

Governors Annual Report to Parents 2021-22



Ysgol Meifod

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The purpose of this report is to provide you with Information about the activities of the Governing Body during the last year, regarding:

How we have fulfilled our responsibilities, decisions on school policies, information required by law, advising and supporting the Head teacher, staff and determining how money is spent.

Also providing a link between the school, Powys Local Education Authority and the community. Details of the School's activities and achievements.

The school year was run with the Covid 19 risk assessment in place.

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A Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We, the Governors, have great pleasure in providing you with this year's Annual Governors Report to Parents. Much of the life of the school, its statistics and achievements are listed in this report. I as Chairman, wish to thank all my colleagues for all their support and commitment throughout the past year and to the teaching and support staff of Ysgol Meifod whose hard work on a daily basis makes my job a lot easier.

I would like to express sincere thanks to you the parents, for your continued support of the school, all of the pupils, staff, Friends, the wider community and fellow Governors for their fantastic commitment to the school. This was highlighted in our recent inspection report. 'In view of the progress made by pupils and the overall quality of provision, the school gives good value for money' was the view expressed.

We have a happy and successful school and in our ever changing world, together, we can plan for the future with confidence.

Phil Lewis Chairman of the Governing Body of Ysgol Meifod

The School was working in bubbles when we were present and not on-line.

All pupils helped with any fund raising activities.

Poppy Appeal raised £95.75 for The Royal British Legion.

Children in Need raised £81.

Comic Relief raised £71.

Class 2 raised £40.19 for The Rainforest Trust. They had been working on woodland and they decided this would be good idea to support.

Criw Cymraeg

Welsh was encouraged in class and class 3 (years 5 & 6) continued with their Friday lesson on-line.

URDD

No activities took place.

Governor Meetings

At the start of the 2021 academic year the Governing Body elected Mr Phil Lewis as Chairman and Mrs Hayley Evans as Vice Chair.

The Governing Body met 8 times on-line, through Teams, with regular correspondence through email.

No travelling or subsistence expenses were claimed by the Governors.

In the Autumn term, Mrs J Ellis stepped down from being the teacher Governor, after many years. We thanked her for the valued contribution she made to the Governing Body.

Mrs Whilding was appointed to the role of teacher governor as her replacement.



Statutory Information for parents

Action taken by the Governing Body/School

In addition to the full Governors' Meetings, the school has a number of sub-committees as listed below, with the main items of business.

Finance Sub Committee

The Sub Committee met to discuss

- the budget
- Staffing

Members attended 'surgery' sessions with the LEA Finance Officers throughout the year.

Curriculum Committees

Subject policy revisions have been dealt with by the full Governing Body. The introduction of the new curriculum in Wales has meant that many policies have had to be revised – the Governors and staff have a rolling programme in place to ensure that this is completed.

Pay Policy/Staffing/ Performance Management Sub Committees

The Sub Committees met to set and review the salary and performance criteria for the Headteacher. Those governors on this sub-committee, who had the brief for the Head teacher performance management process, also met prior to full Governors meetings. Teachers' salaries were also agreed.

Appeals Sub Committee

The Sub Committee had no reason to meet.

Pupil Exclusion Sub Committee

The Sub Committee had no reason to meet.

Full Governing Body

The full Governing Body met at least once each half-term.

School Structure / Pupil Numbers

Due to the change in admission age.

The School was 3 classes.

Reception and Year 1

Years 2 and 3 and

Years 4, 5 and 6.

There were 81 pupils on roll by the summer term.



CLASSROOM AND STAFF STRUCTURE

During 2020-2021 the school continued as a 3 class school.

Teachers

Mr Arwyn Jones	Headteacher Part-time Teacher of Years 2 & 3, also 4,5 & 6
Miss Ruth Parker & Miss Rachel Lane	Reception & Year 1 (youngest year 2)
Mrs Jean Ellis	Years 2 (oldest) 3 & 4
Mrs Jane Richardson	Years 5 & 6

Supply cover

Mrs Sara Woolhouse was called upon when necessary.

Support Staff

Mrs Jo Eddy	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Mandy Bullough	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Susan Davies	Teaching Assistant

Peripatetic Staff

No visits were made due to the covid rules.

Staffing – Ancillary

Mrs Susan Davies	Middy meals supervisor / Cashier
Mrs Jenny Evans	Cleaner in charge
Mrs Ruth Tudor	Clerical Assistant
Mrs Michelle Evans	Cook in charge
Mrs Margaret Jones	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs Kate McBreen	Kitchen Assistant

Breakfast Club Staff

Mrs Heather Dunn	Assistant (finished December 2020)
Mrs Katherine Gilmour	Assistant

The help from the support staff and their contribution to the well being of the pupils is acknowledged and very much appreciated by the Governing Body.



Estyn Inspection

Our inspection was in April 2016 and these are the main findings:

Nearly all pupils make good progress during their time at the school

Nearly all are very well behaved and show strong levels of motivation in their learning

The curriculum provides interesting learning experiences and meets the needs of most pupils well

Many pupils develop their information and communication technology (ICT) skills well

The school promotes pupils' sense of responsibility and their contribution to the local community very effectively

Nearly all teaching is good

Provision for pupils with additional needs is a strong feature of the school

The school provides a stimulating learning environment for pupils

The schools current performance of the school is **GOOD**.

The headteacher has a clear strategic vision that he promotes effectively

Staff work well together as a team and share a strong commitment to further improvement

The governing body is developing its role as a critical friend well

Self-evaluation processes are systematic and lead to an accurate picture of the school's strengths and areas for development

Improvement plans are thorough and address relevant priorities effectively

The school benefits from positive links with a wide range of partners

The school's prospects for improvement are **GOOD**.



Key:

Nearly all means with few exceptions

Many means 70-90%



Health and Safety / Buildings

Health and Safety matters are regularly reviewed through staff and Governor meetings and on a day to day basis.

Risk Assessments are completed for each visit. We adhere to the correct adult: pupil ratio.

The school building had a fire alarm installed during the summer holidays of summer 2013. The fire alarm is linked to the village hall. Fire Drills are carried out each term. All pupils, visitors and staff evacuated efficiently as drills are well practised. A roof survey by one of our governors resulted in work being done during the summer 2020.

Security Arrangements

The Village hall is opened by the Breakfast Club and used by the school during the day. The main doors are locked during the school day.

Parking

The need for care when parking near the school is emphasised by the yellow zigzag lines outside the school entrance.

PARKING BY THE MAIN SCHOOL GATES AND ON THE YELLOW ZIG ZAG LINES IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED OTHER THAN THE SCHOOL BUSES.

PARKING ALONGSIDE THE VILLAGE HALL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AS IT REDUCES VISIBILITY OF THE VERY BUSY CAR PARK. PLEASE DO NOT PARK NEAR TO THE WALLS OF THE VILLAGE HALL.

Delivery and Collection

Parents are asked to be extremely careful when bringing and collecting their children. At the end of the day it is essential that drivers take great care. Parents must supervise all children (school age and toddlers). Children and toddlers must not roam at this busy time of the day. Your co-operation in this procedure will increase the safety of the children.

Children arriving in school will be supervised from 8.45 a.m. onwards. Parents are reminded that children are unsupervised before 8.45 a.m.

Cleaning

Cleaning takes place every evening by our School cleaner Mrs Jenny Evans. Toilets are available in an appropriate number and size for the children. They are well maintained.

Admission

Children are now admitted the year of their fifth birthday provided that the school has sufficient resources of staff, accommodation and equipment. The new admission number is 11 children per year group.

With no nursery pupils entering Powys schools, this means that from September 19 the school will have one intake of reception pupils. The governors have looked at the best staffing ratio that can be afforded and this has resulted in class 1 and 2 being the largest with 32 years 4, 5 & 6 pupils.

Pupils normally transfer to Caereinion and Llanfyllin High Schools in the year in which they attain their eleventh birthday. 13 pupils left at the end of the summer term 2020 with 8 going to Llanfyllin, 4 to Caereinion and 1 to The Marches (Oswestry). There was a small scale socially distanced farewell, with the parents and staff of those pupils.

Children are transported free of charge to the school from within the catchment area if the distance justifies this. The Education Authority verifies the distance. A child may attend the school from outside the catchment area subject to the admissions limit and he or she being transported privately. Please check with Powys County Council.

Welsh Language

The main language of the school is English. The Welsh language is also used throughout the school (Foundation Phase and KS2) and all through the school day to nurture bilingualism. This is achieved through the use of incidental Welsh, structured use of Welsh language patterns/words and lessons taught. The school works closely with the High Schools through transition meetings to ensure continuity of Welsh language. The Athrawes Fro, Mrs Cheryl Andrew teaches Welsh on alternate Friday mornings for three hours each visit.

Pupils with Additional Learning Needs and Pupils with Disabilities

The school's provision of Special Education Needs complies with the Code of Practice. Mr Jones is the special needs co-ordinator (SENCo) Children with special needs are taught in class with support from Teaching Assistants. Ysgol Meifod works with the LEA (Educational Psychologists and ALN Panel) and Caereinion Cluster (SENCo's) when consulting a child's educational needs.

.....is the nominated Governor with the responsibility for SEN/ALN (Additional Learning Needs).

Children who are considered to be 'more able' or 'talented' are identified as soon as possible so that their needs can also be met. They are also encouraged to take up opportunities outside of the school to develop their abilities.

Links with the Parents and Community

Although cut short by Covid 19, Ysgol Meifod actively promotes its links with the community and is acutely aware of its role in the life of the village and the wider area. The local community support school events such as the harvest festival, Christmas concerts and Sports Days. Fund raising events organised by the Friends did not happen.

Meifod Show was cancelled.

We did have our school sports, but parents were not allowed to attend.

Tim Coch (Red Team) were the winners this year.



Changes to the School Prospectus

The School publishes a prospectus containing some statutory and much general information about the School. There have been no major amendments this year.

A copy is given to all prospective and new parents. If you, as an existing parent, would like a copy of the prospectus, please contact a member of staff or go to our school website. www.meifod.powys.sch.uk

Curriculum Statement

We aim to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum that promotes the development of the 'whole' child. The curriculum has been formulated to reflect the demands of the Foundation Phase Framework, the National Curriculum in Wales and Religious Education.

All staff work together to ensure that the curriculum, the policies and schemes of work reflect current thinking and good practice and are appropriate to pupils' needs. We adopt teaching styles that foster positive attitudes to learning and that enable pupils to acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them for secondary education and life ahead of them.

During the lockdown, we introduced the 6 areas of the new curriculum and we developed that further this year.

Literacy, Numeracy & Digital Competency

The Welsh Government has developed these to help achieve the aim that the children of Wales are able to develop excellent literacy, numeracy and ICT skills during their time at school. We focus on this across the curriculum to ensure these national aims are met.

Playgroup and Parent and Toddlers

The school maintains its strong links with local childcare providers, playgroup and parent/toddlers. These playgroups provide a fun, stimulating environment for children to play, learn and develop in line with the Early Years Foundation Phase. All pre-school children who attend Meifod Mini-Beasts meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.00-12.20, Toddlers on Tuesdays at 9.00-11.00 am. This is ran by Mrs Charlie Whitehall ably supported by Becky Emberton.

We also work with TinyTots, ran daily by Mrs Tracey Frost and her team.

Both provide such an excellent and enjoyable service for the very young children in our community and make transition to school so trouble free.

For further details contact Meifod Mini-Beasts Playgroup via the school on 01938 500300 and Meifod Mini's on 01938500754.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily in the village hall, it was ran by Mrs Heather Dunn until the end of the Autumn Term. Then Mrs Katherine Gilmour. took over. The club is based on fun, food and friendship.

Sport

Rhys Stephens (Powys Sports Development) did some outdoor workshops with us.

Brenin Adventures (Outdoor Education) visited in the summer and class 3 tried archery, making a giant catapult and problem solving.



Year 6 did their cycle proficiency in July and everyone passed.



Students

We did not have any work experience students from local high schools because of the covid situation. Although, Miss Katie Richardson did join us for a few weeks placement from Chester University.

Enrichment Activities during 2020-2021

Although our usual busy programme was cut short by covid, we did manage the following:

Poppy appeal for The Royal British Legion
Children in Need
Comic Relief
Class 2 raised money for The Rainforest Trust

Summer reading challenge completed by all

Visitors:

PE session led by Rhys Stephens
Cycle proficiency for year 6
IMPACT Team assembly with Mr Huw Ellis
PC Gayle (on-line) Internet Safety with years 5 & 6
Brenin Adventures Team activities



Visits to:

Class 2 went to Meifod Church to meet with Reverend Jane.



The big highlight was the picnic and sporting activities day we had at COBRA Rugby Club, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

A Viking topic was enriched with a music day led by Mrs Sara Woolhouse. This focussed on the Viking theme and resulted in recorded performances for parents to view via their child's Hwb account. Other classes focussed on performances for their topic areas, Volcanos and short stories.



School Performance

The results of our National Curriculum Assessments for the Foundation Phase and KS2, together with the latest available National (all - Wales) comparative information are attached. The School also sets targets for the end of Key Stage 2, for the years ahead. These relate to the percentage of children achieving a Level 4 and above.

2020/21

Below is the percentage of pupils who are targeted and get the expected level (4) and the percentage above that level. (*Targets are set two years before the children finish year 6 and will be affected by what happens over that last two years, including a children leaving the school which happened this year.*)

2020/21

2021/22

**The Welsh Government has cancelled
the need for these.**

At Ysgol Meifod, we believe that individual progress is more important than percentages. When comparing year groups with small cohorts, the figures are not very meaningful. We track the progress of each child through the School and build on their success. Therefore, we are not just aiming at most of our children achieving a Level 4 or above by the time they leave us at Year 6.

A child gaining a Level 3, for example, may have *achieved* as much as a child gaining a Level 5 or 6. Similarly, there are children who are achieving well beyond the level expected for their age group. We believe that each child should receive the best quality teaching within a positive learning environment, in order to fulfil their *own* potential.

Attendance

The Welsh Government a not counted the attendance figures this year due to Covid 19.

Requirements for Governor's Annual Report to Parents' Meeting Schools are no longer required to hold an Annual Governors' Report Meeting. The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 now enables parents of registered pupils at the school to request up to three meetings per year (via a petition) with the Governing Body. The Governing Body must then hold a meeting within 25 school days. If parents wish to exercise this right under the Act, please contact the school for conditions.

Conclusion

The Governors will continue to work hard for the benefit of all the children. We are delighted with this report that highlights the fantastic work undertaken at the school by pupils and staff and the incredible support given by parents, Friends and the wider community.

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School Financial Summary

A summary of the Governors' financial report for the financial year ending March 2022 is set out below:

Total delegated funds = £ 322,241

	2021/22 Budget	2021/22 Actual
Salaries and Wages	£294,496	£344,567
Premises (e.g. repairs and maintenance, utilities, rates etc...)	£33,547	£45,939
Supplies and Office (e.g. Stationary, LA services Photocopier, phone etc...)	£18,691	£30,716
Total Expenditure	£346,734	£421,221
Income (e.g. grants, donations ...)	£31,232	£112,391
Net Expenditure	£315,502	£308,830

Note:

Overall below budget due to re-imburements for covid, staffing cover



Gwasanaeth Ysgolion / Schools Service

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2021 - 2022

Autumn Term 2021	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Thursday 2 September to Friday 22 October	Wednesday 1 September	37 days

Half Term – Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October

Monday 1 November to Wednesday 22 December		38 days
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Spring Term 2022	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Wednesday 5 January to Friday 18 February	Tuesday 4 January	33 days

Half Term – Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February

Monday 28 February to Thursday 7 April	Friday 8 April	29 days
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Summer Term 2022	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Tuesday 26 April to Friday 27 May	Monday 25 April	23 days

Half Term – Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June

Monday 6 June to Thursday 14 July	Friday 15 July	29 days
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- **Good Friday:** Friday 15 April 2022
- **Easter Monday:** Monday 18 April 2022
- **May Day Bank Holiday:** Monday 2 May 2022
- **Spring Bank Holiday:** Thursday 2 June 2022
- **Substitute Bank Holiday (Queen's Platinum Jubilee):** Monday 18 July 2022
- **Royal Welsh Show:** Monday 18 July to Thursday 21 July 2022