

Ysgol Wepre School



Governing Body Full Annual Report to the Parents 2020-2021

Chair's Foreword

I said in my introduction to the Annual Report last year that it had been a “special” year. In retrospect last year was far more straightforward. This year has seen a series of unprecedented events impacting on the running of the school and the education of the children. The effect of the various rounds of school closures and re-openings, the introduction of “bubble” and staggered school days and the inevitable cases that resulted in classes having to be sent home cannot be underestimated.

However, I know that our school community is resilient, not least the children. They have responded admirably to the changes that have impacted in their school life. All the staff put in place an amazing plan to ensure that the children's education suffered as little disruption as possible, while ensuring the health and wellbeing of everybody in school. In addition, parents, carers and families all rose to the challenges presented and supported the school in its efforts to ensure continuity throughout the year.

The pandemic is not over, and further change may be coming our way, but I am confident that Wepre school can weather anything that may be on the horizon. I know that we can rely on the whole school community to make the very best of whatever is thrown at us, but at the same time I am really, really hopeful that next year I can write about “normal” things like school finances and new curriculum developments in my foreword.

As always, I will use my last paragraph to thank everyone involved with the school, in whatever way, for their continued support and the hard work they put in. I would also like to express my gratitude for the future support that I have no doubt will manifest itself whatever this coming year may bring.

Colin Sinclair

Chair of Governors

Ysgol Wepre School

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Our School Mission Statement

ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH HAPPINESS

We believe we achieve success through:

- Creating a school culture and ethos built on happiness
- Creating an environment which is caring and secure
- Creating an environment built on trust and mutual respect
- Having a positive commitment to teamwork
- Enhancing self esteem
- Valuing each person
- Working together
- Helping each person fulfil their true potential

We aim to:

- Foster positive attitudes
- Encourage people to take on responsibility
- Be accountable
- Recognise, praise, encourage and reward people's efforts

Ysgol Wepre School Governing Body/Corff Llywodraethu

Chair of Governing Body/Cadeirydd y Corff Llywodraethu: Colin Sinclair
 Clerk to Governors/Clerc i'r Llywodraethwyr: Laura Worthington
 Head Teacher/Prifathro: Steve Davies

Governor	Category	Term Ends
Kate Barnes	Parent	04/04/2023
John Blythyn	LEA	29/08/2021
Laraine Blythyn	LEA	18/12/2021
Cllr Peter Davies	Community (Minor Authority)	14/05/2023
Steve Davies	Head Teacher	N/A
Clare Dolby	Teacher	16/03/2022
Ian Doughty	Community	08/11/2022
Cllr Ian Dunbar	LEA	23/01/2025
Suzanne Edwards	Community	05/07/2022
Scott Paul	Parent	11/07/2023
Claire Randles	Staff	09/11/2023
Fiona Reid	Parent	26/05/2025
Mike Shields	Parent	18/10/2023
Colin Sinclair	Community	24/09/2024
Cllr Ian Smith	LEA	23/01/2025
Stephanie Sprake	Parent	28/11/2022
Steven Tattum	Community	11/07/2023
Kate Williams	Teacher	01/03/2024

Governing Body Appointments

During the school year, the Governing Body re-appointed Colin Sinclair as a Community governor in the Autumn term, in line with statutory regulations (The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005, Schedule 1).

Parent Governor Elections

There are no scheduled elections in the coming year.

Arrangements for Parents Meetings

As a result of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, which came into force on 4th May 2013, a school governing body is no longer required to hold an annual parents meeting.

Parents are major stakeholders in the school community and have a clear and strong interest in their child's education. It is therefore important that the governing body actively engages with parents, and remains accountable, by providing them with information and opportunities to discuss and have an input into school.

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 with the governing body via a petition. A brief summary is provided below.

The governing body must hold a meeting within 25 school days of receiving the petition, providing that:

- the petition contains the signatures of the required minimum number of parents of registered pupils at the school, which is the lower of the following:
 - the parents of 10% of registered pupils, or
 - the parents of 30 registered pupils
- the meeting requested by parents must be to discuss a matter relating to the school
- there will be no more than three meetings held during the year in which the first petition is received
- there are sufficient school days left in the school year for the meeting to be held.

The meeting is open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, the head teacher and any other persons invited by the governing body. As soon as reasonably practicable, the governing body must notify all parents of registered pupils at the school in writing, the date of the meeting and the matter to be discussed.

As a Governing Body it has been several years since we have had attendance at an Annual General Meeting. We have decided not to hold a scheduled meeting for the foreseeable future but heartily recommend that parents with concerns or interests either contact the Governing Body or take advantage of the regulations outlined above.

No meetings were required under the regulations in the 2018-2019 school year.

Financial Statement

Category	Budget (£)	Expenditure (£)	Underspend/ (Overspend) (£)
Balance from 2017/18 (inc. Pupil Number Adjustment)	113,633		113,633
Employees	1,224,175	1,209,287	14,888
Premises	97,538	67,140	5,688
Transport/Travel Expenses	-	-	-
Supplies and Services	50,860	37,027	13,833
Service Level Agreement (LEA)	38,130	36,896	1,234
School Meals	-	17,328	(17,328)
Income	-136,785	-235,462	98,677
School Totals	1,244,262	1,126,528	117,734

The Governing Body's Finance and Staffing subcommittee regularly review the school's expenditure. The budget of the school is once again in a healthy position, providing a significant surplus enabling the school to be prepared for all eventualities. The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the financial situation of the school has been positive because savings on premises were made during the various lockdowns and significant expenditure on additional supplies (e.g., PPE) were deferred against Welsh Government grant income

Attendance/Absence

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on education throughout the 2020-21 school year, the Welsh Government suspended The School Performance and Absence Targets (Wales) Regulations 2011. Consequently, there is no requirement to publish attendance data for the 20-21 school year or set targets for the coming year.

Performance/Attendance Targets

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on education throughout the 2020-21 school year, the Welsh Government suspended The School Performance and Absence Targets (Wales) Regulations 2011. Consequently, there is no requirement to publish performance data for the 19-20 school year or set targets for the coming year.

School Dates

Autumn Term	2020-21
Term Start	1 st September 2021
Half Term Close	22 nd October 2021
Half Term Open	1 st November 2021
End of Term	22 nd December 2021

Spring Term

Term Start	6 th January 2022
Half Term Close	18 th February 2022
Half Term Open	28 th February 2022
End of Term	8 th April 2022

Summer Term

Term Start	25 th April 2022
Half Term Close	27 th May 2022
Half Term Open	6 th June 2022
End of Term	20 th July 2022

Session times

Nursery: 9.00 am to 11.30 pm and 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm

Foundation Phase: 8.55 am to 3.00 pm

Juniors: 8.55 am to 3.15 pm

Community Links

Parent Teachers Association

Ysgol Wepre School benefits from a proactive and hardworking PTA which aims to develop effective relationships between, staff, parents and others associated with the school while engaging in activities which support and benefit Ysgol Wepre School and advance the education and well-being of the children. PTA provides a huge range of activities throughout the year which contribute immensely to the community of the school. These include the Christmas and Summer fairs, the end of term discos for infants and juniors, secret Santa presents, Easter gifts, the leavers gifts and a whole host of other things. The PTA is only as successful as the parents and teachers make it. If you could donate some time to help with one or two of these activities, even if it is just wrapping a present or two or doing a quick run to get some hot-dogs for an event that would be greatly appreciated.

Wepre Out of School Club

Our Out of School Club supports parents who are working or training. The Club is well organised with trained Staff and a supportive Management Committee, which meets at least once a term with an A.G.M in the Summer term. It is regularly inspected by the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales and has consistently been commended for its high standards

Connah's Quay Consortium

Ysgol Wepre School works closely with the other Connah's Quay primary schools and with the local secondary school. This relationship benefits the school by sharing practice and skills and by allowing pupils to interact with peers in other schools. This year the children worked on a history project commemorating the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Community Participation

Pupils and staff have been involved with projects which have included musical and literary presentations at Wepre Villas Residential Home, the school choir performing at the local Morrisons supermarket and charity projects involving Barnardo's, Macmillan Nurses and Fairtrade. In addition to links with local businesses, the Town Council and community police, Ysgol Wepre School has also developed or maintained links with; learners from other local high schools on work experience; learners and students from Coleg Cambria and Bangor University on a variety of placements; community groups such as Deeside Phoenix Junior Football club, Deeside Community Arts and the Llwyni Joint Consultative Board as well as a number of organisations and individuals who visit the school or who receive our pupils on educational and residential visits.

Sporting Activity

After-school activities included sports (netball, football, athletics, cricket, rounders), music, Eco-Schools, arts and crafts and Welsh.

Sport plays a key part in our school curriculum with a range of activities offered and pupils are given the opportunity to compete against other schools in football, netball, rugby and athletics. During the year significant progress has been made by all pupils attending clubs. All school teams were successful in a range of tournaments and competitions.

Activities and community links have been significantly curtailed by the impact of COVID-19 in the latter half of the school year.

School Prospectus

Ysgol Wepre School's prospectus is updated at least once every two years. The last update was Summer Term 2020 for 2021-22 entry. The most up to date prospectus is always available from the school website or directly from school on request.

Language Category and Use of Welsh

The children follow a second language Welsh course as the predominant language used at Ysgol Wepre School is English. The children in the Foundation phase and KS2 sections are provided with discrete Welsh sessions supported by the use of incidental Welsh. Welsh is also used explicitly in other subject areas such as in Physical Education for giving instructions. Welsh is used incidentally in communication with parents.

Toilet Facilities

All toilet areas have been refurbished and are maintained to a very high standard. We have 8 sets of toilets that are cleaned daily.

Strategy Implementation and Policy Reviews

Implementation and review of School Improvement Plan

Policy Reviews

The following policies have been reviewed and updated as part of a rolling programme:

Acceptable Use, Additional Learning Needs, Admissions Arrangements, Complaints, Disclosure and Barring Service, Healthcare Needs, Lettings, Mobile Devices, Safeguarding, Sex Education

Copies of our policies are available on the school website or from school on request.

Curriculum Organisation and Delivery (including ALN and PDG)

Curriculum

The Foundation Phase

The Foundation Phase is the department in school for children aged 3-7. It has its own statutory curriculum that recognizes the need for a curriculum for young children that is appropriate to their stage of learning.

At the centre of the curriculum framework lies the holistic development of the children and their skills across the curriculum, building on their previous learning, experiences, knowledge and skills.

The children learn through play and first-hand experimental activities that take place both indoors and outside.

The curriculum is planned across seven Areas of Learning:

- Personal and Social Development, Well-being and Cultural Diversity.
- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills.
- Mathematical Development.
- Welsh Language Development.
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World.
- Physical Development.
- Creative Development.

The children are assessed through observations and these observations are then accounted for when planning for future activities.

The aims of the Foundation Phase Curriculum are to encourage and enable children to become independent learners and to develop their thinking, communication, ICT and number skills.

Key Stage 2

The *National Curriculum* requires all schools to teach the following subjects at Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11):

- The *Core Subjects* - English, Mathematics, Science and Welsh.
- The *Foundation Subjects* - History, Geography, Design/Technology, Music, Art, Physical Education, Religious Education, ICT and Personal and Social Education.

We deliver the National Curriculum through the following areas:

- Literacy (Reading, Writing and Oracy)
- Numeracy
- Science
- Humanities (History, Geography, Religious Education, Personal and Social Education)
- Creative (Drama, Music, Art)
- Physical Education (Gymnastics, Games, Swimming)
- Information Technology (can form part of all subjects)
- Design Technology

Our pupils are set targets and tasks that match their needs and abilities.

New Curriculum

At present, the school is continuing to follow the national curriculum. However, in response to curriculum reform, the school has been working internally and with external bodies to prepare the school for the implementation of the new curriculum from September 2022.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Additional needs is the term used at Ysgol Wepre School to describe provision supported in school which is additional to, or different from, that provided by the already differentiated curriculum delivered at the school. Ysgol Wepre School follows a graduated approach to support as recommended for the Primary phase in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

Identification, monitoring, support and additional provision (where appropriate) are provided to pupils throughout all stages of the Primary phase at Ysgol Wepre School. The school employs an Additional Needs Co-ordinator for three days a week. This post is currently held by Ms R. Hughes. The link governor for additional needs is Mrs M. Fearon.

Full details of the school's policy on additional needs can be found in the Additional Needs policy on the school website.

Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG)

The purpose of the PDG is to improve outcomes for learners eligible for free school meals (FSM) and Looked After Children (LAC). It is intended to overcome the additional barriers that prevent learners from disadvantaged backgrounds achieving their full potential. The Welsh Assembly Government allocates additional funds to all schools in Wales based on the pupils on roll who take free school meals or who are looked after children. Every school is required to account for its allocation by creating a budget and accounting for it.

The school typically uses the grant for identified staff training, support and resources primarily for small group, one-to-one or targeted learning programmes. Full details of the school's use of the PDG is published on the school website in the Summer term.

More Able and Talented (MAT)

More Able and Talented includes learners who are more able across the curriculum as well as those who show talent in one or more specific areas, which could include practical, creative and social fields of human activity. More able and talented learners require opportunities for enrichment and extension that go beyond those provided for the general cohort of learners.

The school supports MAT by identifying pupils as soon as possible and enriching the curriculum in several ways, which include; additional classes and special projects; providing subject trips; providing opportunities for the application of practical and creative skills such as performance and arts and using professional learning communities across the Connah's Quay consortium of schools to provide events in a wide range of core and foundation subjects.