

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cefneithin

'Gwreiddiau Cadarn – Sylfaen y Dyfodol'



Governors' 2025-2026 Annual Report to Parents



A Welsh Medium Primary School for pupils between 4 and 11 years old

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cefneithin,

Cefneithin,

Llanelli,

SA14 7DE.

Telephone: 01269 842061

Head Teacher

Mrs C Richards

Chairperson of the Governing Body

Mrs Mali Jones

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A word from the Chairperson

Governors' Report to Parents

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the Governors' Report for the 2025/26 academic year.

First and foremost, I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Carys Richards for her work and dedication as Headteacher, and for her effective leadership of a talented, hardworking and committed school team. The contribution of every member of staff is essential, whether teaching and support staff, administrative staff, catering staff, site management or cleaning staff. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of the PTA, whose members have worked hard to organise numerous events and activities throughout the year, including arranging transport to various events. These efforts make a significant contribution to creating and maintaining a happy, inclusive and community-focused atmosphere within the school, strengthening the connection between the school, families and the wider community.

The 2025/26 academic year has been a productive and successful year for our pupils and staff on many levels, as is clearly demonstrated by the content of this report. The teaching and learning taking place in the classroom effectively complements the wide range of extracurricular activities organised by our enthusiastic staff. This combination provides our pupils with valuable and varied experiences and contributes to their development and wellbeing.

This was confirmed by the Estyn Interim Visit in January. This visit focused on the progress the school had made since its previous full inspection in 2023. The school received considerable praise from Estyn inspectors for the successful steps it had taken to effectively address the recommendations from the initial inspection.

Your continued support as parents and guardians helps us to ensure that Ysgol Cefneithin continues to fulfil its vision: **"Strong Roots – The Foundation of the Future."**

As a Governing Body, our aim is to support and challenge our school community as much as possible, in order to ensure that the needs of our pupils and staff are met. We are volunteers who serve as governors, representing both the school and the local community. I am confident that I speak on behalf of the entire Governing Body when I say that we are extremely proud of our school, and that the wellbeing and best interests of our pupils and staff are at the heart of every decision we make.

I would also like to highlight all the work that takes place “behind the scenes” by school staff. Delivering the school’s vision can be challenging at times, particularly as staff and leaders respond to new policies and requirements from the Welsh Government, ensure compliance with Local Authority requirements relating to information and data, and manage the school budget during a period of economic challenge.

It is important to remember that all these additional requirements are undertaken alongside the daily work of teaching staff, including caring for pupils, planning, teaching and assessing.

At times, the role of the Governing Body may appear unclear. Therefore, I would like to give you an insight into some of the areas we prioritise during our meetings and visits to the school:

School Development Plan

The School Development Plan is an annual plan that identifies the school’s priorities and follows a specific monitoring and evaluation process. The plan links to the long-term strategic plan and covers a wide range of areas, from the curriculum and standards of learning to pupils’ experiences, including, of course, their health and wellbeing.

Monitoring

Monitoring includes visits to the school, tours of the site, speaking with pupils, and scrutinising pupils’ books and work, led by the Headteacher or co-ordinators of the Areas of Learning and Experience. This enables us to gain an overview of a wide range of areas, including health and safety, safeguarding, standards of teaching and learning, and staff professional development.

Health and Wellbeing

Over recent years, the importance of the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff has become increasingly evident. Ensuring that wellbeing remains at the heart of school life continues to be an important priority for us as a Governing Body.

The Building and Facilities

During a period of financial challenges, the Governing Body has an important role to play in ensuring that appropriate decisions are made regarding the maintenance, improvement and investment in the school building and facilities.

Finance

Finance is central to many of our discussions, particularly during a period when increasing costs are placing additional pressure on the school budget. Each year, the financial challenges increase, but at the heart of every decision is the need to ensure that we make the best possible choices for the benefit of our pupils and staff.

I hope the above has given you a greater insight into the breadth and depth of the work and involvement of the Governing Body. It is a pleasure to see all the wonderful work taking place in our

school, whether through visiting the school, looking at our website or following the activities and achievements shared on our social media channels.

I would like to conclude by once again thanking our pupils, staff, parents, guardians and the wider community for your continued support. We look forward to another academic year of working together, learning together and achieving together.

Finally, I would like to wish all the children, staff, parents and guardians of the school every success for the next academic year.

Together, we will continue to build **“Strong Roots – The Foundation of the Future.”**

Mrs Mali Jones

Chairperson of the Governing Body



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 – Community Representative

Vice Chairperson: Mr H Tudur - Parent Representative

Mr Rhys Culley - LA Representative

Mr A Rees - Community Representative

Mrs C Lloyd - Community Representative (**Governor with responsibility for child protection**)

Mr D Thomas - Parent Representative

Miss C Huntley - Staff Representative

Clerk to the Governors – Mrs S McDonald/Mrs W Evans

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: Two formal complaints were received during 2025/26

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*)
Miss Ff Moses

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

Mynydd Mawr Class (Years 3 and 4) Miss M Rees

Cwm Gwendraeth Class (Years 5 a 6) Mrs C Richards, Mrs Maskell and Miss Sturrock

PPA sessions Mrs Davies and Mrs Place

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

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 and Miss L Millard

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 or Mrs C Richards are the ALN co-ordinators.

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 2025 term and Spring 2026 term. A new safeguarding fence will replace the old fence around the school. 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 of the school's facilities are regularly checked in accordance with the 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 2025-2026

INSET DAYS

1/9/25	2/9/25	24/10/25
5/1/26	19/6/26	20/7/26

School Academic Year 2026-2027

Term	Start of term	Half Term	End of term
Autumn 2026	2/9/26	26/10/26-30/10/26	18/12/26
Spring 2027	4/1/27	8/2/27-12/2/27	19/3/27
Summer 2027	5/4/27	31/5/27-4/6/27	20/7/27

2025-2026 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.

Dyraniad Ariannu yn ôl Fformwla 2025/26 £492,767 Formula Funding Allocation 2025/26
Diffyg Ariannol a Ddygwyd Ymlaen o 2024/25 £45,020 Deficit Brought Forward from 2024/25
Diffyg Ariannol yn Cario Drosodd i 2025/26 £26,822 Deficit Carried Forward to 2025/26

Attendance and Punctuality : From September 2025 – July 2026

Attendance	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence
95.20%	4.70 %	0.11%

Although the percentage of unauthorized absences remains low, each case is followed up 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 2025 – 2026

By the end of July 2026, our intention is:

1	To improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills including raising the status of the language and love for the language across all stages of progress.
2	To develop the pedagogy for raising standards of digital competence to ensure that learners have the confidence to apply a range of DCF skills across the curriculum independently.
3	Use the outdoor learning environment to support learning and ensure that the high-quality provision offers sufficient challenge and independence for the learners.
4	Continue to strengthen our assessment and tracking systems to effectively support and monitor student progress, aligning with the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales.

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 assistance plan thoroughly, with the pupils voice at the heart of learn of the provision offered at Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cefneithin. We track pupils' progress using many strategies. Several members of staff attended courses on the development of the Literacy, Numeracy and the Digital Competency 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 C Lloyd.

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 Actif Sir Gar. It was good to see them preparing sports activities for all pupils virtually for them to take part in break times activities.





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.