

# Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cefneithin

*'Gwreiddiau Cadarn – Sylfaen y Dyfodol'*



## Governors' 2024-2025 Annual Report to Parents

A Welsh Medium Primary School for pupils between 3½ and 11 years old

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### **Head Teacher**

Mrs C Richards

### **Chairperson of the Governing Body**

Mrs Mali Jones

## **A word from the Chairperson**

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Welcome to the School Governors Report for 2024/25. First of all I would like to thank Mrs Carys Richards for her role as headteacher in effectively leading our talented and hardworking teaching and assisting staff, administration, catering , caretaking and cleaning staff. The work of **every** member of the school staffing team is greatly valued. Not forgetting the school's PTA, whose outstanding efforts in organising numerous celebrations and fundraising plays an essential part in ensuring a true and enjoyable community spirit. The academic year of 2024/25 has been a busy and productive year for our pupils and staff on many levels, as you will see from this report. The teaching and learning objectives within the classroom are successfully complemented by the extracurricular activities organised by our energetic staff which greatly benefit our pupils. All of these experiences , along with your support as parents and guardians ensure that Cefneithin school delivers on its vision of **Firm Roots – A foundation for the future.**

As a Governing Body we strive to support and challenge the school network as much as possible so that pupils and staff needs are met. All governors are volunteers who represent the school and our wider local community. I know that I speak for the whole governing body when I say that we take great pride in our school and at the forefront of every decision is the wellbeing of the pupils and staff. We would like to highlight all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes in the school. Fulfilling the school's vision can be challenging when staff are faced with new Government policies, requirements regarding information and data from the Local Authority along with the need to balance the school budget in the current economic climate. It is important to bear in mind that all of these demands are in addition to the daily provision of care, planning, teaching and assessing by the school's staff.

At times, the role of the governing body is an unknown quantity. I would therefore like to make you aware of the activities which we prioritise on a regular basis during our meetings and planned visits to the school.

**School development plan** – The SDP is an annual report relating to overall school improvement and is linked to the long-term strategic plan. It covers everything from teaching and learning, curriculum matters to health and wellbeing.

**Monitoring** – Planned visits to the school to check on matters such as health and safeguarding to lesson content and teacher development.

**Health and wellbeing** – Over the course of the last number of years the importance of health and wellbeing for our pupils and staff have become increasingly important.

**Premises and facilities** – Against a challenging financial backdrop, the governing body has a key role to play in ensuring that the right investments regarding premises and facilities are made.

**Finance** – At the root of much discussions is finance, or increasingly lack thereof. The school's funding, more than ever is challenged with ever increasing costs year on year. However, at the heart of every decision is ensuring we make the best choice for the children and staff of our school.

I hope that the above gives you a sense of the breadth and depth of the governing role behind the scenes.

Please also take a look at the wonderful amount of work that goes on in our school through the website and social media accounts.

I would like to finish by wishing all the children, staff and parents all the best for the next academic year.

Best wishes

Mali Jones

Chair of Governors



## **Members of the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cefneithin.**

Every member of the Governing Body except the Headteacher serves for 4 years.

Mrs C Richards - Headteacher

**Chairperson** : Mrs Mali Jones – Parent Representative

**Vice Chairperson:** Mrs J Price - Community Representative

Mr Rhys Culley - LA Representative

Mr H Tudur - Parent Representative

Mrs D Griffiths - Parent Representative (**Governor with responsibility for child protection**)

Mr A Rees - Community Representative

Mrs C Lloyd - Community Representative

Miss C Huntley - Staff Representative

Clerk to the Governors – Mrs S McDonald

Members of the Governing Body reflect the diversity of the local community. The chair is elected at the beginning of every academic year. The Governing Body is responsible for implementing LEA policies and Welsh Assembly Government legislation. Their role is like that of the board of directors in the world of business. The full Governing Body meets once every term with sub-committees meeting as necessary. The Headteacher prepares detailed reports to be received and discussed by the governing body. These reports contain information about pupil achievements, curricular developments, staffing matters etc.

**Election of Parent Governors:** Occasionally there are opportunities to elect parent representatives to the Governing Body. You will be informed of these vacancies as they arise.

**How do I contact the Governors?** If you have any enquiry or comment for the Board of Governors, you can write to the Chairperson either by email or letter to the office. Your contribution is always welcomed. An annual parents' meeting will no longer be held, unless parents want a meeting. Three meetings a year can be held, which require the submission of a petition signed by 10% of the parents who attend the school, indicating the reason for calling a meeting.

**Expenses:** No Governor claimed individual expenses.

**Complaints:** No complaints were received during 2024/25

# School Staff

**Headteacher** - Mrs C Richards - (Senior Child Protection Officer)

## **Teaching Staff:**

**Cefneithin Class (Nursery and Reception)**                      Mrs C Huntley - (*Child Protection officer in the absence of the headteacher*)

**Llyn Llech Owain Class (Years 1 and 2)**                      Mrs L Bevan and

**Mynydd Mawr Class (Years 3 and 4)**                      Miss A Sturrock

**Cwm Gwendraeth Class (Years 5 a 6)**                      Mrs C Richards and Miss M Rees

**PPA sessions**                      Miss M Rees

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs A Place, Mrs K Davies, Miss L Millard, Miss N Davies

**Administrative officer:**                      Miss H Lintin

**Caretaker :**                      Ms D Webb

**Cleaner :**                      Mr D Hunt

**Kitchen Staff :**                      Ms.T Wiggall, Miss Cadogan

**Goruchwylwyr Canol dydd:**                      Ms L Williams, Mrs A Place, Mrs K Davies,  
Miss L Millard and Miss N Davies

**Clwb brecwast**                      Mrs Williams, Miss Cadogan and Mr Payne

**Athro teithiol offerynnol:**                      Mr A Jackson

**Volunteers:**                      Mrs C Lloyd and Mrs M Jones



**The school's mission statement is:**  
*'Gwreiddiau Cadarn – Sylfaen y Dyfodol'*  
**(Solid Roots – Foundation for the future)**

**Our aim and goal -**

To provide the highest quality care and education in a happy, caring, active and safe environment so that all children, whatever their ability, attain their full potential.

**The School's Language Policy:**

Welsh is the official language of this school. Welsh is the only medium of instruction in the Foundation Phase. English is introduced into the curriculum as a subject in Year 3. In accordance with the Bilingual Policy of the Education Authority, standardized learning resources are provided to ensure that pupils can communicate easily both verbally and in writing in both Welsh and English by the time they leave school

**Additional Learning Needs:**

In accordance with school policy, appropriate attention is given to pupils who are underachieving. This is done either by providing additional support for pupils within the classroom or otherwise taught individually or in small groups. We use to great advantage the help given by the support teacher and/or maintenance work offered by the classroom assistant. We also utilise the services of external expertise where appropriate. Miss C Huntley is the ALN co-ordinator.

**School Accessibility Plan:** The school has a suitable accessibility plan and any adaptations to the curriculum are made accordingly.

**Health and Safety/ The Grounds and Building:** A Health and Safety visit was undertaken in the Autumn 2024 term and Spring 2025 term. During the year the school has received new safeguarding gates and fence at the front of the school as well as at the back side entrance of the school. The school roof has also had much need work in certain areas. The grounds and any adaptations are monitored in accordance with the School's Level Service Agreement with the authority. The school has a Level Service Agreement with the authority regarding cleaning the school. All the school's facilities are regularly checked in accordance to Level Service Agreement with the authority.

**Parents are asked not to park within the boundaries of the yellow lines found on the road at the gate when bringing the children to school in the morning and when picking up their children from school at the end of the day.**

# School Year 2024-2025

## INSET DAYS

2/9/24    4/11/24    21/2/25    17/3/25    21/7/25

### School Terms and Holidays 2024 / 2025

Term	Term begins	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn 2024	Tuesday 3rd September	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November	Friday 20th December
Spring 2025	Monday 6th January	Monday 24th February – Friday 28th February	Friday 11th April
Summer 2025	Monday 28th April	Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May	Monday 21st July

### 2024-2025 School Finance

See below for the school's summary of expenditure for the last academic year. The figures include staffing provision, the school's repair and maintenance costs including utility costs and the curricular supply of resources. No gifts, travelling or subsistence claims were made by any member of the governing body during the year.

Gwariant Net 2024/25 458,353 Net Expenditure 2024/25

Dyraniad Ariannu yn ôl Fformwla 2024/25    -434,588    Formula Funding Allocation 2024/25

Diffyg Ariannol a Ddygwyd Ymlaen o 2023/24    21,255    Deficit Brought Forward from 2023/24

Diffyg Ariannol yn Cario Drosodd i 2024/25    45,020    Deficit Carried Forward to 2024/25

**Attendance and Punctuality** : From September 2024 – July 2025

Attendance	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence
94.65%	5.08%	0.28%

Although the percentage of unauthorized absences remains low, each case is followed up in order to maintain standards. Pupils' punctuality is good overall and has improved since the introduction of a roll call of pupils who are late.

**THE SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/ACTION PLAN TARGETS:-** The school development plan is a working document, which addresses the priorities resulting from the recommendations from Estyn's report and the self-evaluation procedures initiated at school. Members of the governing body have assumed responsibility for monitoring and self-evaluation and are given regular opportunities to report on the developments at governing body meetings. The targets are appraised regularly.

## Main Priorities 2024 – 2025

1. Continue to raise pupils' standards of feedback and ensure that feedback moves learning forward in the moment – including the standard of questioning.
2. Providing more opportunities for pupils to constructively develop their numeracy skills.
3. Improve and refine assessment and tracking systems to effectively support and monitor student progress, aligning with curriculum requirements for Wales.
4. Using the outdoor learning environment to support pupils' learning and wellbeing across the School.

### Curriculum and Assessment

There are four purposes at the heart of the curriculum at Ysgol Cefneithin, that support the children to be:-

- 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.





All the teachers and assistants plan thoroughly, with the pupils' voice at the heart of learn of the provision offered at Ysgol Cefneithin. We track pupils' progress using many strategies. Several members of staff attended courses on the development of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework during the year.

Our aim is to provide the highest quality care and education in a happy, caring, active and safe environment to enable all children, whatever their ability, to achieve their potential. Emphasis is placed on learning the basic skills of literacy and numeracy and the importance of making them relevant and meaningful to the child. It is important to make the children aware of their environment, their community, their country and the world.

By using a teaching and learning method which is based on themes, the structure of our curriculum contains six Areas of Learning and Experience.

Each one of these Areas of Learning and Experience make distinct and strong contributions to developing the four purposes of the curriculum. Together, they define the breadth of the curriculum. The wealth of educational experiences forms an integral part of the curriculum, to broaden the children's horizons, stimulate their imagination and promote enjoyment in learning.

#### **The six Areas of Learning and Experience are: -**

- Expressive arts.
- Health and well-being.
- Humanities (including RE which should remain compulsory to age 16).
  - Languages, literacy and communication (including Welsh, which should remain compulsory to age 16, and modern foreign languages).
- Mathematics and numeracy.
- Science and technology (including computer science).

We provide a curriculum that ensures that every child develops an awareness of Welsh culture and its associated heritage. The school has an equal opportunities policy. An effort is made to promote this policy by including it in the curriculum and at every opportunity during the lessons taught.

**In-Service Training:** A variety of different in-service training sessions were held to meet the priorities of the school development plan and to provide the individual needs of the staff.

#### **Review of School Prospectus and School Policies:**

The school policies are up to date. All policies are reviewed by the Governing Body as required. The School Prospectus was reviewed during the year.

**Child Protection Policy** - The school's Child Protection Policy is based on national guidelines. The designated members of staff for child protection are Mrs Carys Richards and Miss Caroline Huntley. A designated member of the governing body also has responsibility for overseeing the safety of all pupils – Mrs Danielle Griffiths.

#### **Healthy Eating and Drinking:**

The school works hard to promote a healthy way of life and the Food and Fitness policy reflects this. The school has received recognition and reaches the standards of the County's Healthy Schools scheme.

**Provision of Toilet Facilities:** The school is working with the authority to ensure appropriate provision for the children registered at the school. The facilities are cleaned daily by the cleaning department of the authority. The Foundation Learning toilets have been refurbished with an extra 2 toilets added.

## **Parent-Teachers Association:**

This year again we wish to express our grateful thanks to the school's PTA for their diligent effort in organizing social and fundraising events to provide additional resources to meet the school's needs.



## Physical Education Experience

We pride ourselves on placing a great deal of emphasis on sport. Our aims as a school for the teaching of Physical Education are to encourage and help all our children to lead healthy and active lifestyles and to promote the development of the desirable personal attributes and qualities of endeavour, fair play, teamwork, perseverance, sense of achievement and self-esteem. Our staff set out to fulfil these aims by offering pupils of all ages a wide range of activities, both in the timetabled curriculum and outside normal individual performances. These include Gymnastics, Dance, Rugby, Football, Cricket, Athletics, Outdoor and Adventurous activities, and Games. The work of the sports ambassadors has been fantastic and thank you to the support of Sir Gar Actif. It was good to see them preparing sports activities for all pupils virtually for them to take part in break times activities e.g. danceathon and sport celebration day.



## Educational Visits and Experiences.

We feel strongly that pupils benefit greatly from participating in the various visits we organise to experience new experiences that broaden their education generally. Educational visits can contribute to deepening learning as well as developing various and valuable personal and social skills. Through visits we provide first-hand experiences that stimulate interest and understanding of the environment and reinforce learning. We place importance on ensuring that the visits have a purpose and value, that parental consent and appropriate risk assessments in place before we attend the location of our visits.











The Governors and the Headteacher wish to thank all members of staff for their conscientious work throughout the year and to the parents for their continued support.