Cwmaber Infants School Governors Annual Report to Parents 2022-23

A Message from the Chairperson

This last year the school has been getting back to normal following the disruptions caused by Covid 19 and the various lockdowns. We are grateful for the support of parents and guardians in helping the school to get back on an even keel. That good relationship between the school and parents/guardians is vital for our pupils to progress.

I am pleased that the collaboration with Cwmaber Junior School in having Mrs Bethan Davies as an Executive Headteacher covering both schools still continues to work well and the two schools are continuing to improve the links between them. The two schools have worked well together in order to prepare for the new Curriculum for Wales, which has now been implemented at the school, so that progression through the curriculum will be seamless for our pupils.

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Cllr John Taylor

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in discharge of its functions since the last report to parents in Autumn Term 2023. Much of the content is statutory e.g. financial information and statistics.
The full governing body meets at least once a term, whilst a number of sub-committees meet as needed. A copy of the minutes of all Governing Body meetings is retained by the EAS and by the school which are available for your inspection, if required.

Annual Reports to Parents

Parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body up to three times a year.
Full details can be obtained from https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/statutory-guidance-to-the-governing-bodies-of-maintained-schools-in-wales-regarding-the-duty-to-hold-meetings-with-parents.pdf or from the school. As there were no requests, no meeting was held under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

Parents' Meeting

Governors are responsible for the management of the school legislation and polices of the Local Authority.
The Governing Body under the Local Management School (LMS) now has fully delegated powers, which means the Governing Body acts like a "Board of Directors" in a business.
The full Governing Body meets at least once a term.
The Headteacher provides regular detailed reports for discussion with the Governors concerning a wide range of issues such as staffing, curriculum development and pupil matters.
To ensure we carry out delegated duties efficiently, Governors have attended appropriate training.

The Governing Body

Name	When Appointment Ends	Type of Governor
Mr P Cole	May 2026	Minor Authority
Colin Langford	December 2026	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs C. Thomas	June 2026	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs K. Davies	December 2023	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs B. Davies	Ex officio	Headteacher
C.B. Cllr J. Taylor – Chairperson		L. A. Representative
Miss E. Bennett		L. A. Representative
Mr K. Brace		L. A. Representative
Mrs V. Foley	February 2026	Parent
Mr B. Rees	November 2026	Parent
Dr R. Davies	March 2024	Parent
Mrs L. Jenkins (Vice Chair)	July 2025	Parent
Mrs H. Davies	February 2027	Staff Representative
Mrs L. Evans	September 2026	Teacher Representative

C.B. Cllr J. Taylor – Chairperson c/o Cwmaber Infants' School

Financial Statement

A financial statement is available on request.

- The Helping Hands Committee generously donated money for resources.
- Pupils and staff raised money for various different charities throughout the year.
- No travel or subsistence allowances were paid to members of the governing body.

The section 52 statement provided by the local authority can be found at https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/My-Council/Strategies,-plans-and-policies/Education/Section-52-budget-statement or ask at the school.

See Appendix 1 for Outturn Report

Attendance

Parents are politely reminded that if their child is absent from school, it is necessary to inform the school in writing or by telephone of the reason for the absence – preferably on the first day of the absence.
An illness, medical appointment, family holiday etc., is recorded as an authorised absence. If no explanation is received by the school then an unauthorised absence is recorded in the register – this category includes holidays of more than two weeks in any given academic year.

All pupils should be on the premises at least five minutes before the official starting time of 9am. The support of parents / carers on this front is appreciated, because children persistently arriving late in school lose a great deal of valuable educational time. Late arrivals also disrupt the teaching groups they are involved with as these have invariably started on their daily routines.

Destination of School Leavers

We have no pupils aged 15 or 16 on whom to report.

School Activities and Community Links

Assemblies – Staff and visitors from local churches take assemblies.

Harvest – We collected tins, jars and toiletries for the Aber Valley FC food bank.

Senghenydd Memorial – A small group of Year 2 pupils represented the school at the Memorial Service at the National Mining Memorial and laid a floral tribute.

Fire Service – The Fire Service came to visit Class 2.

Photographs – Tempest Photographers took individual and class photos.

The whole school went to the **cinema.**

Flu Vaccinations – These were offered to all pupils.

Children in Need/Diabetes UK – We had a "Wear What You Like" day and brought in donations for Children in Need and Diabetes UK.

Christmas Wrapped Up – Year 2 pupils went to Beulah Chapel and took part in Club 707's Christmas activities.

Breakfast with Santa - Children had a photo on the sleigh next to a wooden Santa. They were given a small gift.

The children made items to sell at the **Christmas Bazaar**.

Christmas Dinner- This was a joyful occasion with lots of Christmas jumpers. Donations were sent to Save the Children.

Christmas Parties – We dressed in party clothes and had a lovely last day of term.

Nativity Plays – Our Nativity plays were filmed and the link sent out to parents to watch online.

St David's Day – The children dressed up in rugby shirts, red tops and traditional outfits and celebrated with Welsh activities. We held our Eisteddfod and the Bard was chaired in assembly

World Book Day -This was a non-uniform day (fancy dress optional).

Comic Relief – We raised money with a dress down day.

We had an **Easter service** with parents in Beulah Chapel.

Easter Party. The Easter term ended with class parties.

Maths Sessions were held for pupils and parents.

The Walking Bus operated during Walk to School Week.

We all enjoyed **Sports Day** on the village green.

Everyone moved classes on **Transition Day** to meet their new teachers and visit their new classrooms**.**

Parents had the chance to **Meet the Teacher** for next year and to look at their children's books.

The year finished with our traditional **Prom**.

School Visits

Nursery - Cefn Mably Farm Park

Reception – Bristol Aerospace, Abertridwr Library, RNLI Porthcawl and local walks

Year 1 – St Fagan's, Caerphilly Castle, Roath Park and local walks

Year 2 – The Winding House, Caerphilly Castle, Cardiff Bay and local walks

Extra - Curricular Activities

Breakfast Club was well supported.

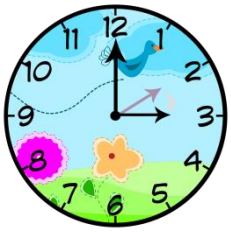
Policies

Policies are generally adopted in line with Local Authority guidelines. Copies of all policies are available from the school

Term Dates
2023-24

	Starts	Half Term	Ends
Autumn Term 2023	1st Sept	30th Oct - 3rd Nov	22nd Dec
Spring Term 2024	8th Jan	12th Feb – 16th Feb	22nd March
Summer Term 2024	8th April	27th May – 31st May	19th July

Session Times



Start- 9.00 a.m.
Lunch break-12.00 – 1.00 p.m.
End of Day- 3.15 p.m.

Nursery a.m. sessions
9.00 – 11.30 a.m. and 12:45-3:15 pm

School Prospectus

The school prospectus is given to all new parents / carers when they enter the school. It is available from the school upon request.

Toilet Facilities

There are sets of toilets for both boys and girls at both ends of the school and in nursery. In addition, there is a disabled toilet for use by pupils or by adult visitors. There are three staff toilets. All toilets are cleaned daily.

Healthy Eating

Healthy eating is promoted through snack time, discussions about packed lunches, display boards, and our excellent school dinners. We are a “Healthy School” and have achieved the NQA Award for Healthy Schools.

Organisation

The Foundation Phase is implemented across the school. Work is differentiated in each class to maximise children’s learning. Additional support is given in Literacy and Numeracy, as needed.
Children with additional needs are supported according to the level of funding provided by the school budget and the Local Education Authority Inclusion services.
In consultation with CCBC, the school has been in the practice of addressing the requirement of the DDA. The Governing Body ensures all arrangements are in place for the admission and access for disabled pupils and visitors. All necessary steps are taken to make sure that disabled people are not treated less favourably.

Language

Cwmaber Infants’ is an English-medium school.

Use of Welsh Language

All pupils are taught through the medium of English. Welsh is taught as a lesson throughout the school and is used incidentally during the day, e.g. for instructions, counting etc.

The Governing Body would like to thank all parents / carers, the Helping Hands Committee, the non-teaching and teaching staff for their continued commitment and support.

Appendix 1

OUTTURN REPORT 2022-23

Staffing	*£382,141*
Premises	*£56,984*
Supplies & Services	*£24,539*
Transport	*£0*
Service Level Agreements	*£24,149*
School Development Plans	*£10,693*
Total Expenditure	*£498,506*
Total Income	*£83,418*
Total Funding	*£661,084*