

Governors' Report to Parents 2019-2020

Ysgol Brynhafren School



Dear Parents,

The end of last year set us all challenges that were unprecedented and it is a credit to the pupils, staff and parents that our School tackled these with fortitude. Everyone at Brynhafren has demonstrated resilience, no matter their age, and it is this spirit that will remain with us all well, into the future.

The pandemic will be with us for months to come and the effect of the other challenges faced by Brynhafren will continue to dominate the Governing Body's priorities. However, with a new Executive Headteacher and support from the Local Authority I believe that preparing the School for the transformation of education in Powys and the introduction of the New Curriculum for Wales will be yet another way in which we can demonstrate the positive ethos and attitude of pupils, staff and parents.

There is much to do and some challenging priorities for all; therefore, I would commend to every parent the opportunity to become involved in the future of Brynhafren by considering joining the Governing Body. Please feel free to contact me to discuss any matter and I hope to be able to meet some of you at the school gate, once allowed.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Hunter.

Chairman

Brynhafren Governing Body

The Governing Body did not hold a parents' meeting in the academic year 2019/20, pursuant to section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

Brynhafren School Governors 2019/20 and 2020/21

Governor	Category	Term of Office expiry date
Jane Shaw	Community	18-05-2024
Ian Bebbington (Vice Chair)	Community	18-02-2022
Lucy Roberts	LA	06-11-2021
Vacancy	LA	
Graeme Hunter (Chair 2020-21)	LA (Additional)	31-08-2021
James Williams	LA (Additional)	31-08-2021
Vacancy	Minor Authority	
Laura Jones (Chair 2019-20)	Parent	09-10-20
Karen Pountney	Parent	21-01-2022
Claire Coote	Parent	27-11-2023
Vacancy	Parent	
Samantha Rees	Teacher	22-04-2022
Alison Ellis	Headteacher	Automatic place

A Note about Parent Governors

Parent Governors are a valuable part of the Governing Body. It is a worthwhile and rewarding role and offers you the chance to become even more involved in your child's education and to be a representative for the parents. Should you wish to find out more about becoming a parent governor, please contact the school office. Look out for any election notifications.

Contact Details for the Chair and Clerk

Chair: Mr G. Hunter, c/o Brynhafren School, Bausley, Crew Green, Shrewsbury, Powys, SY5 9AT

Clerk: Mrs Beth Groves, C/O Powys LA, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5DG

Meetings

During the academic year 2019-20, the Governing Body have met on ten occasions.

Involvement in School Life

- Listening to Learners
- Work scrutiny

- Attendance at governors meetings
- Attendance at school events and fundraisers

Policies

The following policies were **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED** by full governors and signed by the chair and the head teacher:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Pay policy

Governor Training

This year governors have attended training on:

- Effective Governance
- Safer Recruitment
- Finance
- Governor Champions
- Human Resources essentials

School Prospectus

The prospectus has been reviewed and updated and a hard copy available from the office. It will soon be available digitally on the new website.

School Structure

The school is organised into two classes with teaching and learning delivered through the medium of English, with Welsh taught as a second language.

In the academic year 2019-20 the structure of the classes are shown below.

Class	Numbers	Teacher
KS2	7 x yr6 7x yr5 5x yr 4 7x y3	Mrs Rees and Mr Buckley
FP	6 x yr 2 9x yr 1 3x Rec	Mrs Blackmore

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Numbers as of July 2018

Curriculum

All children cover Programmes of Study identified within the National Curriculum or Foundation Phase. Documents are available in the school should any parent wish to see them. The school's aim is to provide: - a broad and balanced curriculum catering for each child's physical, intellectual, emotional, social and moral well-being. In addition to the subjects, numeracy, literacy and digital competency skills are taught across the curriculum.

The school has begun to prepare for the new Wales curriculum which will be launched in 2022 based around the Four Purposes.

Promoting Healthy Living

The school follows the Welsh Government guidelines for Appetite for Life, which sets out the strategic direction and actions required to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink served in school.

School Calendar

Autumn Term 2020: Thursday 3rd September –Friday 16th October
Half Term – Monday 19th October to Friday 30th October
Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2021: Tuesday 5th January to Thursday 11th February
Half Term –Friday 12th February to Friday 19th February
Monday 22nd February to Friday 26th March

Summer Term 2021: Tuesday 13th April to Friday 28th May
Half Term – Monday 31st May to Monday 7th June
Tuesday 8th June to Friday 16^h July

The School Day

8:00 – Breakfast Club
8:40 – Morning Registration: - School start time
10:15- 10:30 – Morning Break
11:45 - Lunch
12:30 – Key Stage 2 Lunch
12:45 – Afternoon Registration
3:00 – End of School Day

Additional Learning Needs

During their school life, a child may have difficulty in a particular area of learning, when identified as requiring extra provision; their name is added to the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Register with your approval. Depending upon need children will be registered as School Action (SA) or School Action plus (SA+).

All children on the register will have a provision map detailing the extra support that they are entitled to and children who are at school action plus will have an individual education plan (IEP). The Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) is Mrs Blackmore and she meets with parents on a termly basis to discuss the IEP.

Provision for More Able and Talented (MAT) pupils is provided through careful planning by the class teacher.

The governor with responsibility for ALN is Karen Pountney.

Pupils with Disabilities

The school welcomes all children regardless of ability. Where pupils with disabilities need extra provision or adaptations, the school will work with the Local authority to ensure that these needs are catered for.

ESTYN Inspection

The last Estyn inspection took place in May 2016. Following this, a post inspection an action plan developed.

The School Development Plan

The school continued to review and to implement specific school strategies as outlined in the School Development Plan (SDP).

Focus areas for improvement this 2019-20 have been:

- Priority 1 Improve standards of the more able pupils so that they achieve the higher than expected outcomes in mathematics
- Priority 2 Improve the use of incidental Welsh across the school so that the school is accredited with the Cymraeg Campus Bronze award.
- Priority 3 Plan and implement a management of change for Curriculum for Wales: curriculum for life.
- Priority 4: Strengthen leadership at all levels

Target Setting

The school does not stand still; we are continually working to improve. By setting targets we can measure our performance and improvement.

The targets set are challenging but achievable, individual pupils have targets to aim for.

Cohorts of pupils also have targets.

Teachers set these targets because they work with your children on a daily basis; they know their strengths and areas that need to work on in order to reach their potential.

Assessment

On- entry to school in Reception pupils are assessed within their first six weeks of full time education.

At the end of years 2 and 6 teacher assessments take place and you will be informed of the Outcome or Level at which your child is working.

The core subjects assessed are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Personal and Social Development at FP
- Science at KS2

In addition to this the school carries out assessments with all children following an annual programme.

All pupils, from year 2 up, take part in National tests, in reading, procedural maths and mathematical reasoning every May. Results of these tests are provided to parents alongside their child's school report.

Due to COVID19 all national tests and assessments at the end of key stage were suspended, assessments within class continued as part of the on-going teaching and learning process

Music and Creative Arts

- Christmas Concert – Christmas Around the World in December
- Christmas Carol Service with parents and community at St Michael's Church Alberbury
- Pupils took part in the Llanfyllin Schools competition to design a logo for the new all-through Llanfyllin School – over 350 entries, Maia Rees Yr5 from Brynhafren won the competition. Maia received £200 and worked with a graphic designer to enhance the design. The new logo will be used as of September 2020.
- Mr S Leese and Mr N Evans visit the school to teach drums, piano and ukulele.

Sport

The school works closely with Ryan Davis, Welsh Sports Development Officer. The pupils have taken part in tag rugby tournaments, a swimming gala and athletics decathlon day. The school is a member of WASPS sports and would have taken part in the cross country this year though due to Covid restrictions, these were postponed.

School Clubs

During the past academic year, there have been the following clubs:

- Eco-warriors
- Film Club
- Construction Club
- Games Club
- Sports Club
- Zumba Club

Staff Training

Staff have attended training on:

- Tric a Chlic Course in the Foundation Phase to embed Welsh Phonics teaching and learning.
- KS2 staff member attended an ERW Engagement Event on the New Curriculum.
- Staff member received training on Safer Recruitment within the workplace.
- Child Protection training.
- Digital Competency Training on coding – all staff.

Working with Others

- The school works very closely with Mr R Rudge (Head of Y7) at Llanfyllin High School, our main feeder secondary school
- Also works with Welshpool School
- Moderation of all core subjects normally takes place in April though due to Covid restrictions and lockdown, this did not take place.
- We received support from Mrs Ellis, with regards to management and development of the school.
- Two teachers of the school engaged in an AOLE project with the schools in the Llanfyllin Cluster – completing work on Mathematics/Numeracy and Health and Well-being.
- 5 KS2 pupils took part in the Oswestry School Mathletes Challenge for More Able and Talented pupils – they came 2nd in the competition.
- Two MAT pupils from Yr6 attended Llanfyllin High School and participated in their Literacy, Numeracy, ICT and Science tasks.
- The school was making excellent progress towards the Bronze Certificate for the Siarter Iaith, unfortunately our certification date was in March 2020 – due to lockdown, this was postponed.

Links with Business and Community

- Severn Trent assembly on saving water.
- Countryfile Filming – KS2 pupils participated in bird box making at Lake Vyrnwy for the BBC programme Countryfile.
- Impact Assemblies and Impact Bus visits with Darren and Huw (due to Covid, Darren and Huw supported the schools by sending remote assemblies).

- Mr Lambourn's memorial Walk – from school to Rodney's Pillar and back down. Raised £1,500 in Mr Lambourn's memory split between Macmillan and ITU in Shrewsbury Hospital.
- Church Ladies from St Michael's Church in Alberbury continued to visit the school to read with pupils and conduct a weekly assembly. Plus Christingle making afternoon.
- Mrs Joan Harding volunteered her time and effort to listen to readers every Monday.
- Mrs Laura Jones of Laura Jones Fitness (and our Chair person) set a physical challenge in the run up to Christmas.
- Harvest Assembly and Parent/Pupil bread making session – led by Rev. Maxine and the Church Ladies of St Michael's Church in Alberbury.
- Book Fayre – school raised £82 for books for the library.
- Brynhafren sponsored Rev. Maxine to participate on a course that enabled Rev Maxine to deliver lessons to the pupils.
- Christmas Concert – Christmas Around the World for the parents and community.
- Carol singing at St Michael's Church in Alberbury.
- Easter activities with residents at Bethshan
- Our Space works with the pupils and their families running Saturday morning art workshops.
- The school is actively involved with the sports development officer and takes part in initiatives through him.
- Professionals from school health work with staff to support pupils medical and health needs including flu nasal spray.
- The school works closely with the Educational psychology department.
- Lake Vyrnwy KS2 Science Trip.
- Foundation Phase Santa Safari on the topic of dinosaurs.
- Whole school trip to the pantomime in Shrewsbury.
- St Michael's Church visit – carol service.
- KS2 Science Trip to Leicester National Space Centre.
- The TAF team and the school work closely together to support families.
- There are close links with the local Community Police and fire service.
- Non uniform charity fund raisers including Children in Need, Young Carers, Cancer research, Sport Relief, Macmillan.
- Foundation Phase trip to Blue Planet, Chester.
- KS2 pupils attend swimming lessons at Flash Leisure Centre.

Friends of the school

The Friends of Brynhafren support the school by raising money through organised events and opportunities. The FOB is made up of volunteer parents of the school that give their time and effort to put on a varied menu of events. Bingo nights, discos, breakfast with Santa and raffles are some of the events that have taken place.

Secondary School links

The school maintains a strong link with Llanfyllin High school. Due to Covid restrictions, the pupils' transition days were reduced though still managed a morning to see the school, meet their form tutor and talk with Mr Rudge (Head of Year 7). Mr Rudge had visited the school before Christmas to meet the pupils and talk over any concerns they may have had – this was a great benefit to the pupils. Mrs Evans from Welshpool High school visited the school to aid transition of a pupil to Welshpool High School. One of our pupils is attending Mary Webb in Sept 2020 and a lot of communication between us and them took place. Each High School maintained good lines of communication during the Covid lockdown, giving all the pupils guidance and reassurance of support during an extremely unprecedented and difficult time for all. Work packs, video links, video tours and lots of support emails were continually sent and received by the pupils in order to maintain the ease of transition.

Attendance Data

Parents, schools and LA's share legal responsibilities in respect of school attendance.

	2017/18			2018/19			2019/20 Autumn only		
	Attendance	Authorised Absence	Unauthorised Absence	Attendance	Authorised Absence	Unauthorised Absence	Attendance	Authorised Absence	Unauthorised Absence
Sch.	96.6	3.4	0	96.7	3.3	0	96.8	3.2	0

Mr Geraint Thomas is the Education Welfare Officer for the school and makes regular checks with regards to monitoring attendance across the school.

Budget

2019-2020 EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	
Delegated funds	221,580
Salaries	242,891
Premises	30,277
Supplies, office and other expenses	10,294
Total expenditure	283,462
Income	21,452
Net expenditure	261,920
Overspend brought forward	104,091
Overspend carried forward	144,431

Buildings

Through careful management of the budget, the governors are continuing to maintain and improve the standards of the school buildings and grounds.

Work carried out this year:

- Electrical repairs
- Repairs to fence

- Provision of skip to clear out
- New water heater in small kitchen
- Removal of wasp nests
- Carpet tiles renewed – Class 1
- Outside lighting repaired
- Pest control for mice in storage rooms at back of hall
- Flooring replaced in Class 3
- Ramps built for fire regulation compliance

Toilets

There are three blocks of pupils' toilets, one disabled toilet and staff toilets in school. All cleaned daily and in good condition.

The Governing Body expresses their sincere thanks to all those who supported this school, many on a voluntary basis, bringing skills from which the pupils benefit. We also wish to record our thanks to the teaching and support staff, the school secretary, the caretaker, the kitchen staff, friends of the school and all others for their continuing support and commitment. As a group we are mindful of the guidance offered by the LA and we are appreciative of that support.

This report will soon be digitally accessible via the school's new web site, as an ECO friendly school a hard copy can be available through request at the School office.