

# Governors' Report to Parents 2022-23

## Ysgol Brynhafren School



*Dear Parents,*

*This has been a year of transition and some challenge for Brynhafren as we have embarked on the Curriculum for Wales across the school and welcomed Mrs Ellis as fully onsite with teaching responsibilities from September 23. It has also been a year to enjoy the community being welcomed into the school through school events such as Bingo, fairs, litter picks, and The Lion King performance which the whole school was involved in. The introduction of Stay and Play has proved successful and allowed even the youngest members of our community to benefit from the school.*

*In school we have been proud of our achievement of the Starter Iaith Bronze award, led by the Criw Cymraeg, and the children have enjoyed sporting activities, trips and residential opportunities.*

*Behind the scenes, governors have been involved in substantial restructuring efforts to meet our budgetary constraints and support a strong and stable leadership model for the school. Having made the necessary changes and looking forward to the possibilities and experiences offered by the new Curriculum, it was a blow to receive the news of a proposal for closure – however this is only the start of a process and we are heartened by the strong support of our families and community.*

*Please feel free to contact me to discuss any matter affecting the school and I hope to be able to meet many of you again at future events.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Katie Finlayson  
Chair, Brynhafren Governing Body*

### **Governing Body Matters**

The Governing Body did not hold a parents' meeting in the academic year 2022/23, pursuant to section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

Governors are available to discuss matters which affect the school on an informal basis, and parents also have the right to request up to 3 full parents meetings in any school year with the governing body, if at least 10% of parents petition for one. Details of the formal process can be found at: <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/statutory-guidance-to-the-governing-bodies-of-maintained-schools-in-wales-regarding-the-duty-to-hold-meetings-with-parents.pdf>

To arrange such a meeting, please contact [office@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk](mailto:office@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk) or [clerk@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk)

### **Brynhafren School Governors 2022/23**

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Term of Office expiry date</b>
Maxine Roberts	Community	Sep 26
Katie Finlayson (Chair 22-23)	Community	Nov 24
Lucy Roberts	LA	Nov 25
Mark Hart	LA (Additional)	Aug 23
Terry Sayce	Community (Community Council nominee)	Feb 27
Karen Pountney	LA	Mar 24
Vacant	Parent	
Giles Frankling	Parent	Mar 25
Peter Evans	Parent	Mar 25
Sarah Blackmore	Teacher	Aug 25
Alison Ellis	Headteacher	Automatic place

### **A Note about Parent Governors**

Parent Governors are a valuable part of the Governing Body. It is a worthwhile and rewarding role and offers you the chance to become even more involved in your child's education and to be a representative for the parents. Should you wish to find out more about becoming a parent governor, please contact the school office. Look out for any election notifications.

### **Contact Details for the Chair and Clerk**

**Chair:** Ms K. Finlayson, c/o Brynhafren School, Bausley, Crew Green, Shrewsbury, Powys, SY5 9AT; [FinlaysonK6@hwbcymru.net](mailto:FinlaysonK6@hwbcymru.net)

**Clerk:** Mr Graeme Harkness, c/o Brynhafren School, Bausley, Crew Green, Shrewsbury, Powys, SY5 9AT; [clerk@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@brynhafren.powys.sch.uk)

### **Meetings**

During the academic year 2022-2023, the Governing Body have met on nine occasions as a full governing body plus 14 sub-committee meetings

## Involvement in School Life

- Listening to Learners
- Work scrutiny
- Attendance at governors meetings
- Focus meetings with parents
- School Play
- Attendance as Link Governors

## Policies

The following policies were **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED** by full governors and signed by the chair and the head teacher:

Additional Learning Needs Policy  
Admissions Policy  
Anti-Bullying (Pupil Discipline) Policy  
Child Protection Policy  
Complaints Procedure  
Curriculum Statement  
Curriculum (Teaching and Learning) Policy  
Healthcare Needs Policy  
Performance Management Policy  
Safeguarding Policy  
Target Setting/Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy  
Absence Management Policy  
Asthma Policy  
Behaviour Policy  
Bereavement and Loss Policy  
Collective Worship Policy  
Flexible Working Policy  
Inclement Weather Policy  
Keeping Learners and Staff Safe (Reasonable force and positive handling) Policy  
Lettings Policy  
MAT (More Able and Talented) Policy  
Monitoring, Evaluation and Review Policy  
Recruitment and Selection Policy  
Redundancy Procedure  
Retirement Policy  
Safe Touch Policy  
School Toilets Policy  
School Uniform Policy  
Sickness Absence Management Policy  
Special Leave Policy  
Supervision Policy  
Supporting Working Parent Policy

Policies are tracked and updated on a regular basis. Key policies are available on the website, and all policies are available on request from the school office.

### **Governor Training**

Governors have completed a range of training and briefing sessions throughout the year. All mandatory training (induction for new governors and understanding school data) have been conducted as required.

Powys County Council offer a good range of training sessions/courses with the use of teams and on demand online learning, which increases availability of training to Governors. Governors have attended training on Safer Recruitment, Emotional Wellbeing, Additional Learning Needs, and additional Chair training. Some governors have also attended Local Authority and Chair Governor Briefings (termly) and Governor Learning Sessions (termly).

### **School Prospectus**

The prospectus has been reviewed and updated and a hard copy available from the office. It is also available digitally on the new website.

### **School Structure**

The school is organised into two classes with teaching and learning delivered through the medium of English, with Welsh taught as a second language.

In the academic year 2022-23 the structure of the classes are shown below.

Class	Numbers	Teacher
KS2	5 x Yr 6 6 x Yr 5 6 x Yr 4 3 x Yr 3	Miss Roberts (now Mrs Owen)
FP	5 x Yr 2 2 x Yr 1 4 x Rec	Mrs Blackmore (supply cover provided by Mr Jones)

### **Curriculum**

The Curriculum for Wales has been followed in all classes from September 2022, based around the Four Purposes to support learners 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

The Curriculum Summary is available on the website and a detailed curriculum policy is available from the school.

## Use of Welsh Language

Brynhafren is an English medium school (Category 1) where Welsh as a second language is taught throughout the school and is a key component of the Language, Literacy and Communication area of learning. The school encourages the pupils to use Welsh as much as possible with emphasis being put on the cultural awareness of the pupils in relation to Wales through the Cwricwlwm Cymreig.

## Promoting Healthy Living

The school follows the Welsh Government guidelines for Appetite for Life, which sets out the strategic direction and actions required to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink served in school.

## School Calendar

**Autumn Term 2022:** Thursday 1st September 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022  
Half-Term: Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 4th November 2022  
Monday 7th November 2022 to Wednesday 21st December 2022

**Spring Term 2023:** Monday 9th January 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023  
Half-Term: Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 24th February 2023  
Monday 27th February 2023 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**Summer Term 2023:** Monday 17th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023  
Half-Term: Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023  
Monday 5th June 2023 to Monday 24th July 2023

## The School Day

8:00	Breakfast Club
8:40	Morning Registration: - School start time
10:15- 10:30	Morning Break
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00	Afternoon Registration
15:00	End of School Day

## Additional Learning Needs

We follow a graduated approach to meeting the learning needs of all children and young people. This approach follows the Powys County Council Inclusion Pathway. The pathway has the following stages:

- Emerging Needs
- Universal Learning Provision (ULP)
- School IDP
- LA IDP

A pupil has ALN where their learning difficulty or disability calls for additional learning provision (ALP), namely provision different from or additional to that normally available to pupils of the same age.

We will assess each pupil's current skills and level of attainment on entry to the school and we will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils throughout the academic year. These will seek to identify pupils making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances.

This is progress which:

- is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- fails to match or better the child's or young person's previous rate of progress

The first response to less than expected progress will always be high quality teaching targeted at the pupil's area of weakness – these fall into the category of 'emerging needs' on the inclusion pathway. In identifying a child or young person as needing support, the class/subject teacher, working with the ALNCo, will carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs including the individual's development in comparison to their peers, national data and their individual baseline.

Slow progress and low attainment do not necessarily mean that a child or young person has ALN. Equally, attainment in line with chronological age does not necessarily mean that there is no learning difficulty or disability. Difficulties related solely to limitations in Welsh or English as an additional language are not ALN. Persistent disruptive or withdrawn behaviours do not necessarily mean that a child or young person has ALN.

Where it is decided to provide a pupil with support the decision will be recorded on the child or young person's Tyfu Profile. Any decision will always involve parents/carers and the child or young person where appropriate.

The Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) is Mrs Ellis and she meets with parents on a termly basis to discuss the IDP.

Provision for More Able and Talented (MAT) pupils is provided through careful planning by the class teacher.

The governor with responsibility for ALN is Karen Pountney.

### **Pupils with Disabilities**

The school welcomes all children regardless of ability. Where pupils with disabilities need extra provision or adaptations, the school will work with the Local Authority to ensure that these needs are catered for.

### **ESTYN Inspection**

The last Estyn inspection took place in May 2016. Following this, a post inspection action plan was developed and remains in the School Development Plan.

### **The School Development Plan**

The school continued to review and to implement specific school strategies as outlined in the School Development Plan (SDP).

Focus areas for improvement this 2022-23 have been:

- Priority 1 Provision of further challenge in reading across the school
- Priority 2 Develop pedagogical practice in Class 1 to ensure experiential and contextualised learning is at the heart of the Brynhafren FP Curriculum with a specific focus on the expressive arts (music).
- Priority 3 Development of the Brynhafren curriculum in line with the New Curriculum for Wales
- Priority 4: Feedback across the school will help all pupils know how well they are doing, what they need to do to improve, and how they can improve their work.
- Priority 5: Addressing the deficit budget so that the budget balances in year and deficit is reduced further.

Each Priority has a number of defined action points and progress and impacts are monitored by governors each Term.

### **School Clubs**

During the past academic year, there have been the following clubs:

- Art and craft club
- Sports Club
- Games Club

### **Staff Training**

Staff have attended training on:

Cluster Inset on New Curriculum  
Paul Dix approach to behaviour management training  
Team Teach training  
MELSA training  
ELSA supervision  
School improvement planning  
RSE Co-ordinator training  
CAMHS Mental health first aider training  
Cyber Security update  
Data Protection  
Food Hygiene level 2  
Safeguarding lead practitioner training  
Charanga Music training  
Principles of progression and New Curriculum  
ESTYN training  
Tric a chlic training  
Full first Aid training  
RVE co-ordinator training

### **Working with Others**

- Music Heroes have provided weekly music tuition to individual pupils
- Whole School visit to Chester Zoo
- Tag Rugby festival in Welshpool
- Sports ambassadors have worked with the sports development officer
- Super Ambassadors worked with the Childrens' Commissioner for Wales.
- Impact assemblies
- All pupils attended performance of The Demon Dentist at The Hafren
- PC Gayle delivered safety talks across the school.
- Five Ways to wellbeing with Steve Lloyd from CAMHS
- Y3-6 took part in Cross Country competition and Y3 girls took part in North Powys finals.
- School tidy up day
- Kooth counselling visits Y5/6
- Class 2 Author visit – Beatrice Wallbank
- Class 2 visited the Science Fair at Aberystwyth University as part of Science Week
- Manor Adventure residential weekend Y4/5/6
- Dr Deb Croft transition workshop for y5/6- Y5/6
- Swimming sessions for 8 weeks with transport funded by Community Council
- PC Gayle safety workshops
- Animal Man topic visit
- Whole School transition day with new pupils joining school
- School visit to The Ironworks
- Mr Urdd visited on cycling Eisteddfod proclamation tour.

### **Links with Business and Community**

- School attended Alberbury Church for Harvest and Christingle
- Stay and play sessions launched for pre-schoolers and parents in the community.
- Football and Netball tournament with Arddleen, Llandysilio and Carreghofa Schools and also at Penrhos Sports
- The school has joined with Community led litter picks.
- Church Ladies from Alberbury visit weekly to listen to reading and deliver assemblies- Whole School Welshpool Museum and Library visit
- German club tasters
- Project day at Llanfyllin High school
- Sports day with cream tea
- Lion King performances



- Y6 Transition days at Llanfyllin High School
- Family picnic and rounders

### **Friends of the School**

The Friends of Brynhafren support the school by raising money through organised events and opportunities. The FOB is made up of volunteer parents of the school that give their time and effort to put on a varied menu of events. Bingo nights, tidy up day at the school, discos and raffles are some of the events that have taken place.

### **Secondary School Links**

The school maintains a strong link with Llanfyllin High school. Pupils' transition days were arranged and those attending Llanfyllin High School visited the school, met their form tutor and had talks with Mr Rudge (Head of Year 7).

Mrs Forsyth from Welshpool High school liaised with the school to support transition for pupils transferring to Welshpool. Each High School maintained good lines of communication, giving all the pupils guidance and reassurance of support.

There were transition days for pupils in year 6 transferring to secondary school at the end of the summer term.

### **Attendance Data**

Parents, schools and the LA share legal responsibilities in respect of school attendance. Attendance in the last academic year was 95.27%.

### **Budget**

2022-2023 EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	
Delegated funds	257,770
Salaries	265,729
Premises	33,888
Supplies, office and other expenses	32,661
Total expenditure	332,277
Income	60,659
Net expenditure	271,618
Overspend brought forward	109,644
Overspend carried forward	123,492

This year has seen exceptional and unavoidable staffing costs, leading to an in-year overspend. However, in response to the need for a permanent headteacher arrangement, and factoring in falls in pupil rolls and a new funding formula leading to significant budget constraints, the governors have gone through an extensive restructuring process throughout the year which should reduce costs and ensure future budget sustainability.

### **Buildings**

As part of careful management of the budget, the governors are continuing to maintain and improve the standards of the school buildings and grounds.

### **Toilets**

There are three blocks of pupils' toilets, one disabled toilet and staff toilets in school. All are cleaned daily and in good condition.