**Governors Annual Report**

**to Parents 2024 - 2025**



# Growing and learning together – doing our best forever.

# Foreword from the Chair

# Dear Parents / Carers,

# This is the full Governing Body annual report to parents for the academic year 2024 - 2025 which has been made available to all parents and is available in paper format on request to the school office.

# Under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) the Governing Body is no longer required to hold a meeting for the purpose of discussing the attached report. However, under this legislation, if a Governing Body receives a petition from parents of registered pupils at the school requesting that a meeting takes place this request must be acceded to if the following conditions are met.

# · The petition contains the signatures of (either) ten percent of the parents of registered pupils or thirty of the parents of registered pupils at the school (whichever is the lower number).

# · The meeting must be for the purpose of discussing a matter relating to the school.

# · Should meetings be requested/held there will be no more than three meetings held during the school year in which the (initial) petition is received.

# · There are enough school days remaining in the school year for the meeting to be held in line with the requirements of the Act.

# Should a meeting be held it will be open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, the Headteacher and other persons invited by the Governing Body.

# Yours sincerely,

# Victoria Davies

# Chair of Governors

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# Duties of the Governing Body

Governors must work closely with the Head teacher and Staff to ensure that the school runs smoothly and efficiently.

* Promoting high standards of educational achievement and behaviour
* Setting targets for pupil achievement
* Ensuring that all learners have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
* Determining and monitoring the school's budget
* Staffing – e.g. staff appointments, performance management
* Providing parents with information regarding the school
* Producing an action plan and monitoring progress following an inspection by Estyn
* The wellbeing and safeguarding of learners.
* Are responsible for preparing an annual report to parents and for holding an annual meeting with the parents when needed to discuss the report and any other matters concerning the running of the school.

All Governors are expected to attend a training course organised by the LA.

Three termly meetings are held during the year. In addition, regular meetings are held for the Governors’ Sub-committee Groups - finance, building, curriculum.

**Welcome from the Chair of Governors**

I am delighted to be able to take this opportunity to express the Governing Body’s pleasure in reporting to you a highly successful year at Waunceirch Primary School.

The report aims to provide you with important information about the school and your child’s learning experiences.

As a school we aim to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere where every child is greatly valued, respected and nurtured so that they experience success in their learning and personal growth.

All children at Waunceirch are encouraged and supported to achieve their full potential, develop skills, confidence and a lifelong love of learning.

I am extremely proud of the team that we have at Waunceirch Primary and feel that we are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated and supportive staff.

We have seen continued improvements in academic achievement, personal development, and well-being for all our pupils. Our school remains a place where children are encouraged to thrive in all areas of life.

We also celebrated successes in areas beyond the classroom, including sports, the arts, and community engagement. These opportunities are crucial in helping children develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of responsibility.

The children arrive at Waunceirch every day with a big smile on their faces. The way in which the school operates ensures all children and staff are cared for, supported and that their mental health and well-being is a priority for everyone at school.

Waunceirch is successful because we all have a shared vision and commitment to ensuring the pupils have access to an excellent learning provision.

We know that the strength of our school lies in the partnership between staff, governors, parents, and pupils. Your involvement—whether supporting learning at home or attending events, makes a real difference.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout what has been another rewarding and eventful year at Waunceirch.

With regards,

Victoria Davies.

**Links with the Community and Educational Experiences.**

* Gwyn Hall Theatre, Neath
* Ospreys in the Community
* Dwr Y Felin  - transition events
* PC Jones – safety information for pupils.
* Kerbcraft Road Safety Year 2
* Little Learners Playgroup
* Buzz Trampoline Park , Swansea
* Grandparents gardening event
* Rugby sessions with Neath Athletic Rugby Club
* Netball Tournament, Llandarcy
* Gnoll Country Park
* Football Tournament, Llandarcy
* Margam Park
* Aberavon beach
* Ten Pin Bowling, Swansea
* South Wales Fire Brigade
* Swansea University – SIARC project
* Yoga Rays, Neath
* Neath College Drama Department
* Urdd workshops, Cardiff
* Chance 2 shine Cricket
* Wills farm – chick hatching, Gower
* Bumbles of Honeywood, Swansea
* St Fagans
* World of work week for Year 5 pupils
* South Wales Tower Colliery
* Crucial Crew, Margam
* Botanical Gardens, Carmarthen
* Caswell Bay, Swansea
* Urdd Jambori
* Oystermouth Castle, Swansea

**End of Key Stage data**

At the end of the academic year, we collected data through national tests and ongoing school processes.

**Additional Learning Needs**

The school identifies and supports children with specific needs including More Able and Talented children. The school has a named Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO), Mrs Holly Hopkins. Progress of all pupils is carefully monitored and tracked, intervention programmes are in place and external support is sought where required. Minority and underachieving groups are supported, and their progress is carefully tracked in order that they may attain their potential. All staff reinforce and support learning effectively, working with groups and/or individuals depending on the identified needs. Teaching assistants deliver interventions to individual pupils regularly and feedback to the teacher on progress to identify next steps to support the pupil.

 The Learning Support Centre (Bumblebees and Blodau classes) supports pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and is funded by the local authority. The LSC has two classes, Bumblebees class currently has 12 pupils however, 3 of those pupils integrate into mainstream for specific lessons. In Blodau class, there are 10 pupils with an additional child in the afternoon sessions who is currently reverse integrating from mainstream. Pupils in Blodau class focus on developing their communication, independence and interaction skills through a highly sensory bespoke curriculum. Within both classes, pupils develop their basic literacy and learning skills through the assessment and use of ‘ABLLS’ framework.

The school’s ALN policy is regularly reviewed, and all other records are kept fully up to date. Regular reviews of current practice are undertaken to identify appropriate measures to further improve and develop ALN provision. The ALNCO receives regular non-contact time to be able to carry out the role effectively within the school.

# Safeguarding

School leaders and the Governing Body annually review the Safeguarding Policy. All staff are made aware of the contents of the policy and receive annual training. The school has three Designated safeguarding Officers: -

Mrs. E. Hughes – DSP

Mrs. H. Hopkins – Deputy DSP

Miss. C. Topper – Deputy DSP

Miss. N. Manley is the Governor Safeguarding Officer.

# Provision for the Disabled

The school has a comprehensive Policy for Equal Opportunities and a Strategic Equality Plan. The Governing Body, Headteacher and all staff seek to promote equal opportunities and good relations between persons of different racial groups, able bodies and disabled persons. Equal opportunities are promoted as a school, and we do everything we possibly can to ensure everyone is treated as equals.

**Toilet facilities**

There is adequate provision and age-appropriate toilet facilities for pupils throughout the school. The school has unisex disabled toilets. Toilets are modern and in good state or repair. They are cleaned daily and there is a deep clean scrub completed in each toilet in each holiday.

# Curriculum Development – Teaching and Learning

It is through the curriculum that the teachers at Waunceirch Primary School attempt to fulfil our aims and the aims of the Curriculum for Wales. We offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced, and we acknowledge that not all children develop at the same rate.

We create and follow a curriculum that provides opportunities for pupils to gain greater knowledge and apply their literacy, numeracy, integral and digital skills across the curriculum. We endeavour and pride ourselves on allowing pupils the opportunity to learn about the richness of their local heritage.

We offer our pupils the children the opportunities to work towards the realisation of the Four Purposes: -

* Ambitious, capable learners.
* Ethically informed citizens.
* Healthy, confident individuals.
* Enterprising, creative contributors.

| **School Term Dates** Autumn term 2025  * Monday, 1 September - Friday, 24 October * Half-term holiday: Monday, 27 - Friday, 31 October * Monday, 3 November - Friday, 19 December * Christmas holiday: Monday, 22 December - Friday, 2 January  Spring term 2026  * Monday, 5 January - Friday, 13 February * Half-term holiday: Monday, 16 - Friday, 20 February * Monday, 23 February - Friday, 27 March * Easter holiday: Monday, 30 March - Friday, 10 April  Summer term 2026  * Monday, 13 April - Friday, 22 May * Half-term holiday: Monday, 25 - Friday, 29 May * Monday, 1 June - Monday, 20 July * Summer holiday: Tuesday, 21 July - Monday, 31 August |
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| Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET - staff preparation and training up to six days between Monday, 1 September 2024 and Monday, 20 July 2025.  The school day begins at 8.50 a.m. and ends at 3.20 p.m. Lunch is 12.00. There is a fifteen-minute break during the morning. |

# Attendance

At Waunceirch, we are continuously working hard to maximise all children's attendance and to remove the barriers to attendance that many of our pupil’s face. In 2023/2024, we achieved 90.9% attendance and in 2024/2025 we achieved 92.3%; this shows a 1.4% increase since the last academic year and only 0.7% from our target of 93%! Our highest attendance was achieved by our Year 3 children who had 93.7% and our lowest attenders were Year 1 and Year 6, who both achieved 90.8% which is nearly 5% below the expected local authority level.

In 2023/2024, our lowest attendance was our reception class. From our data collected, we were able to establish that it was those children who were not of statutory age until later in the year that were our recurring short-term absences. Last September, we sent a letter to all reception parents informing them of the potential impact missing school is having on their child’s wellbeing, even though it is not statutory for them to attend school until they reach their fifth birthday. This was proven successful as we had a rise of 2.3% for the last academic year.

Last year we were monitoring those children whose attendance fell below 85%, this year we are pleased that we are now targeting those children who are below 90% due to the increase in individuals’ attendance.

Fortnightly meetings still place with the Education Welfare Officer to ensure we are continuing to maximise every child’s attendance at Waunceirch.

# Review of School Policies

The Governing Body plays a part in reviewing and amending a whole range of school policies as and when appropriate. During the year 24 – 25 the school has adopted / reviewed the following policies: -

* Admissions Policy
* Charging Policy
* Curriculum Policy
* Equality Policy
* Health and Safety Policy
* Safeguarding Policy
* Relationship and Sex Education Policy
* Staff Discipline, Conduct and Capability Policy
* Staff Grievance Policy
* Disposal Policy
* Food and Fitness Policy
* School Toilet Policy
* School Uniform Policy
* Substance Misuse Policy
* Bilingual Policy
* Corporate Stress Policy
* Dignity at Work Policy
* Intimate Care Policy
* Leave of Absence Policy
* Marking and Feedback Policy
* Maternity Scheme Policy
* Mental Health and Well-Being Policy
* Maximising Attendance in School Policy
* Online Safety Policy
* Positive Handling Policy
* Traffic Management Policy

**Action taken to develop the School – evaluation of priorities**

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| **SDP Priorities** |
| Priority 1 To develop the writing skills of pupils across the curriculum. |
| Priority 2 Provide the opportunities to develop children’s mathematical skills in every-day, authentic learning contexts. |
| Priority 3 To develop pupil independence across the school by developing current provision and classroom environments |
| Priority 4 To enhance learning opportunities to develop an understanding of Relationship Values and Ethics (RVE) and Relationship Sexuality Education (RSE). |

The School Development Plan has been agreed by the Governing Body and staff. It is a plan which is evaluated and updated annually.

**Governing body as at the end of Summer Term 2024**

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| Status/designation | Tymor yn gorffen  Term of office expires |
| **Community** |  |
| Ms Nicola Manley | 04.12.2026 |
| Mr Daniel Perrin | 31.05.2027 |
| Mr Anthony Bebb | 14.04.2028 |
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| **Minor Authority** |  |
| Cllr. Wyndham Griffiths | 17.06.2028 |
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| **Headteacher** |  |
| Mrs Emma Hughes |  |
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| **LEA** |  |
| Mrs Bethan Healey | 31.08.2028 |
| Mrs Catherine Archard | 31.08.2026 |
| Mrs Amanda Cornwell | 16.09.2028 |
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| **Non-voting Clerk** |  |
| Mr Liam Price |  |
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| **Parent** |  |
| Mrs Louise Porter Thomas | 15.04.2028 |
| Mrs Clare Bebb | 11.04.2025 |
| Mrs Victoria Davies | 12.10.2027 |
| Mr Stephen Robbins | 12.09.2026 |
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| **Teacher** |  |
| Miss Cath John | 12.10.2027 |
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| **Non Teaching Staff** |  |
| Ms Emma Edwards | 08.12.2028 |
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Governors are appointed for a period of 4 years. At the end of a Parent Governors term of office all parents are sent a letter asking for nominations for the vacant position(s).