**Introducing Governor: Leanne Rees**

**Governors Special Responsibilities:** Staffing

Pupil Discipline

Looked After Children

My name is Leanne Rees and I have been a Parent Governor at Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael since November 2016. Since becoming a governor I have attended training courses relevant to the role and I have undertaken a monitoring visit of the school learning environment.

I have one daughter who attends Ifor Hael. As part of supporting my daughter’s education I thought it would be a great idea to learn Welsh. That was seven years ago and I’m still plodding away at it today. If only my level of progression and grasp of the language was as good as my level of perseverance! I think it’s fair to say that languages are not my strength.

I am employed by a neighbouring local authority as a Social Worker in Children’s Services. I have worked for local authorities’ children’s services departments in various capacities for over twenty years.

When time permits, I also act as a Practice Assessor for students on placement whilst undertaking their degree in social work. Although social work can be an extremely challenging job, I hope that I make a positive contribution to achieving better outcomes for children and young people. My experience of working with families in need, with looked after children, with care leavers, and with those in need of safeguarding should stand me in good stead to hopefully make a valid contribution towards the wellbeing of children at Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael.

When I am not in work I enjoy spending time with family and friends much of which involves co-ordinating and facilitating my daughter’s social calendar…oh to have the social life of an eight year old! Having moved to Newport twelve years ago I still consider myself as a newbie to the area so I am always on the lookout for new opportunities to extend our family social networks.

Being a parent governor is proving to be a steep learning curve for me but I wish to be part of representing the voice of parents and to be part of making children’s experience of schooling as positive as possible.

Leanne Rees

Needs to be Welsh First then English)