



# **Governors' Annual Report to Parents**

**Autumn Term 2023**

### A foreword from the Chair of Governors

This was the first academic year that the school has operated unhindered by Covid since we opened as Ysgol Garth Olwg, a 3-19 school, in September 2019.

So much has happened since the opening ceremony. It's been a period of transition and adjustment for us all, as we dealt first with Covid and then opened up to the wider world. The new Curriculum for Wales and the new Additional Learning Needs Code of Practice are in operation across the school. I would like to pay tribute to staff and the school's Leadership Team for the way they have coped with so much change over such a relatively short period of time. As always, we as Governors have been there to both support and, when it's needed, to offer challenge as we all work together in the best interests of our pupils.

We are delighted with the opportunities the 3-19 school structure provides for working collaboratively across year groups. Some Senior School pupils offer extra-curricular activities during lunchtime and after school and have established mentoring across other year groups. This enables our pupils to support, encourage and help each other.

In March we were visited by a friendly but inquisitive team from Estyn. The inspectors enjoyed their visit and we were encouraged by their report which you can find on the school website. We are all working together to ensure we follow up on their recommendations.

The Governing Body has continued to meet and conduct its business through a combination of virtual and face-to-face meetings, and I take the opportunity to thank my fellow governors for their dedication and professionalism. We are determined to continue working together as one community to provide the best possible opportunities for all our pupils over the coming years.

Julie Barton  
Chair of Governors

## Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

### Governing Body of Ysgol Garth Olwg

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of its functions since the last report was published.

#### Clerk to the Governing Body

The Clerk to the Governing Body is Anneli Hunt Governor Support,  
Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash, CF45 4UQ.

#### Chairperson of the Governing Body

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Ms Julie Barton c/o Ysgol Garth Olwg, Main Road, Church Village, CF38 1DX.

#### Members of the Governing Body

The following people are currently members of the Governing Body.

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Retirement Date
Julie Barton Alex Harden Ray Butler Graham Stacey Rebecca Villis	LEA	Council Members	31.8.27 for all
Heather Lloyd-Jones Sam Rosie Richard Martin Sioned Geraint Anna Spicer	Community Governors	Governing Body	15.9.26 10.10.27 30.11.27 30.11.27 30.11.27
Iestyn Morris Gwion Evans Kathryn Gwyn Jason Thomas Jessica Jenkins Hannah Bird	Parent	Parents	8.2.26 8.2.26 7.11.27 7.11.27 7.11.27 7.11.27
Dylan Hughes Laura Vye	Teacher	Teaching Staff	16.2.26 25.9.27
Alyson Samuel	Staff	Non Teaching Staff	9.11.27
Trystan Edwards	Headteacher		

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows

LEA Representatives	5
Parent Governors	6
Staff Representative	1
Headteacher	1

Community Governors	5
Teacher Governor(s)	2
Minor Authority (if applicable)	0
Total	20

### Governor Expenses

During the year 2021/2022 no governors were paid expenses for their work for the school, nor travelling costs incurred as a result of their activities on behalf of the school.

### Resolutions

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

### Election of Parent Governors

The next election of parent governors is due to take place in February 2026.

If, however, any Parent Governor(s) resign before this date arrangements will be made for an election to be undertaken at the appropriate time.

### School Performance Data

#### **Crynodeb Profion Cenedlaethol (2022 -23)**

#### ***National Tests Summary (2022-23)***

	NATIONAL TESTS READING WELSH							
	Bl.2	Bl.3	Bl.4	Bl.5	Bl.6	Bl.7	Bl.8	Bl.9
Dysgwyr <70	0	1	0	0	0	2	4	7
Dysgwyr 70-84	10	3	4	9	6	38	24	25
Dysgwyr 85-99	22	17	17	15	12	64	43	45
Dysgwyr 100-115	6	25	17	15	16	47	43	46
Dysgwyr 116-130	4	6	6	5	7	9	9	23
Cyfartaledd sgoriau cynnydd		1002	1001	999	1005	991	993	995
Dysgwyr <70	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	5%
Dysgwyr 70-84	24%	6%	9 %	20%	15%	24%	20%	17%
Dysgwyr 85-99	52%	33%	39%	34%	29 %	40%	35%	31%
Dysgwyr 100-115	14%	48%	39%	34%	39%	29%	35%	32%
Dysgwyr 116-130	10%	12 %	14%	11%	17%	6%	7%	16%

<100	76%	40%	48%	55%	44%	65%	58%	53%
100+	24%	60%	52%	45%	56%	35%	42%	47%

	NATIONAL TESTS READING PROCEDURAL							
	Bl.2	Bl.3	Bl.4	Bl.5	Bl.6	Bl.7	Bl.8	Bl.9
Dysgwyr <70	0	0	0	3	2	8	10	1
Dysgwyr 70-84	9	5	2	4	7	29	11	19
Dysgwyr 85-99	22	24	16	16	6	51	40	43
Dysgwyr 100-115	8	16	14	18	22	58	47	58
Dysgwyr 116-130	5	6	11	4	1	13	11	23
Cyfartaledd sgoriau cynnydd	953	989	1048	976	991	953	951	1011
Dysgwyr <70	0%	0%	0%	7%	5%	5%	8%	1%
Dysgwyr 70-84	20%	10%	5%	9%	18%	18%	9%	13%
Dysgwyr 85-99	50%	47%	37%	36%	16%	32%	34%	30%
Dysgwyr 100-115	18%	31%	33%	40%	58%	36%	39%	40%
Dysgwyr 116-130	12%	12%	26%	9%	3%	8%	9%	16%

<100	70%	57%	42%	51%	39%	55%	51%	44%
100+	30%	43%	58%	49%	61%	45%	49%	56%

	NATIONAL TESTS READING REASONING							
	Bl.2	Bl.3	Bl.4	Bl.5	Bl.6	Bl.7	Bl.8	Bl.9
Dysgwyr <70	12	5	4	5	3	17	12	4
Dysgwyr 70-84	7	8	5	3	3	20	16	23
Dysgwyr 85-99	14	21	10	12	6	49	22	36
Dysgwyr 100-115	11	13	12	15	20	53	43	49
Dysgwyr 116-130	13	22	7	7	7	16	26	24
Cyfartaledd sgoriau cynnydd	885	926	1005	989	1035	965	1005	1040
Dysgwyr <70	27%	10%	11%	12%	8%	11%	10%	3%
Dysgwyr 70-84	16%	16%	13%	7%	8%	13%	13%	17%
Dysgwyr 85-99	31%	43%	26%	29%	15%	32%	18%	27%
Dysgwyr 100-115	24%	27%	32%	36%	51%	34%	36%	37%
Dysgwyr 116-130	28%	40%	18%	17%	18%	10%	22%	16%
Dysgwyr 100-115	14%	36%	37%	43%	56%	38%	38%	40%
Dysgwyr 116-130	14%	69%	50%	48%	31%	56%	41%	47%
<100	74%	69%	50%	48%	31%	56%	41%	47%
100+	26%	31%	50%	52%	69%	44%	58%	53%
<100	77%	54%	51%	27%	27%	49%	50%	43%
100+	23%	46%	49%	73%	73%	51%	50%	57%

**Crynodeb Pynciau Craidd – Canlyniadau Diwedd CA3 (2022 -23)**  
**Core Subject Summary - End of KS3 Results (2022-23)**

	<b>Cymraeg Welsh</b>	<b>Saesneg English</b>	<b>Mathemateg Mathematics</b>	<b>Gwyddoniaeth Science</b>
<b>Lefel 2+ Level 2+</b>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>Lefel 3+ Level 3+</b>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>Lefel 4+ Level 4+</b>	97.99%	100.00%	99.33%	93.29%
<b>Lefel 5+ Level 5+</b>	81.21%	86.58%	86.58%	64.43%
<b>Lefel 6+ Level 6+</b>	38.26%	48.32%	55.03%	42.95%
<b>Lefel 7+ Level 7+</b>	2.68%	8.05%	15.44%	8.05%

**Canlyniadau TGAU a Galwedigaethol (2022 -23)**  
**GCSE and Vocational Results (2022-23)**

Canlyniadau 2023 Results 2023		Teulu Family	Awd. Lleol Local Auth.	Cymru Wales
A* - A	19.10%			21.30%
A* - C	76.70%			64.50%
A* - E	87.40%			87.50%
Sgôr CAP 9 / Capped 9 Score	369.9	371.4	362.9	356.5
Sgôr Llythrennedd / Literacy Score	43.4	42.7	29.1	39.7
Sgôr Rhifedd / Numeracy Score	39.4	38.1	36.5	37.1
Sgôr Gwyddoniaeth / Science Score	38.9	38.5	36.4	36.9

**Canlyniadau Lefel A a Galwedigaethol (2022 -23)**  
***A Level and Vocational Results (2022-23)***

<b>Canlyniadau 2023 Results 2023</b>		<b>Cymru Wales</b>
<b>A* - A</b>	26.50%	34.00%
<b>A* - B</b>	57.10%	57.90%
<b>A* - C</b>	82.10%	78.90%
<b>A* - E</b>	98.00%	97.50%
<b>Trothwy L3 Threshold</b>		
<b>Sgôr Pwyntiau / Points Score</b>		

**School Prospectus**

A copy of the school prospectus is available via the school website.

**School Development Plan**

The Headteacher and Leadership team in conjunction with the governing body are responsible for drawing up the School Development Plan. The plan identifies the direction the school will take in delivering the curriculum and raising standards across the school. The plan is regularly monitored and revised to take account of progress made and any changes to curriculum requirements. The Annual School Development Plan for the 2023/24 academic year will be considered and approved by Governors and will be implemented by the staff. The priorities are as follows:

1. Nurturing Positive Attitudes towards Learning
2. Raising Standards
3. Developing Leadership & Accountability

**Use of the Welsh Language – Communication**

This school is a Welsh medium school. Lessons and other school activities are communicated through the medium of Welsh. Communication with parents and the wider community is conducted bilingually.

### **Term Dates and Holidays 2023/2024 Academic Year**

Term	Begin	Half term		End
		Begin	End	
Autumn 2022	4/9/23	30/10/23	3/11/23	22/12/23
Spring 2023	8/1/24	12/2/24	16/2/24	22/3/24
Summer 2023	8/4/24	27/5/24	31/5/24	22/7/24

\*Monday 4 Sept 2023 will be a designated INSET day for all LA Maintained Schools. The remaining five INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff.  
Significant dates:

Christmas	- Monday, 25 December 2022
Easter	- Good Friday, 29 March 2024
	- Easter Monday, 1 April 2024
May Bank Holidays	- Monday, 6 May 2024

### **Professional Learning Days**

4.9.23  
5.9.23  
6.10.23  
20.11.23  
24.6.24  
22.7.24

### **Community Focused Schools**

A community-focused school is one that: 'provides a range of services and activities', often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community. Across Wales many schools already provide some community services including adult education, study support, ICT facilities and community sports programmes. We are lucky to be based on the Garth Olwg Campus, where we work in partnership with the Life Long Learning Centre, which offers a wide range of courses and activities aimed at all age ranges.

The development of community-focused schools is not just a short-term project or initiative, but a real opportunity for schools and communities to work together in new ways for the future benefit of children, young people and adults.

## **Review of School Policies**

As a Governing Body, we are working through updating all our policies, ensuring that, in the first instance, all important statutory policies are in place. Policies can be found on the school website.

## **Additional Learning Needs**

The School's Policy for the Assessment of and Provision for pupils with additional learning needs is summarised as follows:

The School's policy for the identification, assessment and provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs is consistent with the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021.

The School's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO) works closely with all other members of staff to ensure that one-page profiles with targets and Individual Development Plans are being developed and put in place to recognise pupils' needs appropriately.

The ALNCO also liaises with all members of staff, to ensure that the progress of all pupils is regularly monitored and assessed and to ensure that each pupil reaches his or her potential.

During the current academic year:

- 24 pupils were on the Additional Learning Needs register with an Individual Development Plan.
- 22 pupils were on the Special Educational Needs register, with 8 of those having a statement of educational needs.

The new ALN bill is driving the way that we work as a school and, while its implementation may have been delayed, we are making good progress in transitioning our working practices to ensure that they are aligned with new expectations. The ALNCo has updated staff and parents regularly of the changes, as well as holding person-centred meetings for each child on the SEN and ALN register, and has ensured that every child has a one-page profile document. There is a staff website sharing all relevant information about the pupils, and there is also an ALN section on the school website, with information on ALN and the ALN Code of Practice for parents.

## **Access for Disabled Pupils**

The governing body is mindful of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 and The Special Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) 2005 in its daily actions and activities.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils are able to participate in the school curriculum and (where they desire) in activities such as after school clubs, leisure/sporting events and educational visits (when they are in place and once pandemic restriction allow them to be reinstated) ) . All aspects of accessibility, including access to written information are included in the planning process and accessibility plan.

The Authority has in place an Accessibility Strategy and in line with this strategy an audit of the school site has been undertaken, as part of an Authority wide brief, to identify any potential barriers and (ultimately) improve the access to the school.

### **Fabric of the Building & Provision of Toilet Facilities**

Within all our buildings we have adequate toilet provision including gender neutral facilities. The toilets are cleaned at least once every day during a normal school day and there is a team of caretakers available throughout the day if further cleaning is required.

### **Target Setting**

The implementation and review of the school's strategies and targets are documented in detail in the School Development Plan. We remain focused on our pupils achieving in line with their potential.

### **Destination Data**

The table below outlines the destination data for post-18 learners.

Destination	Students (%)
University	72
Employment	13
Gap Year / Part-time employment	1
Apprenticeship	10
Other	4

### **Attendance Information**

We are absolutely clear that pupils learn best when they are in school and it's clear that the majority of our learners want to be in school, appreciating the structure and social framework it provides, especially after the pandemic which continues to have an impact.

### **Attendance figures compulsory school age (22-23)**

Period: 05/09/2022 to 21/07/2023

Scope: Year Group R+1+2+3+4+5+6+9+10+11+7+8

Number of Sessions

Group	Presents	AEA	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
Year R	16789	48	832	187	17856	94.3
Year 1	18942	58	819	217	20036	94.8
Year 2	16037	52	757	266	17112	94.0
Year 3	18164	235	688	153	19240	95.6
Year 4	15147	348	651	198	16344	94.8
Year 5	15134	394	804	178	16510	94.1
Year 6	13901	715	686	322	15624	93.5
Year 9	47777	1509	3452	3040	55778	88.4
Year 10	47769	3450	4282	4175	59676	85.8
Year 11	34222	1511	3873	7928	47534	75.2
Year 7	51766	2551	3624	1703	59644	91.1
Year 8	39443	1910	2456	1409	45218	91.5
Totals	335091	12781	22924	19776	390572	89.1

## **Admission/Transition Arrangements**

Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council is the Admissions Authority for all schools (other than Church schools where the schools governing body is the admissions authority) within the Authority's boundary. The schools admission arrangements are, therefore, operated in line with the Authority's policy on school admissions which is contained in the publication Starting School book. The book is made available to parents at the point of their application for their admission to school. The contents of this book can also be accessed online on the Authority's website [www.rctcbc.gov.uk](http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk). There is also a section on transition arrangements on our school website <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/gartholwgcanol/pontio-ysgol-garth-olwg>.

## **Enrichment Activities**

A variety of extracurricular activities is provided, including educational visits, competitions, and school trips. We have placed Forms as part of the absence forms in order to be able to keep a whole school period as only a small part of what has happened has been noted below.

These are some of the enriching experiences that have taken place during the academic year.

- A group of MAT pupils teaching second language games to the pupils of Ysgol
- Blessed, Merthyr's Welsh group.
- Digital Seminar with Ruth Posner (Holocaust Survivor)
- 'Lessons From Auschwitz' scheme by HET for Year 12 pupils (Visit to Auschwitz).
- Cardiff Met Exhibition - Exhibition of Art and Design (Pupils Year 11-13)
- Rotary Public Speaking
- Various workshops by the Music Department e.g. Samba by Mark Hibbert as part of the World Music Theme.
- 'When Coal was King!' Digital Seminar for MAT Humanities pupils.
- Swansea Master Class Project "Memorials" with the Middle School.
- The Pontypridd Education Partnership Schools Mathematics games competition was held for year 6 pupils.
- Year 7-9 pupils attended live and virtual Hay Festival events.
- Reading Scholars – Year 10 pupils
- Year 5 and 6 reading challenge for the entire cluster. Prizes for the pupils who had read the most pages in two weeks.
- Aneirin Karadog comes in to discuss his poem 'Gweld y Orwel' with Year 10 MAT pupils.
- Various visits to universities for year 10-13.

Some of our MATH pupils were successful in the challenges set by the Star Foundation Network in conjunction with OpenLearn last year.

### **Sporting Achievements**

There were a number of sporting achievements this year. These included pupils representing Wales and Regional teams in the following sports:

- UK Athletics talent programme representative
- Under 16 Wales Girls Football
- Rugby Union Boys Clubs of Wales U16s and U18s
- Wales Under 15 boys Rugby League
- Wales Basketball representatives at Under 16 and Under 18
- Welsh Gymnastics under 16 and 14 representatives
- Glamorgan Valleys Athletics champions
- Numerous regional representatives across Rugby, Football, Netball, Swimming and other sports
- U16 Football Academy players for Cardiff City and Swansea city
- Numerous Cardiff City Ladies FC players
- Rugby Scholarships to Millfield and Christ College Brecon
- Numerous Glamorgan valleys Cross Country runners Y7-11

### **Healthy Eating**

At Ysgol Garth Olwg we promote healthy eating by encouraging children to eat healthy snacks during morning break time, and healthy lunches at dinnertime.

We teach children about the importance of a balanced diet through PSE, science, and design and technology lessons, as well as through themed events throughout the year.

### How is the School Funded?

The LA provides the school with a budget for each financial year based upon a number of factors, including the number of children on the ALN register, floor space within school etc, but the main factor is the school's pupil numbers. The funding received from the LA is called the Delegated School Budget.

On receiving the delegated school budget the governors then decide how this money should be allocated and agree a budget that is followed for the year. This account is monitored continually by the Headteacher, Finance Manager, LA and the Subcommittee of the Governing Body at their regular meetings, along with termly updates to the GB.

### Financial Statement for the 2022-23 Financial Year

	<u>Description</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Salary</b>	Teachers / APT / Manual Workers	£ 5,037,760.00
<b>Premises</b>	Utility / Maintenance / Water	£ 595,160.00
<b>Rates</b>		£ 161,516.00
<b>Supplies and Services</b>		£ 1,036,951.00
<b>Other</b>	School Meals / Uniform / Transport	£ 47,915.00
		<b>£ 6,879,302.00</b>
<b>Basic &amp; Grant Income</b>	Basic & Grant Information	£ 1,016,219.00
	Total Expenditure minus the Income = Total Expenditure	<b>£ 5,863,083.00</b>
	Total Funds Available minus Expenditure (Carry Forward Figure to 2021-22)	<b>£ 751,395.00</b>
<b>Formula Allocation</b>	Pupil Allocation & Post 16	£ 5,772,047.00
<b>Formula Enhancement</b>	Rates / Retrospective	£ 148,976 .00
<b>Carry Forward 2021-22</b>		£ 693,455 .00
		<b>£ 6,614,478.00</b>