

Ysgol Gynradd Porthcawl Primary School



PORTHCAWL PRIMARY SCHOOLS ANNUAL GOVERNORS REPORT TO PARENTS 20/25

From the Chair of Governors:

The report outlines the school's work, activities, and achievements for the 2024/25 academic year.

Throughout 2024/25, the Governing Body continued to hold regular meetings and remained informed about pupil progress throughout the year. This period also saw the continuation of implementing the new Curriculum for Wales, and staff worked exceptionally hard to meet the demands laid down by the Welsh Government for Education.

All details and policies regarding the PPS curriculum are available to parents and carers on the school website.

We, as the governing body, are immensely proud of the work of all staff in dealing with the daily challenges of maintaining a happy, thriving school where the education, well-being, and nurturing of pupils are always at the forefront.

The year was particularly challenging as the Headteacher, Ms J Rowley, was unfortunately absent for several months due to ill health. However, the Deputy Head, Mr E Richards, continued to manage the school throughout this period with the support of dedicated staff and governors.

Sadly, after many years of service to Education in Wales, Ms Rowley decided to retire from teaching. We are, however, delighted with the appointment of Mr Richards as the new Headteacher, and we look forward to working with him and all staff in continuing to teach pupils to help them achieve their best now and in the future.

We also said goodbye to two long-serving members of staff. Ms V. Jones, after dedicating more than twenty years as a teacher and the ALNco support at PPS, decided to retire. We wish her a very happy retirement. Also, Ms V Humphrys, our Senior Admin Officer, who we wish well in her new job. However, Ms Humphrys has been welcomed back to the school as an LA Governor.

We also take this opportunity to thank all parents, carers, and the broader community for their help and support of staff and pupils throughout the year. With a strong ethos and commitment from staff and governors, we look forward to the next academic year.

Kind Regards

Mrs J C Brooks

Chair of Governors

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Parent Governors (elected by parents) Mrs S David, Ms M Willmott, Ms B James (Vice Chair), Ms B Wilson

LA Governors (appointed by the Bridgend County Council) Mr R C Williams, Ms V Humphreys, Ms N Farr

Community Governors: Mrs J Brooks (Chair), Mr J Pratt, Mrs E May.

Teacher Governor (elected by teaching staff) Miss J Bowen,

Staff Governor (elected by non-teaching staff) Mrs E Rayner

Head Teacher. Ms J Rowley & AH. Mr E Richards.

Chair of Governors, Mrs J. Brooks: Contact Details. BrooksJ45@hwbcmru.net. Mrs Brooks can also be contacted through the school admin office.

Clerk to the Governors Ms S Delaney

simonedelaney@schoolgovernancesolutions.com School Governance Solutions Ltd 8 Acland Road, Bridgend Tel: 07850 183666 3

The Governing Body and Headteacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and by the policies of the Local Authority. The whole governing body meets at least once a term.

GOVERNING BODY VACANCIES The school currently has one Community Governor vacancy.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

The full governing body (FGB) meets once each term, as do the following sub-committees:

- Health & Safety
- Finance
- Standards (this committee informs governors of academic improvements throughout all year groups, including individual national test results twice yearly.
- All other sub-committees meet as and when required.

All the minutes from each sub-committee meeting are copied to and approved by the FGB.

PUPIL & TEACHING STAFF NUMBER ON ROLL. The number on roll at the end of the school year was 181, with seven teachers and two agency staff.

TEACHING STAFF APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS: At the end of the academic year, and starting in September 2025, a new teacher has been appointed to replace Mr Richards, the newly appointed Head, in Year 6. We have had two retirements: Ms J. Rowley and Ms V. Jones.

SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF, SCHOOL CLERK, SUPERVISORY ASSISTANTS. 1 Admin Officer, 1 Premises Officer. 5 Lunchtime Supervisors. 4 Learning Support Officers. Plus agency Learning Support Assistants.

POST INSPECTION ACTION PLAN. As a result of an Estyn inspection in November 2023 (the report and details are available on the PPS website), staff and governors agreed that the SDP (School Development Plan) for 2024/2025 would focus on the three recommendations outlined in the report:

R1 Ensure that teaching consistently provides opportunities to challenge pupils of all abilities, so that they develop well as independent learners

R2 Provide opportunities for pupils to build their digital and listening skills systematically and coherently across the school

R3 Ensure that all activities in the Nursery to Year 2 classes have clear learning intentions.

We are pleased to report that these recommendations have been addressed, monitored by external resources, and successfully implemented. However, per the recommendations, these remain constant throughout the school now and going forward.

2024/2025. SCHOOL TOILET FACILITIES. The school has separate toilet facilities for boys and girls in each of the three corridors and in the portacabin. Each toilet area has washbasins, soap and hand dryers or paper towels. Feminine hygiene provisions are available in KS2 toilets. The toilets are cleaned daily, and all facilities are hygienic and appropriate.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL PROSPECTUS SINCE PUBLICATION.

The school prospectus is updated for the start of each academic year, and a copy is distributed to all prospective parents and carers. The new prospectus updates parents on staffing, class structure, curriculum changes, health and security issues. The prospectus is available from the school office and the school website

www.porthcawlprimaryschool.co.uk.

SCHOOL AND GOVERNING BODY ACTION TAKEN TO DEVELOP COMMUNITY LINKS

(Inc. links with the Police)

Visits and Visitors September 2024 – July 2025		
	Visitors	Visits
Whole School	Jenipher from Uganda (Fairtrade), Hope Chapel for assemblies, Porthcawl library, Rising Stars singing assembly, Police horse unit. Porthcawl Male Voice Choir	Criw Cymraeg went to The Vale Hotel to receive the Siarter Iaith award. Learning council visit to the Senedd
Nursery	Bonnie the therapy dog	Meadow Village Farm, Rest Bay
Reception		St Fagan's, Castle Coch, Llanelli Wetlands, RNLI station, Rest Bay

Year 1	Police, Size of Wales eco talk, Fire Brigade- Great Fire of London.	Porthcawl Museum, Travel Agent, Plantasia
Year 2	Fire safety, Jack Farmer- chef soup making, Size of Wales eco talk, Dwr Cymru talk on the Water cycle.	Porthcawl Museum , Plantasia, Christmas through the keyhole, Easter through the keyhole, Caerleon Roman museum. Horrible History Theatre trip
Year 3/4	Mr Bowen RVE Community talk, Charlie from the Ospreys	Gower Heritage Centre, swimming lessons, Museum of Cardiff, Big Pit
Year 4/5	Y5 Police – mini police initiative, Fire Safety, Charlie from the Ospreys	Swimming lessons, Rest Bay Beach Academy rockpool guardians, Porthcawl museum, Police Heritage Centre HQ, Welsh Water, Rest Bay Beach rugby festival
Year 5/6	Police – mini police initiative, Level 1 and 2 Cycle training, Charlie from the Ospreys for 6 rugby sessions, Tower Bridge Online activity, School Nurse	Christmas through the keyhole at Hope Chapel, Easter through the keyhole at Hope Chapel, Ospreys rugby festival at Llandarcy academy of sport, , Crucial Crew, Llangranog residential trip, Porthcawl museum, swimming lessons, Police Heritage Centre HQ, Rest Bay Beach rugby festival

Parent, Carer and Community Links

- Nursery home visits
- Parent/ carer class information meetings
- Pupil Progress Meetings
- Parent Voice meetings termly
- Llangranog parent meeting
- Parents and community working on our garden
- Friends of Porthcawl Primary School (FoPPS) meetings
- FoPPS events- World Book Day Disco, Colour Run, Summer Fair
- Newton Coffee Shop – Elin and Jenipher – Fairtrade
- Working with Porthcawl museum for upcoming Porthcawl 200 celebrations

Friends of Porthcawl Primary School: This year FoPPS have put on two new events. We had the Colour Run in May and the Summer Fair in June. Both events were a huge success and well organised. In addition to raising funds for the school, the pupils thoroughly enjoyed both events. As a school, we look forward to working closely with FoPPS in the next academic year.

Parent Voice Group: In the Spring term, we started our termly Parent Voice Group meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity for parents to discuss any issues or concerns and for the school to implement necessary actions.

Next academic year, we will increase the frequency of meetings to half-termly.

ACADEMIC LEARNING.

SCHOOL STATEMENT /CURRICULUM

At Porthcawl Primary, we provide pupils with a well-structured and balanced education within a caring environment. To achieve this, consideration is given to each child's abilities and interests, and we provide learning opportunities to allow pupils to fulfil their true potential.

In line with all schools across Wales, we are continuing to develop our new curriculum, which began its implementation in September 2022. We will continue to post further information on our Curriculum for Wales provision on the school's website over the months ahead.

Teachers throughout the school are planning the knowledge, skills, and experiences that children will access, together with other aspects of the curriculum, such as cross-cutting themes (e.g., human rights, RSE, careers). Much of the curriculum will be presented through cross-curricular themes, and children are encouraged to identify areas they wish to explore in more depth. A variety of teaching methods are employed to encourage children to become independent learners (*as recommended in the Estyn Report*), and children are given opportunities to study through a range of whole-class, groups, pair or individual activities. Most of our teaching is done through the medium of English. However, Welsh is taught in all classes, including the use of incidental Welsh throughout the school. Children are encouraged to speak Welsh with their peers and other adults, supported by a structured progression of words and phrases. The Welsh Language is promoted in classes through literature and display. Welsh songs and prayers feature in assemblies and displays that highlight relevant Welsh phrases and words. We give children the opportunity to experience Welsh culture and heritage wherever possible.

Cymraeg Siarter Iaith Bronze Award

The school is enormously proud to have achieved the Cymraeg Siarter Iaith Bronze Award. As Chair of Governors, I was pleased to be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony in Cardiff and witness the cohort receive their awards. The Governing Body was also given a presentation on the progress achieved so far and the ongoing efforts the school is undertaking to achieve the Silver Award.

PUPILS: Number on Roll 181

Standards and progress in learning and skills

YEAR 3 Language, Literacy, Communication (LLC) 24 pupils, 11 female, 13 male, 4 efsm (17%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	46%	92%	8%
BOYS	23%	85%	15%
GIRLS	73%	100%	0%
eFSM	25%	75%	25%

YEAR 3 MATHS 24 pupils, 11 female 13 male, 4 efsm (17%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	21%	87.5%	12.5%
BOYS	31%	77%	23%
GIRLS	9%	100%	0%
eFSM	25%	75%	25%

YEAR 4 LLC 14 pupils 9 female 5 male 2 efsm (14%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	14%	93%	7%
BOYS	20%	100%	0%
GIRLS	11%	89%	11%

eFSM	0%	100%	0%
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YEAR 4 MATHS 14 pupils 9 female 5 male 5 efsm (14%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	21%	100%	0%
BOYS	20%	100%	0%
GIRLS	22%	100%	0%
eFSM	0%	100%	0%

YEAR 5 LLC 25 pupils 14 female 11 male 5 efsm (19%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	28%	92%	8%
BOYS	45%	100%	0%
GIRLS	14%	86%	14%
eFSM	20%	80%	20%

YEAR 5 MATHS 26 pupils 15 female 11 male 5 efsm (19%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	32%	88%	12%
BOYS	54%	100%	0%

GIRLS	14%	79%	21%
eFSM	0%	80%	20%

YEAR 6 LLC 24 pupils 12 female 12 male 8 efsm (33%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	38%	100%	0%
BOYS	33%	100%	0%
GIRLS	42%	100%	0%
eFSM	13%	100%	0%

YEAR 6 MATHS 24 pupils 12 female 12 male 8 efsm (33%)			
	MORE ABLE	AVERAGE or above	BELOW AVERAGE
ALL	29%	87%	13%
BOYS	33%	92%	8%
GIRLS	17%	83%	17%
eFSM	13%	87%	13%

National testing

- Pupils from year 2- 6 take National tests online twice a year.
- There are three tests: reading, numeracy procedural and numeracy reasoning.
- Currently, the school takes the tests in the first and last half term of the academic year.
- The tests produce a standardised score, and this, alongside teacher assessment, is used to create the progress grids.
- Progress and feedback reports are created for each pupil and shared on Hwb with pupils and parents.

- The first set of results is used to create groups and find gaps in learning. The second set of results in the summer is used to measure progress.
- Results from the Autumn National tests were shared in the Standards Meeting in December.

School Mission Statement:

Together, every member of our school community will feel fulfilled, valued, and happy. We will develop as ambitious, capable learners who set high standards for ourselves and seek out and enjoy challenges. We will provide opportunities to express ideas, take risks, and problem solve so that we all become creative contributors. In our nurturing environment, everyone will feel confident, safe and healthy. With trust and mutual respect, we will build positive relationships. We will respect the needs and rights of ourselves and others as ethically informed citizens of a diverse society in Porthcawl, Wales and the wider world.

The key features of our mission statement are based on the four purposes:

- To provide high-quality teaching and learning experiences to motivate and challenge all children to achieve their potential through a curriculum that supports the development of their literacy, numeracy, and digital skills.
- To provide opportunities to develop the creative, entrepreneurial, and problem-solving skills that will support them throughout life and in the workplace.
- To create a stimulating and secure environment that enables all children to become ambitious and effective lifelong learners.
- To help children become more healthy and confident individuals who are respectful and ethically informed to enable them to lead fulfilling lives and make a positive and valued contribution to the life of the school, the wider community, Wales, and the World.

Health and Wellbeing - Sport

Children in Nursery participate in gross motor skills activities each week and are taught a variety of practical skills, such as balancing, jumping, skipping, throwing, and catching. P.E. from Reception to Year 6 is taught through the Real P.E. programme. Real P.E. is a unique, child-centred approach that has transformed how we teach PE. It includes challenge and support for every child. It focuses on key skills and small-sided games, ensuring all pupils are involved in every session. Sessions focus on skills such as balancing, teamwork, coordination and agility. The skills are taught through fun, warm-up exercises and games.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have a weekly Real PE session in the hall.

Years 3 to 6 have two sessions per week with units that cover health and fitness, cognitive, creative, personal, social and physical development. Traditional sports, such as football, rugby, netball, and cricket, are covered within these units.

Years 5 and 6 are also given the opportunity to play regular competitive sports fixtures against local schools.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS LAST YEAR

During the academic year, we ran a variety of after-school and lunchtime clubs. These included Football, Netball, Yoga, Welsh, Eco, Choir, Coding and Library Club.

HEALTHY SCHOOL STATEMENT

The development of healthy lifestyles is a high priority for our school. Porthcawl Primary is part of the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Scheme. A fruit snack is provided for the Foundation Phase, and a Fruit Trolley is run in Key Stage 2 by members of the Criw Cymraeg. Pupils have access to drinking water throughout the day. The children participate in a range of activities to ensure their safety, and staff and governors receive annual training in child protection. The comprehensive Health and Wellbeing curriculum is addressed through class sessions and assemblies. A healthy lifestyle is actively promoted through the Jigsaw Topic 'Healthy Me'. In surveys, children report feeling happy and safe at Porthcawl Primary. The school has robust safeguarding and child protection procedures, including a safe recruitment process. Eating well and having a healthy lifestyle are important. To this end, we do not allow sweets in school except on special occasions. Our Food and Fitness policy states that only fruit snacks and water are allowed in school. We provide a water bottle for children who do not have one and unlimited supplies of clear, cold water from our water cooler. We encourage children to fill their lunchboxes with healthy food. As part of our healthy schools programme, the school delivers health and wellbeing sessions to all pupils.

Attendance

Monthly attendance figures 2024/25

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
95.3	94.5	93.4	93.1	93.1	93.6	93.8	93.9	93.8	89.1	89.3

Annual Attendance % for the previous 5 years				
2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
92	89	92.8	92.3	92

SCHOOL BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR END (APRIL 2025)

Unfortunately, in line with most other schools across the region, it has been a difficult year cost-wise, and we end the year in deficit. However, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the school for its handling of the budget during a difficult year. The Finance Committee and the FGB are fully informed of the school's expenses and the difficulties the school has faced in continuing to deliver a robust education to pupils, while being aware of the well-being of staff and pupils, and balancing the budget throughout.

Fortunately, going forward to the new financial year, and due to staff changes. The deficit has been substantially decreased, but we know new challenges await.

School: Porthcawl Primary
Budget allocation: £831,671

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Budget	Expenditure to period 07/05/25	Budget committed as at 07/05/25
Employee Related Expenses		
AA Teaching Staff	570,800	614,797
CD Supervisory Assistants	23,300	27,583
CJ Special Needs Support Assistant	8,000	16,626
MB School Clerk	33,800	35,102
MC 96,400 101,283 101,283	101,283	12.18%
MS School Site Managers	31,300	32,823
WA & XX99 Supply Cover and Agency Staff	27,000	19,088
WA09 Mutual Fund SLA	5,301	21,336
XX70 Staff Training	1,000	144
XX91 Gratuities	-	-

Total Employees**796,901****868,782****868,782****Premises Related Expenses**

1005 REPAIRS & MAINT (DELEG'D)

3,000

4,593

4,593

1101 MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS

3,000

2,675

2,675

1202 GAS (EXCL.LPG)

14,000

4,155

4,155

1203 ELECTRICITY

24,000

15,167

15,167

1302 PREMISES HIRE

2,500

2,084

2,084

1401 BUSINESS RATES

9,895

9,889

9,889

1501 WATER

3,600

3,481

3,481

1611 FIRE-RELATED FIXTURES

120

105

105

1701 CONTRACTOR PAYMENTS

18,600

18,585

18,585

1711 CLEANING MATERIALS (BUILDING)

200

-

-

1721 PREMISES RELATED COSTS

1,000

3,063

3,063

1805 SPECIAL PERILS INSURANCE

350

351

351

Total Premises**80,265****64,149****64,149****Transport Related Expenses****Total Transport****-****-****-****Supplies and Services**

3005 EQUIPMENT INSURANCE

1,900

1,903

1,903

3021 LICENCES (NON VEHICLE)

650

629

629

3053 CAPITATION

12,000

11,749

12,030

3202 SCHOOL MEALS

18,502

13,588

13,588

3606 INTERNAL FEES

-

1,754

1,754

3620 POLICE CHECKS

100

190

190

3780 PERSONNEL SLA

2,106

2,106

2,106

3785 CLERK OF GOVERNING BODIES

800

800

800

3793 EXCLUSION CLAWBACKS

-

784

784

3851	CONTRIB. TO FUNDS	-	145	145
3864	PURCHASE LEDGER SLA	950	1,207	1,207
3865	CORPORATE LANDLORD SLA	8,500	8,459	8,459
3866	MATERNITY SLA - SCHOOLS	542	3,337	3,337
3870	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SLA	3,300	1,779	1,779
3875	SCHOOLS LEGAL SLA	800	800	800
3876	CARETAKINGS SLA	1,150	1,150	1,150
3877	FINANCE SLA	1,879	1,879	1,879
3878	I.T. SLA	8,800	8,123	8,123
5226	WASTE DISPOSAL CHARGES	2,500	1,883	1,883
6802	COMPUTER COSTS: GENERAL	12,000	13,377	13,377
6803	POSTAGES	50	-	-
6804	TELEPHONE CHARGES	600	628	628
6810	MOBILE TELEPHONES	180	81	81
6821	PHOTOCOPYING	1,600	1,308	1,308
6871	LIABILITY INS'NCE	130	128	128
7301	NON-IT EQUIP OPERATING LEASES	6,000	4,750	4,750
Total Supplies and Services		85,039	82,537	82,818
Total Expenditure		962,205	1,015,467	1,015,749
Estimated Income				
8007	GOVERNMENT GRANTS	(131,869)	(189,383)	(189,383)
8242	OTHER CONTRS. ETC.	(5,219)	(10,144)	(10,144)
8311	SCHOOL MEALS SALES	-	(541)	(541)
8312	STAFF MEALS SALES-SCHOOLS	-	(52)	(52)
Total Estimated Income		(137,088)	(200,120)	(200,120)

Porthcawl Primary

Budget Allocation

831,671

Estimated Income	200,120	
Underspend (+) or Overspend (-) in prior year	<u>(58,872)</u>	
Total Amount Available	972,919	
Total Estimated Expenditure	1,015,467	-5.12%
Estimated Credit/Debit	<u>(42,548)</u>	***

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ACTION TAKEN TO REVIEW SCHOOL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

Members of staff and the governing body review policies regularly (some annually). Strategies outlined in the School Development Plan are also reviewed by the Governing Body and staff throughout the year.

All statutory policies were reviewed during the 2024/25 period.

Copies of all school policies are available from the school office, and statutory policies can be accessed on the school website.

Also available are the Term Dates. Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter, and a wealth of other important information that I would encourage all parents and carers to access. www.porthcawlprimaryschool.co.uk.

The School Governors' Annual Reports (Wales) Regulations 2011
(<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1939/contents/made>)