Pontarddulais Primary School

Annual Report to Parents 2020

Pontarddulais Primary School
Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2020

In line with Welsh Government Regulations the following Annual Governors Report for 2020 has been developed and is circulated so as to engage and involve parents and guardians with the workings and outcomes of the school. The Report includes details about the membership of the Governing Body, the strategies pursued and developments achieved, the financial position and actions taken on school policies and the community interface.

As well as circulating the report, Governors are available to respond to any questions that you may have, and discuss issues. Governors can initially be accessed through the school. Parents and guardians may also petition to have a meeting with the School Governors. The petition will need to be signed by 10% of parents and guardians of registered pupils or 30 parents and guardians of registered pupils (whichever number is lower). All parents may then attend the arranged meeting. We hope that this Governor's Report is helpful to you.



Yours Sincerely

Cllr. Jane Harris

Chair of Governors

Pontarddulais Primary School

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A word from the Chairperson

The content of this Governor's Report generally focuses on the activities and achievements of the school. Given the difficulties that everyone has had to manage over this year including children, parents, guardians and teachers I thought it was essential to recognise achievements and success in the context of Covid 19.

It will become apparent from the body of the Report that Pontarddulais Primary School had continued to encourage involvement, perform and help children to achieve and move forward with their engagement in learning with the support of parents, guardians and the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association.

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to express our appreciation of all the significant work carried out by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, teaching and support staff to maintain a continued focus on the learning of all the children with their diverse interests and skills during a difficult and challenging period. The staff have rapidly and flexibly implemented sophisticated technological teaching methods and learning opportunities safely and in a cheerful and positive manner despite having limited time.

It is also with pride that I on behalf of the School Governors would like to recognise the achievements of the parents, guardians and children of Pontarddulais Primary school who have accommodated to the changes required to maintain learning. These changes have been rigorously implemented at home and in the school environment with a maintenance of and development in skills in collaborating, communicating and working together in to the community environment.

The support provided to Pontarddulais Primary school has been exemplary. It is important that we all continue to collaborate and support the learning experience of our children and communicate promptly and clearly when problems arise so that our children can continue to achieve in what does look like a more hopeful future as the vaccination regime is rolled out. Please have a happy and safe Christmas.

Jane Harris



Chair of Governors

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About the Governing Body

The Governing Body consists of 18 volunteers drawn from key sections of our community, including parents, teachers, local council representatives, and representatives from the local community. They give up their time to support the School, guide strategy, review developments, monitor the budget and make decisions about future school development. They meet regularly throughout the year and have legal duties, powers and responsibilities.

Chair of Governors: Jane Harris, c/o Pontarddulais Primary School

Clerk to the Governors: Mrs S Lugg, c/o Pontarddulais Primary School

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Upper James Street
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SWANSEA
SA4 8JD

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Name			Status
Cllr	Philip	Downing	Additional Community Governor
Mrs	Sue	Lugg	Clerk to Governors
Mrs	Stephanie	Williams	Community Governor
Mr	Mathew	Fisher	Community Governor
Rev	Jason	Beynon	Community Governor
		Vacancy	Community Governor
Mr	Gareth	Davies	Headteacher
Cllr	Jane	Harris	Local Education Authority
Mr	Kevin	Griffiths	Local Education Authority
Mrs	Michelle	Broadley	Local Education Authority
		Vacancy	Local Education Authority
Mr	Dominic	Edgell	Parent Governor
Mrs	Rachel	Keatley	Parent Governor
Mrs	Ceriann	Appleby	Parent Governor
		Vacancy	Parent Governor
Mr	James	Rogers	Parent Governor
		Vacancy	Non Teaching Governor
Mrs	Cathryn	Jones	Teacher Governor
Mrs	Eira	Williams	Teacher Governor

The Full Governing Body meets at least once a term in addition to organising several committees, including: Curriculum Development and Additional Learning Needs Committee; Finance, Premises and Health and Safety Committee, and Performance Management Committee. Terms of reference have been agreed for all committees.

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Community Links

As a school, we continue to work closely with our local community. We normally hold two coffee mornings where parents, relatives, Governors, Councillors and members of the community joined us to raise money for Charity and for the school.

We have very close links with our PCSO officer and PC Parry, who regularly attend school.

Each year group has a specific focus within the Police Core programme and lots of important information and activities are being done with the whole school. These include internet safety, substance mis-use, diversity, street corner culture and people who help us. This programme ensures different aspects of the PSE curriculum are being enhanced by an outside agency as well as being delivered by staff.

Our excellent Flying Start setting continues to help families before they enter our Nursery and goes from strength to strength. They offer excellent support to parents and deliver first class provision to children. Parenting classes based in school are linked with Flying Start, which again offers excellent support.

The school works hard to support working parents by continuing to offer Breakfast Club, a third party After School Club and through the dedication and hard work of teachers and TA's, a number of sporting and nurture clubs after school and during lunchtime. This not only supports working parents but also contribute to a range of rich learning experiences and well-being.

We also continue to be home to the famous, Pontarddulais Male Voice Choir, who have been based at our school for a number of years.

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Sporting Achievements

Last academic year a variety of sport was taught and covered across the school. All year groups were taught skills from dance, gymnastics and games, including skills from sports such as football, rugby, netball, athletics, cricket and rounders.

Pupils throughout the school were given the opportunity to attend many extra-curricular sport clubs over the year. These clubs were; athletics, rugby, football, netball, yoga, multi-skills, cross country and cricket.

Pupils in Y2 – 6 had skills session from the Pontarddulais Cluster Rugby Development coach.

School Policies

We regularly review and update our school policies. Reviews are undertaken on a rolling programme, led by relevant leaders.

Review of policies ensures the inclusion of new developments, resources and methodologies particularly with the Government drive on safeguarding and raising standards in literacy and numeracy. Copies of school policies can be obtained from the school office and many are available on our school website.

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School term and holiday dates 2020/2021

Holiday dates and bank holidays

Term	Term begins	Term ends	Mid-term holiday		Term begins	Term ends	Total days
			Begins	Ends			
Autumn 2020	Tuesday 1 September	Friday 23 October	Monday 26 October	Friday 30 October	Monday 2 November	Tuesday 22 December	76
Spring 2021	Monday 4 January	Friday 12 February	Monday 15 February	Friday 19 February	Monday 22 February	Friday 26 March	55
Summer 2021	Monday 12 April	Friday 28 May	Monday 31 May	Friday 4 June	Monday 7 June	Friday 16 July	64
Total:							**195**

Bank holidays

2 April 2021 - Good Friday

5 April 2021 - Easter Monday

3 May 2021 - May Day

31 May 2021 - Spring Bank Holiday

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School Prospectus

The school prospectus has recently been reviewed and updated and has been posted on the school website. The prospectus contains information about the school's class structures and outlines the aims and vision of the school. For a full colour copy of the prospectus, please ask Mrs. Cascarini in the school office or see the school's website.

School Curriculum and ALN

The school follows the National Curriculum as laid down by the Welsh Government. We ensure that the pupils in our school receive a broad curriculum which addresses the statutory skills and range in the national curriculum. There is an emphasis also on ensuring literacy, numeracy, digital competency and thinking skills are developed across the curriculum, enabling the pupils to become more independent in their learning.

The school is organised into Nursery AM and PM and thirteen full time classes. There are five classes in Foundation Phase and eight Key Stage 2.

Teachers employ a range of teaching methods depending on the area of learning and the skills that are being considered. The development of skills is central to our teaching in order that children can gradually become independent learners.

School also receives Welsh Government funding for working closely with identified groups of learners and this process sees staff working with what we call 'intervention groups'. These groups are targeted for designated periods of time and this will be related to the children's specific needs.

The school is active in contributing to the development of a new curriculum in Wales and we are linked to developing Health and Well Being for a Curriculum for Wales, a Curriculum for life.

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The school adopts an inclusive approach towards all children and this is fully explained within the school's Special Educational Needs policy – now known as the 'Additional Learning Needs' Policy in preparation for the new Additional Learning Needs Bill.

The school uses available funding to train members of the associate staff to improve their skills in order to fulfil their roles in supporting children with respect to their specific needs. This may involve specific courses or opportunities to work with other schools.

The school also has access to an educational psychologist and other professionals employed by the Council's education and health authorities and care is taken to match the resources available to the children with needs.

ALN

We currently have **125** children on our A.L.N. register. This number is constantly changing as children either become identified for support or leave the support of school action when they make improvements.

Currently we have:

79 children on School Action

29 children on School Action +

1 child on School Action + and undergoing Statutory Assessment

6 children with a Statement of Educational Need

We provide a range of provisions for our children with additional needs:

- Speech and language link support
- Wellcomm expressive and receptive language support
- Reading Eggs Intervention
- Numicon Intervention
- Dyslexic Tendencies Screening and Assessment
- Nessy Dyslexia Intervention
- Fine Motor groups
- Gross Motor and DCD groups
- Self-Esteem groups

Pupils' needs are reviewed at least twice a year and appropriate Individual Education Plan (IEP) targets are given to children, which are worked upon and monitored by staff. Class teachers meet with the ALNco twice a year, to monitor the progress the children are making and to identify where a child needs additional ALN provision. This is compiled into a Provision Pyramid, so that all staff know the children that need group and targeted intervention.

All Annual Reviews of Statements are carried out using a Pupil Centred approach. This process will extend to the review of all children with ALN over the next three years, when the new ALNET (Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal) Act comes into place in September 2021. Mr Wilson, our school ALNco, is currently working with Swansea Council as Cluster Lead ALNco, in order to plan for the roll out of the act.

Toilet arrangements

The condition of the school toilets in Nursery, Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 is good, with toilets being cleaned on a daily basis by County cleaners. Any maintenance work is carried out as quickly as possible to ensure that access to toilet facilities is maintained at all times.

Welsh Language

The school teaches Welsh as a second language and we are very proud of our achievements and use of Welsh throughout the school. Every teacher has a regular rolling programme to learn new skills and we are one of the leading schools in Swansea in investing in the Welsh language. Three teachers have, so far, been on Welsh sabbaticals to improve their understanding and develop further skills.

Children are encouraged to use Welsh throughout the day, both inside and out of the classroom at breaktime. Incidental Welsh takes place in every lesson throughout the school.

We have a Criw Cymraeg that takes an active role in the development of Welsh and are well supported by our Athrawes Fro, employed by the Local Authority to raise provision and standards.

The school has achieved the Bronze award in the National Siarter Iaith.

Healthy Schools.

Our Healthy Schools initiative continues to be a focus and priority within the whole school. Our bi-annual National Quality Award re-assessment was due in 2020 but 'Healthy Schools Swansea' decided in light of current circumstances and the challenges facing schools with classes mixing to postpone until 2021.

We decided to prioritise 'Mental and Emotional well-being', Hygiene, Fitness and Environment during the first half term. We conducted School council elections, with one person elected to represent a class bubble. We also decided to amalgamate different roles and responsibilities that usually exist within the different pupil groups in the school into an 'Ethical team'.

We had class elections and each class now has two representatives to monitor energy usage, hygiene, recycling of paper and plastic and they are focusing on encouraging a healthy lunchbox for 'brechdanau'.

We have updated our 'Eco Action plan' and upon seeing the amount of waste generated by lunchtime changes, we have ensured that plastic bottles are being recycled and the canteen staff are now providing re-usable containers that can be washed; instead of polystyrene, which had to be thrown away.

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Citizenship has been a focus and as ever, parents, community and the school have supported initiatives to highlight 'Anti-bullying' week and Children in Need. We raised over £300 in cashless donations to SQUID for Children in Need!

Anti-bullying week was a highlight, the whole school launched the week with an 'Odd socks' day and the theme of 'United against bullying' was focused upon, with a 'Friendship Friday' rounding off the week nicely. The children all made pledges as to what they would do to be a good friend to all.

In the last few weeks, the Ethical team and School council have been busy helping to secure donations to create a 'Winter Wonderland' in our school yards. They have written to local businesses to ask for donations to help the school focus on being festive!

The Daily mile has been a focus, to ensure the children get as much fresh air and exercise as possible.

All in all, a very good beginning to what has been a very different start to the academic year.

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SCHOOL:	Pontarddulais Primary

STATEMENT OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR

	Delegated Expenditure £	Non-Delegated Expenditure £	Total Net Expenditure £
Teachers Salaries	901,534	6,968	908,502
Salaries	644,830	43,007	687,838
Other Employee Costs	152	2,438	2,590
Premises	43,380	0	43,380
Transport	3,136	17,389	20,525
Supplies & Services	161,338	0	161,338
Recharges	118,587	0	118,587
Gross Expenditure	***1,872,958***	***69,803***	***1,942,760***
Grant Income	-460,872	0	-460,872
Other Income	-135,709	0	-135,709
Gross Income	***-596,582***	***0***	***-596,582***
Net Expenditure	***1,276,376***	***69,803***	***1,346,179***

RESERVES:	**£**
FINAL FORMULA ALLOCATION:	1,257,522
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE:	1,276,376
TRANSFER TO / (FROM) RESERVES:	**(18,854)**
OPENING BALANCE ON RESERVES 01/04/19	90,545
CLOSING BALANCE ON RESERVES: 31/03/20	**71,691**