

annual report

FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS 2016



Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Welcome to the Annual Report for Parents for the academic year 2015-2016 which lays out important information from the school's Governing Body 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.

As part of this reporting process, I'd like to invite all parents and guardians to our Annual General Meeting for Parents on Thursday, November 24, 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.

You'll see from the report that the school has made some really good progress in standards, something which has been highlighted in the School Improvement Plan, and last year we became a 'green' school – which the Welsh Government describes as a 'highly effective school'. The school also celebrated its 40th anniversary this year with a fantastic Gala Evening – a big thanks to everyone who helped to make the celebrations truly spectacular.

After 40 years, the school finds itself in a very good position – and this is testament to the hard work done by Mrs Jenkins and her team of teachers, LSAs, secretarial, midday and breakfast club staff. On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank them all for their hard work this year.

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

Jonah Webb

Message from the Headteacher

As we have just celebrated the school's 40th birthday, we are pleased to say that the school continues to develop and grow, we currently have the most number of pupils ever!

A big thank you to the continued support of the Friends and parents who make all the difference to the resources the school is able to purchase from more laptops, to music workshops, camera equipment and, of course, our beautiful mosaic. Our Gala Evening was an amazing evening for the school community to come together, and an event that I hope we can make an annual one.

This year we will be working on maintaining a three-year-old setting at school and, as the curriculum in Wales changes, we aim to ensure we are working towards digital competency and the necessary changes required to the assessment of pupils.

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

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 SCHOOL'S GOVERNING BODY

Headteacher

Karen Jenkins
01874 730681

Chair of Governors

Jonah Webb
01874 730649

Vice-Chairman

Jody Oliver
01874 730098

Parent Governors

Simon Bennett
01874 731062

Jane Smith
01874 730681

Staff Governors

Sian Shepherdson
(teaching)

Kirsten Willett
(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

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. This year we have renamed some of the committees and merged some together to make the structure simpler. Below is a brief outline of the new Governing Body structure for Llangynidr School:

Sub-committee structure

QUALITY ASSURANCE

This committee deals with the curriculum and school standards, the school's policies, training and pupil attendance. Governors from this committee also make up the Headteacher Performance Panel.

WELLBEING COMMITTEE

These governors oversee child protection and safeguarding, health & safety and the school premises as well as additional learning needs (ALN) issues.

FINANCE & STAFFING

The school's budget and its staffing are inextricably linked so we merged these committees together to deal with the whole school budget as well as any issues around staffing, including recruitment.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

This committee deals with all types of staff disciplinary and pupil disciplinary procedures and pupil exclusions. Members of this committee will also make up the Complaints Committee.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

By law, the Governing Body is required to have a committee to hear appeals from staff disciplinary proceedings as well as pupil exclusions.

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
2016-2020

Jody Oliver
2013-2017

Simon Bennett
2013-2017

Jane Smith
2016-2020

Sian Shepherdson
2014-2018

Kirsten Willett
2016-2020

David Williams
2013-2017

Linda Games
2016-2020

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 2015 to July 2016

Llangynidr Primary School has continued to provide children with a very good standard of education in 2015-2016. Last year, there were a total of 141 pupils in school, 4.5% were eligible for free school meals and attendance stands at 96% 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 the 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 93.8% (the family was 89.7%, the Powys average was 90.3% and the Wales average was 87%).

Subject	School	Family	Powys	Wales
Language Literacy and Communication (LLC)				
Outcome 5 + (expected level)	100%	91%	91%	88%
Outcome 6 (above expected level)	75%	51%	44%	36%
Mathematical Development (MD)				
Outcome 4 or below	6%	-	-	-
Outcome 5 + (expected level)	94%	91%	92%	90%
Outcome 6 (above expected level)	63%	48%	43%	36%
Personal and Social Development (PSD)				
Outcome 5 + (expected level)	100%	96%	96%	95%
Outcome 6 (above expected level)	100%	70%	70%	59%

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 + (expected level)	94%	93%	92%	90%
Level 5 (above expected level)	59%	53%	47%	42%
Level 6 (exceeded expected level)	6%			
Mathematics				
Level 4 + (expected level)	88%	94%	92%	91%
Level 5 (above expected level)	59%	57%	46%	43%
Level 6 (exceeded expected level)	6%			
Science				
Level 4 + (expected level)	88%	94%	93%	92%
Level 5 (above expected level)	59%	49%	47%	43%

TEACHING STAFF

Headteacher	Mrs Jenkins
Nursery/Reception	Mrs S Galea Mrs J Thomas
Year 1/2	Mrs S Shepherdson
Year 3	Mrs M Davies
Year 4	Mr G Smith Mrs C Davies (on return from maternity leave)
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 2015-16 - 96.37%.

Authorised absences 2.55%.

Unauthorised absences 1.08%.

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 regulations state that fixed penalty notices will be issued to parents whose child's attendance falls below 90% in an academic year.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Pupils enjoyed a range of additional activities after school, run by staff and some parent helpers. Year 5/6 pupils attended a residential trip to London.

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 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.

LATEST ESTYN INSPECTION

The school was inspected by Estyn in September 2015 and 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 2015 to July 2016

PRIORITY 1 – To raise standards in Mathematics at O6 and in Mathematics and Science L5 to reflect Family and school results. *Results at the higher levels significantly exceeded those of the Family, Powys and Wales.*

PRIORITY 2 – To improve reading and writing at L5 for girls at Key Stage 2. *All targeted girl pupils and more achieved L5 in reading and writing.*

PRIORITY 3 – To develop and improve ICT skills to achieve digital competency. *Lots of work completed on the curriculum and pupil access to a learning platform at home.*

PRIORITY 4 – To improve pupil's involvement in their learning and influence the strategic direction of the school. Assessment for learning strategies developed and reflection time implemented. *A pupil group to assist with whole school monitoring will be set up for 2016-17 academic year.*

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 categorisation may change as a result of <100% KS2 L4 results.

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 Head teacher, we have highlighted the following areas for improvement in the current academic year (2016-2017):

- To raise standards in reading at Level 5.
- To improve Numeracy reasoning at higher levels in the foundation phase.
- To develop and embed digital competency.
- To improve pupil's involvement in their learning and influence the strategic direction of the school.

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

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 addition of a mosaic made by the children is a permanent reminder of our 40th birthday celebrations and has enhance the entrance to our school.

The school's budget and finances

April 2015 to March 2016

Over recent years, the Finance Committee statement for the Annual Report to Parents has been focused on the settlement provided to the school through Powys County Council. This year is no different, however – even though we will still experience further cuts – the negative impact on our spending is likely to be a little less than in previous years.

We are at the stage where any further cuts are directly impacting on our ability to support the direct educational needs of the children, as opposed to 'trimming non-essential spending' – which of course we've most certainly not enjoyed in recent years. With the inevitable increase in the cost of expenses, the possibilities of an interest-rate rise and generally uncertain economic conditions, we are likely to see a continuing strain on financial resources.

Of course, the continuing and much-valued effort from the Friends of Llangynidr School and sound financial governance by the Headteacher and her staff stand us in good stead when considering the best interests of the children.

In last year's statement I mentioned the importance of keeping good school pupil numbers. I have no hesitation in re-emphasising the importance of this particular aspect over the long term. We will continue to focus on this particular aspect wherever practicable because the funding we receive from Powys County Council is directly related to our pupil numbers. The measure of success that the school achieves is obviously a direct function of the children's individual efforts, our staff skills and the resources which we can afford.

This year, the council announced that, from September 2017, children will start school in the September after their fourth birthday – currently they can start school at the beginning of the term in which they have their fourth birthday – and this could mean the school will receive funding for all pupils for all three terms, but the council is also reviewing its nursery provision as part of a Powys-wide consultation and this could have a detrimental impact on the school's finances in the longer term.

Grant Barlow
Finance Committee

THE DELEGATED SCHOOL BUDGET

Income		Expenditure	
Delegated Budget	£335,753	Salaries and Wages	£428,553
Breakfast Club grant	£7,768	Premises	£64,006
Foundation Phase Funding	£69,138	Capitation	£21,845
ALN Funding	£7,900	Office Expenses	£3,698
Additional ALN Funding	£70,270	LA Support Services	£6,611
		Other Expenditure	£4,360
Total Delegated Funds	£490,829	Total Expenditure	£529,073
		Other Income	£51,488
		Under/(Over) spend	£13,244
		Under/(Over) spend	(£13,798)
		<i>(brought forward from last year)</i>	
		TOTAL	(£554)

– 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 2016-2017

AUTUMN TERM 2016

September 5 – December 16

Half Term = October 24 – October 28

SPRING TERM 2017

January 4 – April 6

Half Term = February 20 – February 24

SUMMER TERM 2017

April 24 – July 21

Half Term = May 29 – June 2

Good Friday = April 14

Easter Monday = April 17

May Day Bank Holiday = May 1

Spring Bank Holiday = May 29

Royal Welsh Show = July 24-27

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 2016

Number of Parent questionnaires returned = 31 = 32% of school families

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

SUMMARY, FEEDBACK and PLANS TO RESOLVE WHERE POSSIBLE

-) A reminder that the complaints policy is available on the website and from the office.
-) Curriculum is already jam packed so it is not feasible to add a third language to the school day however the invitation is open to parents/members of the community to hold a foreign language after school club as no expertise with staff.
-) Any parent wishing to donate items, or assist with construction of structures, to enhance the outdoor grounds is more than welcome.
-) A new school website has to be constructed as we have lost our previous Powys one, this new one should have a calendar option which will be updated with school calendar events – watch this space!
-) Communication from the office and efficiency to be improved.
-) We are mindful that school trips have a cost attached to them so we try not to have too many, we think we have trips that enhance our learning experiences. This is the same scenario for sporting events, as a transport cost is always incurred and curriculum time is missed, school needs to limit how many we can attend.
-) A monthly report is not possible for every child, however any issue/concern that a teacher has will be discussed with the parent throughout the year, and vice versa, our doors are always open.
-) As a staff we will discuss our parent's evening timings.
-) Unfortunately school budgets do not allow for additional teacher support for specific year groups or indeed any class. This year however we will have much smaller pupil numbers in classes, 6 in all.
-) We believe half term homework has an important place in our curriculum as it is often in preparation for our new topic. It is always set as challenge style homework so how much a child/parent wants to complete is up to them, from the basic to the very elaborate!
-) Transition to High School needs to fit with the High School's timetables; however they currently have 2 days, a shadow and transition day. Also this year has seen Year 5 attend some days at the High School in preparation and to start the transition process earlier.
-) A lovely idea to have an induction pack for all new students/parents we will work on it.

Number of Pupil questionnaires returned = 53

(28 FP and 32 KS2)

FP children said

Question	Yes	sometimes	no
Do you like being at school?	21	7	0

KS2 children said

Statement	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
I feel safe in my school	32	0	0
The school deals well with any bullying	24	1	7
I know who to talk to if I am worried or upset	29	0	3
The school teaches me how to keep healthy	27	2	3
There are lots of chances at school for me to get regular exercise	27	0	5
I am doing well at school	25	0	7
The teachers and other adults in the school help me to learn and make progress	31	0	1
I know what to do and who to ask if I find my work hard	31	0	1
My homework helps me to understand and improve my work in school	23	2	7
I have enough books, equipment and computers to do my work	29	1	2
Other children behave well and I can get my work done	17	1	14
Nearly all children behave well at playtime and lunch time	25	2	5
I like school	30	0	2

-) Discussed with all children if ticked disagree.