

Ysgol Fabanod

Cwmaber

Infants School



Board of Governors Annual Report to Parents 2017 - 2018



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A Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carer

On behalf of the governing body it gives me great pleasure to present the 29th Annual Report to Parents for the academic year 2017 - 2018.

Not only has the school achieved the excellent academic standards which are recorded here but it has also continued to nurture its pupils to ensure they mature as responsible, inquisitive and caring individuals. In short, they are educated in the widest possible sense.

We can all take pride in this; there is much to celebrate, but I would particularly like to place on record my grateful thanks to the dedicated staff of the school. They always place the needs of the pupils first and, without fail, go the extra mile. Teachers, Classroom Assistants and Support Staff... thank you all so very much.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors can I also thank the volunteers and friends of the school who do so much to enhance the learning experience of our children.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely,



J. E. Price (Mrs)
Pennaeth / Headteacher



Annual Reports to Parents

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 2017. 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.

Parents Meeting

Parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body up to three times a year.

Full details can be obtained from <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/parents-meetings-statutory-guidance/?lang=en> 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.

The Governing Body

Governors are responsible for the management of the school legislation and policies 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 numerous training

Governors Name	When Appointment Ends	Type of Governor
Mrs. J. E. Price	Headteacher, Ex officio	
C.B. Cllr J. Taylor – Chairperson	August 2020	c/o Cwmaber Infants’ School, L.A.
Mrs S. Price – Vice Chairperson	February 2020	Co-opted/ Community Representative
Mr D. Furtek	May 2021	Staff Representative
Mrs D. Horne	July 2018	Teacher Representative
Mrs D. Lewis	November 2020	Co-opted/ Community Representative
Mrs C.Lewis	May 2022	Co-opted/ Community Representative
Mr K. Brace	July 2021	L.A. Representative
C.B. Cllr L. Binding	November 2019	L.A. Representative
Mrs N. Davies	October 2018	Parent
Mrs V. Foley	February 2022	Parent
Dr R. Davies	February 2020	Parent
Mrs M. Rahman	January 2020	Parent
Mrs P. Wood - Clerk to the Governing Body	c/o Governor Support Team, Tredomen House Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7WF	

Financial Statement

Outturn Budget 2017 - 18

Staffing Costs	£ 373,712
Premises Related	£ 85,228
Supplies and Services	£ 29,340
Service Level Agreements	£ 23,627
School Development Plans	£ 21,972
Total	£ 533,939

The Helping Hands Committee generously donated funds to the school at various times of the year.

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 <http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk> or ask at the school.

Performance

The following shows the results of our Year 2 pupils in June 2018

% receiving Outcome 5 and above:-

	LLC ¹	Mathematics	PSDWCD ²	F.P.I.
School	93%	93%	100%	93%
L.E.A 2017	90%	91%	95%	89%
Wales 2017	88%	90%	95%	87%

% receiving Outcome 6 and above:-

	LLC ¹	Mathematics	PSDWCD ²
School	46%	46%	68%
L.E.A 2017	39%	38%	58%
Wales 2017	38%	39%	69%

¹ Language, Literacy and Communication

² Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity



Attendance

September 2017 - July 2018

Including Nursery and Reception

	Sessions	%
Attendances	36184	94.9%
Authorised absences	2050	4.8%
Unauthorised absences	125	0.3%
Possible attendance	38359	

Excluding Nursery and Reception

	Sessions	%
Attendances	23574	96%
Authorised absences	1058	3.9%
Unauthorised absences	44	0.2%
Possible attendance	24676	

Attendance Target for 2018 - 19: 96.2%

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 recoded 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.

Community Links

Health Visitors, the school nurse and hearing therapist attend the school to carry out various checks on the pupils.

Our choir took part in concerts in various local venues.

Rev Pauline has been visiting weekly to take assemblies.

The Fire Service and Local Police Officers visit regularly to talk to the children on keeping safe and about people who help us.

We have a regular walking bus, when the demand is sufficient, held during the spring and summer terms, which is a great success and ends with the children attending the breakfast club.

Parents / carers and grandparents came to help us learn in open mornings after our assemblies.

The Helping Hands Committee organised a Christmas Fayre, discos, cinema nights and ran the Summer barbecue.

Our class assemblies and Christmas Nativity plays are very popular with children and well attended by parents and grandparents.

The excellent Year Two Leavers' Assembly was an emotional time, saying goodbye to pupils.

Targets Agreed with Local Authority for 2018 - 2019

- Achieve attendance target of 96.2%
- 93% of pupils to achieve outcome 5 or above in LLC.
- 93% of pupils to achieve outcome 5 or above in Maths.



Extra - Curricular Activities

(In addition to those in “Community Links”)

This year we have run the following after school and lunchtime clubs: keep fit and sports, choir, arts and crafts, student enterprise & design, cooking, folk dancing, gardening, lego coding and outdoor games.

In the Autumn Term, Year Two went to Beulah chapel for “Christmas Wrapped Up” and the choir represented the school at the Benefice Choir Competition, the Senghenydd Memorial Service and the Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival. In the Spring Term, Year 1 visited the Principality Stadium. In the summer nursery visited Greenmeadow Community Farm. Reception visited Cardiff Bay, Year 1 went to the library and Year 2 visited Scenic Drive.

Policies

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

Term Dates and Session Times

2018 - 2019

	Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
Autumn	3rd September	29th Oct - 2nd Nov	21st December
Spring	7th January	25th Feb - 1st March	12th April
Summer	29th April	27th May - 31st May	22nd July

Closed for May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May 2019

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. session

9.00 – 11.30 a.m.

School Prospectus

School Prospectus is given to all new parents / carers when they enter the school.

The school prospectus is available from the school upon request.

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 requirements 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. On Wednesdays, we have a Welsh assembly, when the story is in Welsh or related to Welsh culture and the songs are in Welsh. The Welsh Advisory teacher comes to take lessons with staff and pupils.

Toilet Facilities

There are sets of toilets for both boys and girls in both areas of the school and in nursery. In addition, there is a disabled toilet and shower room for use by pupils or by adult visitors. There are two staff toilets. All toilets are cleaned twice daily by the caretaker.

Healthy Eating

Healthy eating is promoted through snack time, discussions about packed lunches, display boards, and our excellent school dinners. Parents are given information about healthy lunchboxes. Pupils have access to water dispensers. We are a "Healthy School" and have achieved the NQA Award for Healthy Schools. Our assemblies were described as "sector leading".



Thank You

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.



*Canolfan
Rhagoriaeth*

Centre of Excellence





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