

Governors Annual Report to Parents 2022-23



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.

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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.

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

All pupils helped with the fund raising activities.

Our Harvest Festival was led by the School Council. They spoke to the children about which charity to support and decided on Wales Air Ambulance. They drew a helicopter and covered it in coins. The theme of the service was 'Small Change—Big Difference' and as a result they raised £40.

The School Council then contacted Welshpool Airport and arranged a visit to see the Welshpool Air Ambulance. They met Dougie Bancroft and handed over the money raised.

The Healthy School Committee ran the Poppy Appeal. They had rulers, poppies, pencils and other items which pupils donated money towards. This raised an incredible £102.73 for The Royal British Legion.

Children in Need was also led by the School Council. Lots of fun was had with dressing up and playing games. Cakes were baked and enjoyed. £136.71 was raised.

Just before Christmas there was a Christmas Jumper Day with the amount raised going to Save the Children. £39.65 was raised.

The Criw Cymraeg encouraged Welsh speaking and activities in many ways: Welsh phrase of the week, and Welsh in collective worship through songs, greetings and a prayer. Use of websites and apps. Welsh phrases in class and P.E.. A bi-lingual area sports with two local Welsh schools. We held our own special days for the World Cup, St. David and our own school Eisteddfod. On Welsh Music Day we had local harpist Mrs Haf Watkin work with us.

Children joined the URDD and were successful in cooking, various sports, reciting, instrumental, art and craft.

Governor Meetings

At the start of the 2022 academic year the Governing Body elected Mr Phil Lewis as Chairman and Mrs Hayley Evans as Vice Chair.

The Governing Body met 10 times. There were also visits and sub-committee meetings which fed into the full governor's meetings.

No travelling or subsistence expenses were claimed by the Governors.

In the Summer term, Mrs J Eddy retired from being a teaching assistant after 12 years. We thanked her for her fantastic service and friendship over the years.

Reverend Jane James also retired as a governor and the local vicar at the end of the summer. The governors thanked her for her contribution and work with the school.



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, Years 1 & 2,

Years 3 and 4,

Years 5 and 6.

There were 65 pupils on roll by the summer term.



CLASSROOM AND STAFF STRUCTURE

During 2022-2023 the school continued as a 3 class school.

Teachers

Mr Arwyn Jones	Headteacher Part-time Teacher of Years 3 & 4, also 5 & 6
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Miss Ruth Parker & Mrs Rachel Whilding Reception ,Year 1 & Year 2

Mrs Sara Woolhouse	Years 3 & 4
Miss Lowri John	Years 5 & 6

Supply cover

Our own part-time staff were called upon when necessary.

Support Staff

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

Peripatetic Staff

Mrs M Van-Hulsen (Woodwind) Mr M Wilcock (Guitar)

Staffing – Ancillary

Mrs Susan Davies	Midday supervisor
Mrs Mandy Bulough	Midday supervisor

Mrs Jenny Evans	Cleaner in charge
Mrs Ruth Tudor	Clerical Assistant

Mrs Michelle Evans	Cook in charge
Mrs Margaret Jones	Kitchen Assistant

Breakfast Club Staff

Mrs Michelle Evans

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 exclusively 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 8.40 a.m. onwards. Parents are reminded that children are unsupervised before 8.40 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 three classes. The foundation phase moved to the largest classroom and have transformed the space with areas for learning.

Pupils normally transfer to Caereinion and Llanfyllin High Schools in the year in which they attain their eleventh birthday. 6 pupils left at the end of the summer term 2023 with 4 going to Llanfyllin, 1 to Caereinion and 1 to Oswestry School. There was a leavers service, which many attended after our 'indoor' sports afternoon. Each year 6 pupil showed their talent.

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.

Pupils with Additional Learning Needs and Pupils with Disabilities

The school's provision of Special Education Needs complies with the Code of Practice. Miss John is the additional learning needs co-ordinator (ALNCo). Pupils with additional needs are taught in class with support from Teaching Assistants. Ysgol Meifod works with the LEA (Educational Psychologists and ALN Panel) and Llanfyllin Cluster (ALNCo's) when consulting a child's educational needs.

Mr Christopher Edwards is the nominated Governor with the responsibility for 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

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 such as a lunch in the summer.

Meifod Show was a great success, with the judge commenting on the high quality of the art, craft and handwriting.

We did have our school sports, but this had to be indoors due to the weeks of rain.

Tim Gwyrdd (Green 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 covid lockdowns, 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 class 3, it is run by Mrs Evans our school cook. The club is based on fun, food and friendship.

Sport

We always try to give a range of sporting opportunities. We worked with Meifod Football Club and St Martin's School in Oswestry via Mr Chris Edwards (Governor) to have a mixed football World Cup. It was a great success and enjoyed by all. Senegal were our winners.

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

Due to the poor weather we had to have an 'indoor' sports. The pupils really enjoyed it! Lot of parents joined us in the Village Hall.



We took part in lots of other competitions such as the COBRA Tag Rugby where we reached the quarter finals, North Powys Netball which we won the Llanfyllin area to qualify for, also cross country at Newtown.

Outdoor Education was thoroughly enjoyed by year 4 at The Red Ridge Centre near Llanfair Caereinion and Rhos Y Gwalia near Bala, by Years 5 & 6. Both classes held fantastic fund raisers to reduce the price.



Students

Miss Katie Roberts joined us from Newtown College on the summer term.

Miss Elis Sandham joined us for the last week of term from Ysgol Bro Caereinion.

Enrichment Activities during 2022-2023

During 2022-23 we took part in the following:

URDD events—football, art, craft, photography, cookery, music and reciting
Cross country—Newtown
Area Sports was hosted by us with two local Welsh schools
Jubilee Quilting Workshop
Jubilee celebrations and disco
Bingo—organised by class 3
Meifod Show—pupils presented art, craft, handwriting and grew potatoes

Visitors:

School Nursing Team
Design to Smile Dentist Team
Powys officers e.g Cllr P Roberts, Advisors, Repairs and Maintenance, Safety checks
Statutory testing e.g. Legionella, Fire Extinguishers, Alarm tests...
Ceredigion ICT support
Education Welfare Officer (attendance)
Chair of governors and other governors
Santander Money Workshop (Mrs J Bullen)
Potato Workshop (Mr T Pritchard)
Bee Workshop (Mrs S Wilkinson and The Bee Lady)
St. Martin's students and Mr C Edwards (World Cup)
Mr URDD and Welsh Music Day Workshops with Mrs H Watkin & Miss A Hughes
New starters from Meifod Playgroup and Tiny Tots
Music tuition from Mrs M Van Hulsen (woodwind) and Mr M Wilcock (guitar)
Toots music workshop and Ensemble Renard
Author visit (Sunny Brooks) and Multi-Cultural Food Workshop (Kisawanda)

Visits to:

Meifod—Village study today and the past
Meifod Church for Harvest and Christingle
Newtown for URDD mixed football
Flash Leisure Centre, Welshpool for swimming sessions
RAF Cosford
King's Head—Community Christmas Fair
New house build in the village
Erddig (Wrexham)
Powis Castle
Outdoor Education at Red Ridge (Cefn Coch) and Rhos Y Gwaliau (Bala)
Llanfyllin School—Matilda, Lake Vyrnwy workshop, year 6 transition visits
Bro Caereinion & Oswestry School — year 6 transition visits



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.

2022/23

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.*)

2021/22

2022/23

**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.

School Financial Summary

A summary of the Governors' financial report for the financial year ending March 2023 is set out below:

Total delegated funds = £ 328,817

	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actual
Salaries and Wages	£308,144	£323,717
Premises (e.g. repairs and maintenance, utilities, rates etc...)	£32,656	£44,749
Supplies and Office (e.g. Stationary, LA services Photocopier, phone etc...)	£23,113	£39,011
Total Expenditure	£363,913	£407,478
Income (e.g. grants, donations ...)	£32,150	£64,122
Net Expenditure	£331,763	£343,356

Note:

April 1st 2022—31st March 2023

Above budget due to re-imbursements for covid, staffing cover and pay awards.

2022 – 2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR ¹

Autumn Term 2022	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Monday 5 September to Friday 28 October	Thursday 1 September ² Friday 2 September ²	40 days

Half Term – Monday 31 October to Friday 4 November

Monday 7 November to Wednesday 21 December		33 days
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Spring Term 2023	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Monday 9 January to Friday 17 February		30 days

Half Term – Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February

Monday 27 February to Thursday 30 March	Friday 31 March ²	24 days
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Summer Term 2023	Non-Pupil Days	No of School Days
Tuesday 18 April to Friday 26 May	Monday 17 April ²	28 days

Half Term – Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June

Monday 5 June to Friday 21 July	Monday 24 July ²	35 days
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Good Friday:	Friday 7 April 2023
Easter Monday:	Monday 10 April 2023
May Day Bank Holiday:	Monday 1 May 2023
Spring Bank Holiday:	Monday 29 May 2023
Royal Welsh Show:	Monday 24 July to Thursday 27 July 2023