



Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn

Hand in Hand - together we can



Annual Governors' Report to Parents

September 2022 - July 2023

Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn



Ffordd Tywysog Siarl / Prince Charles Road
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Rhian Hughes
Headteacher

Dear Friends

I have the pleasure in presenting the Annual Governors Report 2022 / 2023. It has been another busy and successful year in Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn. Our thanks go to Mrs Hughes and all the staff for their continued excellent work with the children and the school.

In August, the latest Estyn report was published for the school which was very positive and a testament to the great work and wonderful learning environment that they have at the school. The report highlighted that staff are 'highly skilled' and a 'culture has been created where all staff work together diligently to help pupils enjoy learning. 'They do their utmost to empower pupils to develop and achieve whilst allowing children to learn at their own pace.'

The school continues to grow and develop and this year - we have welcomed new families and new children along with new members of staff. We look forward to progressing forward through the coming year with continued growth and development, whilst providing the best opportunities for all children that attend the school.

It is a privilege to be involved with this very special school. Mrs Hughes and all the staff go above and beyond in their level of care for the children and their families. As a former parent at the school, I will always remember and be grateful for the support we received from the school community.

One of the main roles of the Governing Body is to help provide a good quality education for all our young children. If you would like to help us, we currently have a vacancy for a parent governor at the school. If you are interested in becoming a governor, please speak to Mrs Hughes to find out more information.

Together we look forward to continuing our success in 2023 / 2024.

Emily Parry
Chair of Governors



COMPOSITION OF CURRENT GOVERNING BODY 2023 - 2024

Name	Type of Governor	End Date
Emily Parry - Chair	Local Authority	2025
Hollie Jeffcock	Parent	2025
Jane Howells – Vice Chair	Community	2025
Louise Ball	Parent	2025
Rebecca Williams	Local Authority	2027
Rhian Hughes	Headteacher	Continuous
Sara Williams	Staff	2024
Toni Gwilliam	Teacher	2026
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Community</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Parent</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Additional Community</i>	

Chairperson and Clerk to the Governors for 2023 / 2024

The Chair (Emily Parry) and the Clerk to the Governors (Nina Pryce) can be contacted through the school:

Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, Prince Charles Road, Wrexham, LL13 8TH
01978 356177, mailbox@ysgolcaergwenyn.wrexham.sch.uk

Information is also available at www.ysgolcaergwenyn.co.uk

If you are interested in becoming a governor and would like more information about the role please contact Emily Parry, Chair of Governors or Rhian Hughes, Headteacher.



Current Staff 2023 – 2024

Becky Blakeley	Teaching Practitioner Level 4 / First Aider / Transport / Outdoor Coordinator
Courtney Roberts	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Educational Resources Coordinator
Edona Veliu	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Accessibility Coordinator / Global Citizenship
Erin Walker	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Hannah Austin	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Hayley Whitfield	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Supply Staff Coordinator
Jackie Whalley	Teaching Practitioner Level 4 / School Uniform / Dental SMILE Coordinator
Julie Miller	School Caretaker
Katie Judd	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / First Steps Early Engagement Coordinator
Kim Wright	Teacher – Dosbarth Lafant / Community and Experiences Coordinator
Liz Jones	Teacher / ALNCo / Curriculum & Assessment / Fire Safety Coordinator
Lucy Samuels	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Mel Jones	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Well Being Champion / ELSA
Nia Jones	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Nina Pryce	Administrator / Clerk to the Governors / Website Coordinator
Olivia Berry	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Rachel Samuels	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Environmental / Creative Arts Coordinator
Rhian Hughes	Headteacher / Curriculum & Assessment / Safeguarding and LAC
Ryleigh Blakely	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / Physical Development Coordinator
Sara Williams	Teaching Practitioner Level 4 / Home School Link Coordinator
Sophie Gillett	Teaching Practitioner Level 2 / School Meals / Family Engagement Coordinator
Sophie Holt	Teaching Practitioner Level 2
Toni Gwilliam	Teacher – Dosbarth Grug / Health and Safety / ICT Coordinator
Vickie Jones	Teacher – Dosbarth Gwyddfif / Healthy Schools Coordinator
Yvonne Rowley	Teaching Practitioner Level 4 / Hygiene / First Aider / ELKLAN / Instagram Coordinator

Visit by Governors

Throughout the school year, the Governors are welcomed visitors to the school. Full governing body meetings are held each half term with various sub-committee meetings in the interim. All governors have specific areas of responsibility, determined at the start of each academic year. Governors attend training sessions on a range of subjects, and seek to evaluate and improve their own performance. Governors receive no monies for expenses incurred as all duties are carried out on a voluntary basis.

The Governor's Curricular Aims

As part of the new Curriculum which became statutory in September 2022, all members of the school were consulted about our vision and values.

Our values and aims for our children are -

Warm, caring and friendly ethos	All who step in to the building are warmly welcomed. Visitors to Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, often remark on the lovely atmosphere within the school. We work hard to make sure that the school is bright, clean, colourful and attractive with fairy lights and fresh flowers helping to enhance the environment. We strive to make all visitors and members of the school community feel comfortable, relaxed and at ease.
Fun and laughter	We believe in the power of humour! Staff in Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn are not afraid to have fun and at times, tell jokes, act in a silly way etc, to generally bring smiles and laughter in to the classroom. We believe that children model their mood, behaviour and their attitude on the adults around them. Here in school, our staff show joy, smiles and enthusiasm and act as positive role models to the children around them.
Inclusive education	In Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, all our children are valued, respected and their individual needs met by dedicated and experienced practitioners. We ensure that all our children are treated fairly and that regardless of their needs or barriers to learning, we create supportive classroom environments where all achievements are celebrated no matter how small or large.
Family feel/positive relationships and partnerships	Here in school, we strive to build positive relationships and a sense of belonging. Parents / carers are welcomed into the school and are encouraged to have an input into the many different aspects of school life. Staff recognise the skills and talents of parents and help nurture their talents. Parents and family members are made to feel that their opinions and ideas matter and that they feel a genuine sense of ownership. School believes that its relationship with parents is of paramount importance and that a solid home / school partnership provides the best opportunity for the holistic development of the child.
Dedicated team of staff	Our staff work hard to ensure that every child succeeds in every way possible. They are committed, passionate and dedicated staff who are constantly looking at ways to raise standards because they want each and every child to do their very best.
Environmentally aware	In Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, we are taking active steps to make our school a greener and more eco friendly place. We are working hard to cultivate and promote an awareness of environmental issues within the school. Our wildlife garden is enjoyed by all members of the school community as well as the local wildlife!

Our Curriculum Rationale can be obtained from the school's Reception office

Our shared school vision

Hand in Hand Together We Can

Law yn Llaw, gyda'n gilydd mi allwn

Curriculum for Wales

The Welsh Curriculum became statutory in September 2022.

In Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, we are delivering a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum, allowing all our children to have fun whilst learning.

Activities are pitched at the children's level of development enabling them to learn and succeed at a rate suitable to each individual. There are six areas of Learning and Experience namely: • Languages, Literacy and Communication • Mathematics and Numeracy • Science and Technology • Humanities • Health and Well being • Expressive Arts.

The four purposes of the curriculum are the shared vision and aspiration for every child and young person. They are at the heart of our new curriculum and guide and direct everything we do at Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn. In supporting the development of the four purposes, we set high expectations for all – to raise standards, tackle the attainment gap, and ensure that our curriculum supports lifelong learning.

All teaching and learning is underpinned by these four core purposes. The four purposes are the starting point for all decisions on the content and experiences developed as part of the curriculum to support our children and young people to become: • ambitious, capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives • enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work • ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world • healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Further information for parents / carers can be obtained from <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/a-new-curriculum-in-wales-a-guide-for-parents>



Staff Professional Development

Staff accessed face to face and online courses throughout the year on themes such as Well-Being and Trauma Informed Practice. Staff undergo annual performance reviews to ensure the highest standards of achievement are maintained.

Environmental Awareness

The school continues to work towards becoming a greener and more environmentally aware establishment. The wildflower meadow has been further developed through the planting of new trees and shrubs. We were extremely fortunate to have the support and advice of Jacinta Challinor, Wrexham Council to help develop our grounds.

Financial Statements

The budget is based on a formula allocation.

The Finance Committee meets regularly to monitor income and expenditure.

Summary of the LA statement – attached



School Fund Account

Occasionally, the school receives donations from various organisations eg Tempest Photography. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the children did not have their photographs taken this year.

School funds are used in the main to purchase resources and to finance events such as the Christmas party. The full accounts of the School Fund are available for inspection on request. The School Fund Account is audited annually by Mr Robert Godfrey, of Godfrey Edwards Accountants.

Summary of Transactions – School Fund Account

Year Ended 31st March 2023

Receipts

Balances brought forward

Bank Current Account £2,041.07

Receipts

Income £3,191.85

£5,232.92

Payments

Expenditure

Bank Current Account £3,594.99

Balance carried forward £1,637.93

£5,232.92

School Prospectus

The school prospectus was updated with new term dates and personnel. The prospectus is available on our school website. A copy is made available on request, to all our parents. Parents give permission for their child to appear in the new prospectus.



School Improvement Plan

The School Improvement Plan looks at the action required to move the school forward. A copy of this plan is displayed in the school foyer and on the school website. A copy of the plan is available on request to the Headteacher.

Key Improvement Priorities for 2022 – 2023

The school priorities for 2022 - 2023 were:

1. To further improve outcomes for all pupils through the full implementation of the Welsh Curriculum.
2. To develop the expertise and skills of all practitioners in order to best support pupils with ALN.
3. To promote effective collaboration in order to enrich our practice, raise standards and improve learner outcomes.
4. To promote the emotional health and well being of all members of the school community.

Nursery – The school welcomed 26 children into their Nursery year in September 2022.

Reception – Twenty two children returned in September 2022 for the year.

Early Education – children attend EE in the Spring and Summer terms. Seven enrolled in January 2023 and a further 5 enrolled in April 2023. All 12 children have returned in September 2023 for their Nursery education.

Community Links

‘The school works in close partnership with external agencies, such as speech and language therapists, health visitors, the educational psychology service and social care professionals. This multi-agency approach is highly effective and has a positive impact on pupil development.’

Estyn Inspection Report 2023

Mrs Sara Williams liaised closely with Health Visitors in her role as Home / School Links Coordinator and staff regularly liaised with colleagues in our feeder schools. The school has worked in partnership with local schools.

School maintains its strong links with the community eg St Anne’s Church and the Caia Park Partnership.



Curriculum and Organisation

'The school's curriculum has suitable breadth and enables pupils to develop their skills and knowledge at an appropriate level.' Estyn Inspection 2023

The emphasis is very much on active learning and discovery and seeks to establish routines and behaviours which prepare children for the next phase in their education.

Pupils With Additional Learning Needs

"Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn, values all its pupils equally and aims to cater for their individual needs to give them full access to the curriculum." Policy statement

We place great importance in involving and working closely with parents to achieve the best outcomes for children. We ensure that the additional and differing needs of our children are appropriately identified as set out in The Additional Learning Needs Code of Practice.

Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn is a truly inclusive school where all children's achievements are shared and celebrated within the whole school community.

Parents are kept fully informed of their child's progress and where appropriate any outside specialist help is obtained. A copy of the school's ALN policy is on the school website and a paper copy is available from the Headteacher.

Liz Jones is the Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo). She is responsible to the Head Teacher for the implementation of the School Policy. The ALNCo has responsibility for assessing individual needs and identifying appropriate provision. She monitors the progress and targets for each child and holds regular meetings with parents to review their child's progress. The ALNCo arranges for the transition of children to and from our school.

Throughout the year, the ALNCo liaised closely with outside agencies including Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists and Health Visitors. She attended numerous courses and meetings throughout the year.

The Governing Body approve all ALN policies and have appointed a Governor with responsibility for Additional Learning Needs.

Physical access to the school is good.

Estyn Inspection

The school was inspected by Estyn in June 2023. The Inspection team identified many strengths and areas of good practice, including the highly skilled workforce and the provision of an engaging curriculum. The team recommended two areas for development. School was invited to prepare a case study on its work in relation to developing children's communication skills. The report and case study can be accessed on the Estyn website.

Attendance

The attendance figures for 2022 / 2023 were:

Reception attendance – **81.35%**, authorised absence – 13.81%, unauthorised absence – 4.84%.

Nursery attendance – **77.27%**, authorised absence – 16.26%, unauthorised absence – 6.47%.

Early Entitlement attendance – **81.95%**, authorised absence – 13.68%, unauthorised absence – 4.37%.

We continue to monitor unauthorised absences and employ a variety of strategies to encourage regular attendance. Parents are encouraged to contact the school when their children are unwell or when they are unable to attend school. The Home School Link Coordinator, Sara Williams make first day absence phone calls. Schools offers support to parents if there are difficulties in children attending school.

Safeguarding / Child Protection

The Welsh Office guidance makes it clear that schools have an important role to play in the protection of children from abuse. This is confirmed in Wrexham County Borough Council Policy, which sets out procedures to be followed by staff. The school therefore has a duty to refer any concerns about the well being of pupils to SPOA (Single Point of Access for Children). All staff and governors receive Safeguarding / Child Protection training. Rhian Hughes is the Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP) in the school. Rebecca Williams is the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding.

Premises

The Health and Safety Coordinator and members of the governing body regularly inspect the premises and make detailed risk assessments. Any issues are promptly addressed. Contractors regularly maintain the outdoor premises.



Equal Opportunity

The school is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. The school's policy is available from the Headteacher.

Healthy Living

The school continues to set targets and to raise standards in this area. We have a Level 5 in the Food Hygiene rating. A member of staff has responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of hygiene are adhered to.

School continues to participate in the Design to Smile scheme. We have achieved the Gold Badge for our commitment and continuing support to the programme for three or more years.

Healthy Food

Our children are provided with healthy snacks in the morning and have a choice of milk or water to drink. Our Reception and Year 1 children are eligible for a free school meal.



Toilet Facilities

The children's toilets are modern and bright and separate toilet areas for nappy changing are available. These areas have specialised beds and contain various items to hold the children's attention during the process. Strict policies are in place with regard to changing and toileting children.

Mrs Sara Williams offers outreach support and works with parents to help with the toilet training process.

Toilets are cleaned daily and the Health and Safety Coordinator Toni Gwilliam and the Health and Hygiene Coordinator, Yvonne Rowley ensure that the highest standards are maintained.



Welsh Language Development

The primary language spoken in the school is English with Welsh being used as an additional language throughout the school day. All signs and displays are labelled bilingually and staff use incidental Welsh at every opportunity. Songs and rhymes are enjoyed in Welsh. Every morning the children and staff greet each other in Welsh, English and in a range of languages such as Polish. Makaton Sign Language is used continuously throughout the sessions.



Contact with the School

Parents are encouraged to work in partnership with staff. Parents received their child's annual report in July and were invited to discuss any problems or concerns that arose.

Sara Williams makes weekly phone calls to parents / carers. She is also available every day at the school gate to meet with parents, answer any questions they may have and to offer advice and support. Sara helps to strengthen the home school relationship.

The school produces regular newsletters so that parents are informed of any events / activities that might be taking place. Our website and Instagram page is continually updated to provide information and support for parents.

AGM for Parents

Annual General Meetings are no longer a statutory requirement. Parents are now able to request up to 3 meetings per year with the Governing Body via petition. Further information is available from the school.



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023 – September 4th – December 21st

Half Term – 30/10/23 – 03/11/23

Spring Term 2024 – January 9th – March 22nd

Half Term – 12/02/24 – 16/02/24

Summer Term 2024 – April 9th – July 19th

Half Term – 27/5/24 – 31/05/24

Training Days

1st September 2023

27th October 2023

22nd December 2023

8th January 2024

8th April 2024

3rd June 2024

The Governing Body

*wish to thank the Headteacher and staff
of the school for their sustained
commitment to the school's well being.*

Emily Parry

Chair of the Governing Body

Ysgol Cae'r Gwenyn

Summary Financial Expenditure Statement 2022 / 2023

Financial Year 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

<u>Budget Heading</u>	<u>Actual Expenditure</u>	<u>Expenditure Budget</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Staffing	560,242	512,906	-47,336
Premises	14,447	14,125	-322
Transport	340	200	-140
Supplies & Services	9,122	48,636	39,514
Education Support Services	9,859	8,210	-1,649
Contingency Fund	0	34,776	34,776
Total Expenditure	594,009	618,853	24,844
Other Income	-282,141	-128,852	153,289
Opening balance 1/4/22	-134,672	-134,672	0
Total Net Expenditure	177,197	355,329	178,132