

annual report

FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS 2015



Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Welcome to the Annual Report for Parents for the academic year 2014-2015 – this report is the main way in which Llangynidr School's Governing Body informs parents and guardians of pupils in the school important information such as the results from the previous academic year, targets set and results attained from the School Improvement Plan as well as other useful bits of information such as attendance data, the school budget and who makes up your school's Governing Body.

Usually, this report is released in the first half of the term in October, but this year the School Inspection in September meant there was a lot already going on – plus, we wanted to include information about the Inspection Report, which has been released by Estyn this week. The school had a successful and positive inspection and I'd like to thank all the school staff for their dedication and hard work in the past couple of years on behalf of the Governing Body. Please download a copy of the report and give it a read through – the inspectors were very complimentary about many aspects of school life and about the quality of teaching at Llangynidr.

As part of this reporting process, I'd like to invite all parents and guardians to our AGM on Thursday, December 3, at 5pm. During the meeting, we'll be discussing this report and you'll have the opportunity to ask any questions – plus you'll also be able to meet the governors.

As you're all no doubt aware, the school has undergone a number of changes in the last couple of years but the recent Estyn Inspection shows we're moving very much in the right direction as a school. We've continued to reform the Governing Body to make it more efficient – see page two for more details on that – and we have some excellent staff who really have the success of the school at heart. Of course, we also have superb children too – which is why we're all here!

Please give this report a good read... and come to the AGM with your questions.

Jonah Webb

Message from the Headteacher

WOW! What a whirlwind! It has been an amazingly busy and productive year culminating in a successful and positive Estyn Inspection. I am very proud of the staff who are, according to the inspection report, a 'united and conscientious team', thank you for your dedication and commitment.

Of course a big thank you to you as supportive parents who 'contribute successfully to the good progress and very positive attitudes to learning (of your children)'. And last but not least, to the children – they were, as always, shining stars.

However, we will not be getting out the pipe and slippers, we will continue to march onwards, this year focusing on Mathematics and ICT.

As always, the education and wellbeing of your children is at the heart of all we do and I am always happy to discuss any aspect of school life with you.

Karen Jenkins

THE SCHOOL'S GOVERNING BODY

Headteacher

Karen Jenkins
01874 730681

Chair of Governors

Jonah Webb
01874 730649

Vice-Chairman

Jody Oliver
01874 730098

Parent Governors

Chris Jones
01874 676583

Simon Bennett
01874 731062

Staff Governors

Sian Shepherdson
(teaching)

Claire Watson
(non-teaching)

01874 730681

Community Governors

Appointed by Llangynidr
Community Council:

David Williams
01874 730957

Co-opted by governors:

Linda Games
01874 730287

Grant Barlow
07957 872996

Owen Miles
01874 730202

LEA Governors

Appointed by Powys
County Council:

Councillor
Rosemarie Harris
01874 623614

Jo Scott-Lowe
01874 730681

Gene Taylor
01874 730883

Clerk to Governors

Akemi
Cuthbertson-Smith
01874 730681

WHAT SCHOOL GOVERNORS ACTUALLY DO

Governors have a supportive role and don't get involved in the day-to-day running of the school – that's very much the responsibility of the headteacher. They do, however, have responsibility for the following:

- ❖ The school budget.
- ❖ The school's educational standards and setting targets.
- ❖ The care and welfare of all pupils.
- ❖ School buildings and health & safety issues.
- ❖ Ensuring the school is staffed properly and holding the headteacher to account.
- ❖ The school's development plan and preparing for Estyn inspections (due in 2017).
- ❖ Creating wider links with the community.

The Governing Body structure

Llangynidr School Governing Body has a structure of sub-committees and officers with individual responsibilities in order to ensure quick decision-making and an effective overview of the school, its standards and any other issues which need attention. Some of our committees or officers are statutory and required by law but others have been put in place to fulfil a particular role or area of responsibility, such as school standards.

We decide which governors are attached to each committee or individual responsibility in a special meeting in September – the Annual Meeting. Below is a brief outline of the Governing Body structure for Llangynidr School:

Sub-committee structure

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Looks at the school's budget and works with Powys County Council to make the most of the school's funding and to make savings where possible.

PREMISES, HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Oversees the school buildings and grounds, any maintenance issues and also acts quickly in the case of any health & safety issues.

STAFFING COMMITTEE

Has an overview of the school's staff, recruits any new people and deals with any other staff issues like discipline or grievance. There is also a **STAFFING APPEALS COMMITTEE**.

POLICY REVIEW & GOVERNOR EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE

Regularly checks and reviews all the school and Governing Body policies to make sure they do the right job, as well as examining how the Governing Body works overall.

PUPIL DISCIPLINARY & EXCLUSION COMMITTEE

This is a statutory committee required by the Welsh Government.

HEADTEACHER PERFORMANCE PANEL

Reviews the Headteacher's performance and sets targets as part of an appraisal process. There is also a **HEADTEACHER PERFORMANCE APPEALS PANEL**.

SCHOOL STANDARDS PANEL

Reviews the school's data as well as moderation from the school's peer groups. Has the same members as the Headteacher Performance Panel and includes Curriculum Governors.

Responsibilities for individual governors

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

Has an overview on any issues of child protection – a governor who is trained to a high level in child protection.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Keeps track of our attendance data – important information for future Estyn reports.

COMMUNITY LINK OFFICER

Ensures the school maintains strong links with the community, especially the Friends PTA.

CURRICULUM GOVERNORS

Review the school's work within the curriculum and the school results data – we currently have two, one for numeracy & science and one for literacy.

COMPLAINTS OFFICER

As part of our complaints procedure, we have an officer available in case any complaint hasn't been resolved by the Headteacher.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER

Makes sure the school is complying with our equal opportunities policy as well as the law.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN) OFFICER

Ensures the school is carrying out requirements for any pupils with additional learning needs and also makes sure the school is adequately funded for ALN.

GOVERNORS' TERMS OF OFFICE

Karen Jenkins
ongoing as HT

Jonah Webb
2012-2016

Jody Oliver
2013-2017

Chris Jones
2012-2016

Simon Bennett
2013-2017

Sian Shepherdson
2015-2019

Claire Watson
2013-2017

David Williams
2013-2017

Linda Games
2012-2016

Grant Barlow
2014-2018

Owen Miles
2013-2017

**Councillor
Rosemarie Harris**
2011-present

Jo Scott-Lowe
2015-2019

Gene Taylor
2014-2018

Clerk to Governors:
Akemi

Cuthbertson-Smith
*The Rock, Bwlch, Brecon,
Powys LD3 7HX*

Chair of Governors:
Jonah Webb
*28 Church Close,
Llangynidr, Powys
NP8 1NY*

The school's standards

September 2014 to July 2015

Llangynidr Primary School has continued to provide children with a very good standard of education in 2014-2015. Last year, there were a total of 128 pupils in school, 6.7% were eligible for free school meals and attendance stands at 95.42% for the last academic year. The school is part of a 'family' group of 10 similar schools from across Wales.

The school is assessed on the level achieved by pupils at two stages of primary school life, Foundation Phase – end of Year 2 – and at Key Stage 2 – end of Year 6. This data is then used to form a picture of the school's performance by comparing it with other schools in the 'family', the Powys average and Wales average.

FOUNDATION PHASE

The Foundation Phase Performance Indicator – which the Welsh Government uses to measure how well pupils across Wales do in the three main areas of learning – was 95%.

Subject	School	Family	Powys	Wales
Language Literacy & Communication (LLC) Outcome 5	95%	96%	92%	88%
Outcome 6	50%	52%	40%	34%
Mathematical Development (MD) Outcome 5	95%	96%	93%	90%
Outcome 6	45%	49%	39%	34%
Personal & Social Development, Wellbeing & Cultural Diversity (PSDWCD) Outcome 5	95%	99%	96%	95%
Outcome 6	85%	83%	67%	56%
Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator (FPOI)	95%			

KEY STAGE 2

The school is required to set targets for the number of children attaining a Level 4+ in the core subjects at the end of Key Stage 2. This shows a marked improvement on last year and formed part of the School Improvement Plan.

Subject	School	Family	Powys	Wales
English Level 4	100%	97%	92%	90%
English Level 5	67%	63%	46%	41%
Mathematics Level 4	100%	97%	93%	90%
Mathematics Level 5	56%	61%	43%	41%
Science Level 4	100%	98%	94%	91%
Science Level 5	56%	63%	44%	41%

TEACHING STAFF

Headteacher	Mrs Jenkins
Nursery/Reception	Mrs S Shepherdson
Year 1/2	Mrs C Davies Mrs J Thomas
Year 3/4	Mrs M Davies
Year 5/6	Mrs S Rees Mrs K Jenkins

Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNco) was Mrs Sian Shepherdson. The ALNco evaluates provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs to ensure that resources are utilised effectively to support children's progress. The ALNco works in close collaboration with professional colleagues in the Local Authority and specialist support services to ensure pupils with ALN achieve their full potential.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE

Attendance 2014-15 - 95.42%.

Authorised absences 1.11%.

Unauthorised absences 3.47%.

Attendance information is gathered from the daily register. Authorised absences include illness, hospital appointment or other special circumstances, such as a bereavement. Unauthorised absences occur if an absence cannot be explained or the reason is not one that we are able to authorise, including holidays.

Pupil attendance in school is monitored by the local authority and Welsh Government and figures are reported annually. The Welsh Assembly Government took the decision last year to issue fixed penalty notices to parents whose child's attendance falls below 90% in an academic year and Llangynidr School adopted this policy on the advice of ERW, the educational consortium which includes Powys.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Pupils enjoyed a range of additional activities after school, many of which were run by staff. Year 5/6 pupils attended a residential trip to Morfa Bay.

SCHOOL POLICIES

The school is required to hold a number of statutory policies which have all been updated as part of a review cycle. Policies are approved by and formally adopted by the school's Governing Body, and copies are available from the school office and are also available for download on the school's website.

Estyn inspection September 2015

The school was inspected by Estyn in September and the results have just been released – Estyn says the school is a **GOOD** school with **GOOD** prospects for improvement. In Estyn terms, the label 'good' means – 'many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement'. The whole process was really very positive and, while there are some suggestions of ways to improve further, the Governing Body has expressed approval of what Mrs Jenkins and the staff are doing at the school – thanks for all your hard work!

The full report is available on the school website or the Estyn website at www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6662117.

The School Improvement Plan

September 2014 to July 2015

PRIORITY 1 – To improve Level 4 writing at Key Stage 2 from 92% to a minimum of 94% to be in line with family average. *Long-term planning, assessment and monitoring was put in place – all learners in the Year 6 cohort achieved Level 4 in English.*

PRIORITY 2 – To implement the Literacy & Numeracy Framework. *Governor learning walks have assessed that LNF implementation has been quite positive.*

PRIORITY 3 – To identify More Able & Talented (MAT) pupils across the school and to improve the provision for MAT pupils in order to maintain and improve standards. *Level 5 results for all core subjects at Key Stage 2 and Outcome 6 at Foundation Phase significantly improved.*

PRIORITY 4 – To introduce and develop assessment procedures in order to track pupils. *INCERTS has been implemented in order to monitor pupil progress from starting at the school until the end of Key Stage 2.*

PRIORITY 5 – To develop and strengthen leadership roles at all levels. *All staff have clear roles and responsibilities and have been developed with as much training as school budgets will allow.*

Powys County Council assesses the school fully every autumn, with an interim assessment in the spring, and publishes the results in January – it is expected that the school will do well this year, coupled with an improvement in the school's results collated by the Welsh Assembly Government.

School Improvement Plan ongoing

The Governing Body considers the School Improvement Plan as an ongoing part of its assessment of the school so, in conjunction with the Headteacher, we have highlighted the following areas for improvement in the current academic year (2015-2016):

- To raise standards in Mathematics at Outcome 6 and Level 5 to reflect school results in English.
- To improve reading and writing at Level 5 for girls at KS2.
- To develop and improve ICT skills to achieve digital competency.
- To improve pupils' involvement in their learning... develop the 'pupil voice'.

Parent and pupil questionnaires

In the summer, the school sent out questionnaires to both parents and pupils and the results will be used to help formulate the School Improvement Plan and make changes to areas of school life identified in the questionnaires.

The full results of the survey and the suggestions for areas to improve are attached at the end of this document.

School buildings & grounds

The appearance of the school has been transformed over the last year. The consistent and successful fundraising organised by the Friends and supported fully by parents has resulted in many improvements, particularly in our outdoor space. There has been new playground equipment for both Foundation Phase and Junior areas and the new outdoor learning classroom for our Nursery/Reception children is a big hit with the teachers and children alike.

Powys LA has begun a new window replacement programme, which hopefully will continue this year so that all the windows have been replaced. Inside the school, volunteer parents have helped staff paint doors and classrooms. To add to our safeguarding measures a new alarm has been installed so that all classrooms and playgrounds can raise an alarm if necessary.

Our membership of Property Plus – the Powys scheme for building maintenance – has resulted in many smaller jobs being fixed in a timely manner and some additional electrical and other works have been undertaken to ensure our teaching areas in classrooms are maximised.

The school's budget and finances

April 2014 to March 2015

As with all government funding, the austerity measures continue to affect us and this year continued to be a huge challenge of managing resources while endeavouring to maintain our high standards within the school. Of course, the Estyn Inspection has shone brightly as an indication that it is possible to continue to deliver excellence despite the strenuous demands upon resources.

I am delighted to acknowledge the huge contribution made by the Headteacher and staff in endeavouring to make every economy possible in order to meet those challenges. As far as I'm concerned, just about every pencil and piece of paper is accounted for in terms of cost and we continue to look carefully at every investment that we make. Of course, there comes a point at which there is simply nothing left to cut. Inevitably, we will be asked to look further and I can only hope that we will be able to address what is being asked of us.

As always, the Friends' contribution is entirely invaluable to the welfare of the school and we are a long way from the days where the objective was to ask benefactors to provide 'the icing on the cake'. Rather, the contribution from the Friends is now paying directly for educational equipment necessary to maintain our objectives, including the fabric of the school. Again, an enormous 'thank you' is due to all those who helped organise and support Friends' activities.

Looking forward, and as with all schools, I'm afraid to say that the financial headwinds continue to be very strongly set against us. While it appears often as little consolation, we are in decent shape when compared with some of our peers and certainly are able to demonstrate good financial acumen to Powys with a credible financial plan for the foreseeable future. Having said that, we know that there will be unforeseen challenges to come which will need to be dealt with.

That plan is dependent on keeping good school pupil numbers and, of course, that in itself is dependent upon our ability to maintain excellent standards. For our part, as a Governing Body, we remain focused on ensuring that we will be entirely diligent in respect of those limited costs over which we have some control.

Grant Barlow
Finance Committee

THE DELEGATED SCHOOL BUDGET

Income		Expenditure	
Delegated Budget	£311,322	Salaries and Wages	£397,506
Breakfast Club grant	£7,768	Premises	£53,172
Foundation Phase Funding	£64,447	Capitation	£30,353
ALN Funding	£9,904	Office Expenses	£4,628
Additional ALN Funding	£63,467	LA Support Services	£5,276
		Other Expenditure	£3,424
Total Delegated Funds	£456,908	Total Expenditure	£494,359
		Other Income	£26,820
		Under/(Over) spend	£10,631
		Under/(Over) spend	(£3,167)
		<i>(brought forward from last year)</i>	
		TOTAL	(£13,798)

– The capitation budget is the budget with which the school buys all the teaching and learning materials, computers and other resources for the whole school.

– Salaries and wages include all teaching staff, learning support assistants, secretarial staff, breakfast club staff and midday supervisors.

– The premises expenditure includes repairs and maintenance, cleaning, electricity, gas, rates, water/sewerage and any furniture purchases.

– LA support services include advice and support on legal, financial and personnel matters for which we pay a fee to the local authority.

More useful information about the school

School prospectus

The school has a comprehensive prospectus available for all parents who are thinking of sending their children to Llangynidr.

School admissions

Powys County Council is responsible for admissions to the school and uses a three-year register to determine our school numbers in subsequent years – this information is then used to delegate the school's budget for the year. Parents should apply to the school for admission by January in the year before the academic year in which their child will be four – a full copy of the school's admission arrangements can be obtained from Akemi. The school currently has 133 pupils.

School Council & Eco committee

The School Council and Eco committee have been voted in for this year and will meet fortnightly with Mrs Cathy Davies. They will be working with pupils, staff and the Headteacher to ensure pupils' voices are heard.

Term dates for 2015-2016

AUTUMN TERM 2015

September 1 – December 18

Half Term = October 26 – October 30

SPRING TERM 2015

January 4 – March 24

Half Term = February 15 – February 19

SUMMER TERM 2015

April 4 – July 15

Half Term = May 30 – June 3

Good Friday = March 25

Easter Monday = March 28

May Day Bank Holiday = May 2

Spring Bank Holiday = May 30

Royal Welsh Show = July 18 – July 21

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE AN ISSUE...

Is your issue to do with your child in class? Then talk directly to your child's teacher.

Is your issue about the school in general or a specific matter which you'd like to discuss further? Then call the Headteacher or drop in for a chat. Karen is very approachable and will listen to your concerns in the strictest confidence and will, with your permission, pass on any relevant issues to the Governing Body. Most issues can be solved this way.

Have you spoken to the Headteacher but you're still not satisfied? Write to the Chair of Governors, but only after you've read the school's complaints procedure and ensured you've fulfilled every requirement.

Results of Parent Questionnaires 2015

Number of Parent questionnaires returned = 45 = 45% of school families

Question	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Overall I am satisfied with the school	15 24	21 19	2 1	1 not ✓
My child likes school	18 26	19 17	1	1 sometimes says she doesn't
My child was helped to settle in well when he/she started at the school	22 27	15 15	1 between agree/disagree	1 1 not ✓
My child is making good progress at school	12 21	22 22		1 too soon to tell
Pupils behave well in school	9 20	25 23	2 1	1
The teaching in school is good	13 23	23 19		3
The homework my child is set builds well on what he/she learns in school	6 16	23 23	3 2	3 1 N/A
Staff treat all children fairly and with respect	16 22	21 18	1	3
My child is encouraged to be healthy and to take regular exercise	14 22	19 22		1
The school's playground facilities are fit for purpose	8 16	18 25	8 3 1 between agree/disagree	
My child is safe at school	14 24	20 20	2	1
My child receives appropriate additional support in relation to any individual needs	8 16	18 23	1	1 1 no ✓ 3 N/A
I am kept well informed about my child's progress	6 13	27 30	4	1 1 no ✓
I feel comfortable approaching the school with questions/suggestions/problems	16 23	21 22	1	
I understand the school's procedure for dealing with complaints	5 8	22 23	5 3	7
The school promotes itself well in the local area	7 19	20 15	3 4	3 3 blank
My child is well prepared for moving on to their next school	5 3	7 13	1	8 9 N/A 11 not ✓
There is a good range of activities at school, including trips or visits	10 25	21 14	5 1	1 4 not ✓
The school is well run	7 25	22 15	1	1 4 not ✓

SUMMARY and PLANS TO RESOLVE

- ☐ All parents asked to get in touch to discuss if they have ticked any disagree/strongly disagree
- ☐ Complaints policy to be sent out to all parents and re-inform of policies section on school website.
- ☐ Invite parents/members of the community to hold a foreign language after school club
- ☐ Improve communication of intervention to be put in place at the point a pupil is highlighted
- ☐ At our information evening produce written booklet on calculation methods for parents to take away

KEY

Black / red numbers – actual figures for 2015

Green numbers – figures from 2014

✓ – not filled in, so put in 'don't know' category

Number of Pupil questionnaires returned = 53

(35 FP and 28 KS2)

FP children said

Question	Yes	sometimes	no
Do you like being at school?	22 33	12 2	1 0

KS2 children said

Statement	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
I feel safe in my school	27	0	1
The school deals well with any bullying	22	1	5
I know who to talk to if I am worried or upset	26	0	2
The school teaches me how to keep healthy	24	0	4
There are lots of chances at school for me to get regular exercise	24	0	4
I am doing well at school	22	0	6
The teachers and other adults in the school help me to learn and make progress	26	0	2
I know what to do and who to ask if I find my work hard	28	0	0
My homework helps me to understand and improve my work in school	16	3	9
I have enough books, equipment and computers to do my work	26	1	1
Other children behave well and I can get my work done	13	6	9
Nearly all children behave well at playtime and lunch time	18	3	7
I like school	25	1	2

□ Discussed with all children if ticked disagree. Feedback as follows:

Talking on the table and/or in class can sometimes be distracting

Some difficulties in children getting on with each other in some classes

Issues around football games at playtimes

Action: Discuss with school council regarding playtime buddy rotas etc