mrs C. Roberts	Foundation	05.10.27
Mrs T. Conway	Foundation	14.04.28
Mrs C. Cross-Jones	Foundation	17.12.27
Mr P. Keys	Foundation	21.03.27
Mrs D. Lewis	Foundation	27.11.26
Cllr A. Burton	Blaenhonddan Community Council	15.10.26
Mr A. Parker	NPTCBC	30.08.26
Mrs H. Travers-Dyer	Parents Representative	16.10.26
	Teacher Representative	
Mrs V. Morgan	Non-Teaching Representative	31.10.26
Mrs F. Rose	Acting Headteacher	

The Governing Body members serve for a period of four years.

The last academic year has seen a couple of new faces on the Governing Body with a few leavers. Joining us in the last academic year are Mrs Clare Roberts and Mrs Tracy Conway as Foundation Governors. Mr Adrian Parker decided to end his term of office at the end of the academic year.

3. GOVERNORS' EXPENSES

Governors are entitled to claim expenses for attendance at governors' meetings, training events and in order to carry out their duties. During the year ending August 2024, no expenses were claimed.

4. GOVERNORS' COMMITTEES

Governors work through a structure of committees, which consider, report and make recommendations to the full Governing Body. The Head Teacher and Chair of Governors are entitled to attend any committee. The committees are reviewed at each AGM. The membership was set in October and updated during the year with the replacement governors.

5. ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The number of children on roll at the end of the academic year July 2024 was 134.

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Ffion Rose

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Ms Lindsey Martin

Teaching Staff:

Mrs T. Rogers

Mrs K. Sansom

Mr T. Melding

Mrs J. Morgan

Non-Teaching Staff:

Mrs R. Tucker – Administrative Officer

Mrs P. Oates – Teaching Assistant

Mrs R. Brown – Teaching Assistant

Mrs V. Morgan – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs L. Evans – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs E. Ball – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs H. Wells – Teaching Assistant

Mrs M. Jones – Lunchtime Supervisor

Miss T. Powell – Lunchtime Supervisor

Mr M. Evans – Caretaker

6. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR 2023 – 2024

1. To improve pupils' reading skills (with reference to Phonics, Spelling & Handwriting).
2. To ensure pupils make effective progress in line with the expectations of Curriculum for Wales by developing a shared understanding of progression.
3. To improve pupil attendance.
4. To evolve the teaching of mathematics in line with the Progression Code.

Full details of priorities can be found in the School Improvement Plan which is available to parents upon request.

7. SESSION TIMES

Morning session begins at 8.50am and ends at 11.40am in Nursery.

Morning session begins at 8.50am and ends at 12.00 pm in Reception and Years 1-6.

Afternoon sessions begin at 12:55pm and ends at 3.20pm.

8. ATTENDANCE

As you are aware, regular attendance and punctuality play a vital part in a child's education. It is essential that pupils attend regularly if they are to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. The Educational Welfare Officer works closely with the Headteacher to promote good attendance and to support families with difficulties.

Our attendance for 2023/24 as of 19th July 2024 is 93.5%

School liaises closely with the Local Authority to monitor attendance and punctuality. We have close contact with the Education Welfare Officer whereby home visits, telephone calls and follow up visits are carried out to reduce absences in named pupils / families. All families are urged to contact the school on the first day of a pupil's absence and every day thereafter.

9. EXCLUSIONS

There have been no permanent exclusions in the school over the past 4 years.

10. DISABILITY / EQUALITY POLICY

The School has a comprehensive Policy for Equal Opportunities, which has been adopted by the school's Governing Body. The Governing Body, Head Teacher and all staff, seek to promote equal opportunities and good relations between persons of different racial groups, able bodied and disabled persons and between males and females. Equal opportunity is promoted for everyone and throughout all aspects of school life at Bryncoch CiW Primary School. Governors also follow legal requirements in making appointments and receive advice from the Local Authority's Human Resource Department.

At Bryncoch Primary School, we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff and all those receiving services from the school. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which people feel free to close their disability and to participate fully in school life.

11. THE CURRICULUM, TEACHING METHODS AND ORGANISATION AT SCHOOL

The new Curriculum for Wales is being further developed at the school. This encompasses the new six areas of learning and experience (AOLEs): Languages, Literacy and Communication. Maths and Numeracy, Science and Technology, Expressive Arts, Humanities and Health and Well-being. In addition, a Literacy and Numeracy Skills Framework runs through the heart of all areas alongside a Digital Competency framework. Being a Church school within the Diocese of Llandaff, we also have a strong RVE curriculum and underpinning Values.

Teaching time during a normal school week comprises of:

- Early Years – 22 hours 5 minutes
- Reception/Year 1 – 23 hours 45 minutes
- Years 2-6 – 24 hours 10 minutes

Pupils in all years (Year 1 – Year 6) are tested annually in Reading, Spelling and Mathematics. The results of these tests help us to set school targets and more importantly to check that pupils are making expected progress in their learning. Pupils from Years 2 – 6 sit a National Test in Literacy (Reading) and two tests in Numeracy – one Procedural Number and the other in Reasoning. Results of these are reported via HWB.

12. TEACHING METHODS

Throughout the school, a variety of teaching methods are employed in various lessons. Whole class teaching takes place as well as group, paired and individual work. Work is also differentiated to suit the needs of individual pupils. Teaching assistants are employed in the school and work with individuals and groups of children under the direction of the class teacher.

13. ORGANISATION

The organisation of classes throughout the school is governed by pupil numbers and staffing restrictions. At the present time, there are 6 classes.

Classes consist of:

Nursery – 17 pupils

Rec/Year 1 - 30 pupils

Year 2 / Year 3 - 23 pupils

Year 4/ Year 5 - 32pupils

Year 5 / Year 6 - 32 pupils

Total - 134 pupils

14. CURRICULUM ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

The school enters regular consultation with representatives of the LA in order to support pupils with additional learning needs.

We want all pupils to feel equally valued at Bryncoch CiW Primary School. When necessary, pupils may be withdrawn from class to work in a small group or on an individual basis with a teaching assistant.

The school also makes use of LA support staff to provide additional, specialised, teaching resources and advice.

Staff are in regular receipt of up-to-date training which is appropriate to the needs of pupils in our school.

The LA has a policy for inclusion of all pupils including disabled pupils, which the school has adopted. The Additional Learning Needs Policy is regularly reviewed and The Code of Practice is adhered to stringently. The school's policy for Additional Learning Needs can be viewed at school.

The school's ALN Governor is: Rev. Steve Bodycombe.

As on June 2024 we have a total of 31 pupils on the ALN register (1 of whom is statemented) across the whole school, with a variety of additional needs. A range of appropriate intervention strategies and support is given to these pupils on a daily basis.

15 .WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE

Welsh is delivered as part of the Languages, Literacy and Communication area of the New Curriculum for Wales. Enjoyment in learning the language is incorporated in a variety of situations: incidental, conversational, display and in singing. Welsh is used in most areas of the curriculum and is an integral part of classroom life.

As pupils progress, they develop reading and writing skills in Welsh in addition to oral skills.

We receive support and relevant teaching materials from peripatetic Welsh teacher visits, delivering lessons and providing support to all staff throughout the school.

We aim to promote bilingualism across the curriculum and aim to enable pupils to communicate effectively in English and Welsh at a level appropriate to their age and ability. Bilingual development is on-going within the school and is often apparent in most areas of the curriculum.

The Cwricwlwm Cymreig is also important in our pupils' development and understanding of their Welsh heritage and is reflected throughout the year in arrange of activities linked with the aims of 'Cynefin' at the heart of the new curriculum.

16. SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

The school prospectus has been prepared by the school and has been published. An electronic copy of the prospectus can be found on the school website. A copy will be given on admission to school.

17. COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

Weekly newsletters are sent to parents via the school's texting service informing them of future events, activities and any relevant school news. They are also available on the school website which can be accessed by children, parents and prospective parents. The website is www.brycochciw.co.uk.

Our website has been fully developed to include more relevant information and to become a 'one-stop shop' for all information regarding school.

Parent's meetings are held in the Autumn Term and Open Information Evenings are organised for the Spring and Summer Terms. Parents are invited to their children's classes to see their learning environments, workbooks and to meet with their teachers.

Nursery-Y5 children parents had an opportunity to attend the Christmas concert. Year 6 parents were invited to the 9 Lessons and Carols Service and End of Year summer show.

18. LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Our school enjoys wonderful support from St. Matthews Church, Vicar Bodycombe and the parishioners.

We are very proud of the strong links that BCIW has with the wider community.

Volunteers from the community continue to come into school to help in a range of activities such as supporting reading and to assist in school/class visits. Additionally, the school hosts a weekly playgroup and provides a base for the local Rainbow/Brownies group. We welcome and provide placements for students at school, to enable them to gain valuable experiences to equip them for the world of work. Links with the police remain strong. Local police officers, PCSOs and the School Liaison Officer visit school to deliver raising awareness sessions. In addition, visits are made from community dentists, the fire service, the school nurse and the health visitor etc. The School Nurse, Music Service and Swans Foundation have also supported delivery of the curriculum with visits to the school.

19. SPORT

All pupils take part in weekly physical education and games lessons as part of the National Curriculum during which pupils have access to gymnastics, dance, games, athletics and outdoor adventure lessons. In addition, all pupils in Key Stage 2 have access to swimming lessons in block sessions at Neath Swimming Pool.

After-school clubs are available for Year 3-6 pupils on a weekly basis.

Older pupils continue to participate in competitions and organised festivals. Sports include hockey, rugby, football and netball.

20. SCHOOL LEAVERS

Of the 24 Year 6 pupils who leave the school at the end of the academic Year 2023/24, 23 plan to transfer to Dwr Y Felin Comprehensive School, with 1 pupil transferring to Cwmtawe School.

21. 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

The school terms and holidays for the academic year 2024/2025 are as follows:



School Terms and Holiday Dates **2024/2025 Academic Year**

		Mid Term Holiday			
Term	Term	Begins	Ends	Term Ends	Days
Autumn 2024	Monday 2 nd September	Monday 28 th October	Friday 1 st November	Friday 20 th December	75
Spring 2025	Monday 6 th January	Monday 24 th February	Friday 28 th February	Friday 11 th April	65
Summer 2025	Monday 28 th April	Monday 26 th May	Friday 30 th May	Monday 21 st July	55
				Total	195

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff Preparation on five days between Monday 2nd September 2024 and Monday 21st July 2025.

Bank Holidays

Good Friday	Friday 18 th April 2025
Easter Monday	Monday 21 st April 2025
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 26 th May 2025

22. SCHOOL POLICIES

The staff and Governors have prepared and approved a series of policies. These policies have followed national/local guidance in many cases.

Copies of relevant policies and information can be found on the school website or by request from the school office.

Policies are monitored, reviewed and, if necessary, adapted at set timescales (usually over a one or three year period) or when updated guidance becomes available.

23. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

The condition and state of repair of the buildings have been monitored by the Governing Body. All children or visitors who arrive after this time must use the main entrance, and access is controlled by an electronic intercom system. All security locks can be opened from inside the building. Regulation fire doors have been fitted to all classrooms, hall & cloakroom entrances. All visitors to the school are asked to sign the Visitors' Book and wear lanyards so they can be easily identified.

There are 6 qualified first aiders in school.

24. TOILET FACILITIES

There are separate and adequate toilet facilities for boys and girls in all parts of the school building. All toilets are cleaned daily. The school also has a unisex disabled toilet located near the entrance to the building

25. DELEGATED SCHOOL BUDGET

Bryncoch CIW Primary		
DELEGATED COSTS 2023/2024	YTD-Actual	
TEACHERS SALARIES	£	452,834.84
SALARIES	£	167,094.46
WAGES	£	-
OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	£	294.00
PREMISES	£	29,693.11
TRANSPORTATION	£	-
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	£	50,141.89
TRANSFER PAYMENTS		
SUPPORT SERVICES	£	80,969.73
GOVERNMENT GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	-£	76,506.41
SALES	-£	34.51
FEES AND CHARGES INCOME	-£	15,833.02
RENTS	£	-
INTERNAL RECHARGES	-£	23,125.98
INTEREST RECEIVED	£	-
TRANSFERS	-£	73,530.11
TOTAL	£	591,998.00
NON-DELEGATED COSTS 2023/2024	YTD-Actual	
TEACHERS SALARIES		
OTHER EMPLOYEES		
OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES		
OTHER DIRECT COSTS		
MISC INCOME		
CAPITAL CHARGES		
CONTRIBUTION TO/FROM RESERVES	-£	98,766.23
TOTAL	-£	98,766.23

