

Newbridge-on-Wye Church in Wales Primary School

*Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru
Bontnewydd*

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SCHOOL GOVERNORS ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS



ON THE
ACADEMIC YEAR
2020-2021

“Smile together, Play together, Learn together”

Introduction

Under the Education (No2) Act, School Governors are required to present an Annual report to parents, on activities and the running of the school during the past year. There is now no requirement to hold an Annual Parents Meeting unless the parents/carers of 10% of pupils petition for one for the purpose of discussing a specific matter relating to the School. (The rules are set out in sections 94 and 95 of the School Standards and Organisation(Wales) Act 2013.) If parents/carers want a Parents Meeting, they should please write to the Clerk to the Governing Body (her address is on page 5) asking for a meeting and specifying the matter to be discussed at the meeting. If there are sufficient requests, suitable arrangements will then be made.



This report is for you, as parents, to know what has happened in our school over the past year.

Mission Statement



“Smile together,

Play together,



Learn together.”



Values

Our philosophy is that Newbridge-on-Wye Church in Wales School should provide every pupil with a complete and generous education in a happy, healthy and caring environment in which they can acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to themselves and their life in Wales, and to their future in a global community. We aim to help each child enjoy a full and active life within the school community, encouraging the values of friendship, patience and consideration.

I put myself forward to be elected as the Chair of Governors after serving on the board for the past number of years as a parent Governor and in August 2021 I was successful in becoming a Local Authority Governor, which created an opportunity for a like minded parent to join the board of Governors. I have 2 children, 1 of whom still attends the school with the other now attending Ysgol Calon Cymru. The school has helped them both develop the appropriate skills for their future lives. Having seen the support that the Board of Governors gives to the school I decided that I would like to offer more support to the school during this particularly difficult time that we have all encountered. This past year has seen the school and the Board of Governors work closely to make difficult decisions and it shows how well the two support each other, which whilst I am Chair will hopefully continue.

The past year has been a difficult time for everyone as regards the ongoing pandemic, with blended learning becoming a thing that we had encountered during the previous year, but we hoped that we would not have to use too often, however we have had absences of staff and pupils and by using this style of learning we hope that there has not been too much of an impact on the pupils learning. During this time the school has worked hard in trying to keep everyone safe and the regular risk assessments that have been carried out are a testament to the dedication of the staff, to make sure that everyone did stay safe. The main positive is that the children have been able to continue with their education during this time.

As we are moving towards a "normal life" where restrictions are being lifted, there is hope that things can start to return to where they were before COVID came along, which includes educational trips etc. I know that speaking as a parent, missing these has had an impact on our children and it will be great to be moving into a position where the school is able to run them again.

It will also be good to be able hold Governor's meetings back in person rather than a mix of Teams and socially distanced, as these meetings do depend on the technology working correctly, which it doesn't always do, as you are all probably aware.

As a parent I am grateful the school has provided access, in one form or another, for my child to continue her educational journey during this past year.

Best Wishes

Philip Hobbs

Chair of Governors 2021-2022



Responsibility

The Governing Body has a collective responsibility for many aspects of the school, including its ethos, management, planning, personnel, financial, health and safety, implementing the school development plan, and promoting good links with parents and the wider community. The Head Teacher has the responsibility for the day to day management of the school. As governors we have a crucial role to play in practical terms as a supportive and critical friend to the school. We gain information about the school to enable us to monitor and evaluate the work of the school in three principle ways:

- ❖ By visiting the school
- ❖ By seeking the views of the community, parents and children
- ❖ By reading reports and discussing information at meetings.

Each member of the Governing Body has a different areas of responsibility as outlined opposite.

Name	Appointed or elected by /End of Term of Office	Specific Responsibilities <u>As at 1st October 2020</u>
Mr Phillip Hobbs (Chair) 4 Lon-Yr-App, Newbridge-on-Wye, LD1 6LX	Parent Governor 06/01/2025	Chair, Health & Safety, After School Club
Miss Jennie Rees (Vice Chair)	Parent Governor 30 th September 2022	Vice-Chair, Healthy Schools, Literacy
Ms Lorraine Jenkin	Parent Governor 30 th April 2021	Equality.
Ms Blue MacAskill	Parent Governor 31 May 2022	Attendance and Wellbeing, Assessment, Grants
Mr Julian Gibson-Watt	LEA 31 st August 2024	Child Protection & Safeguarding, Data, Induction
Cllr Claire Mills	LEA 31 st July 2021	Additional Learning / Special Educational Needs (ALN/SEN)
(vacant)	LEA Governor	
	Foundation - Church Ex-officio	Religious Education / Collective Worship
Mrs Emma Wallace	Foundation - Church October 2018	Pre-School Setting
(vacant)	Foundation -Church 2022	
(vacant)	Community Council	
Mr Mike Hobbs	Community governor 31 st August 2021	Numeracy, Training
Miss Samantha Williams	Teaching Staff	
Mrs Sian Rees	Non-teaching Staff 18 th September 2023	
Mrs Helen Nixon	Head Teacher Ex Officio	

Clerk to the Governing Body: Mrs S. Humphreys, c/o The School, Newbridge-on-Wye, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6LD

School Staff 2020/21

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Teaching Staff

Mrs Helen Nixon	Headteacher, Teacher – Dosbarth Bedwen
Miss Samantha Williams	Deputy Headteacher, Teacher – Dosbarth Helygen
Miss Michelle Pugh/Mr Wilkinson	Teacher – Dosbarth Ceiriosen
Mrs Victoria Butters/Miss Sophie Fell	Teacher – Dosbarth Derwen
Mrs Juliette Thomas	Part time teacher – Dosbarth Bedwen and Dosbarth Derwen

Support Staff

Mrs Liz Towns	Teaching Assistant Foundation Phase/MAT/Forest Schools Leader
Mrs Amanda Jones	Teaching Assistant Foundation Phase
Miss Carly Rees	Teaching Assistant Foundation Phase/PDG/ALN
Miss Emma Jones	Teaching Assistant FP/ALN
Mrs Suzanne Jones	Teaching Assistant Dosbarth Derwen/Forest Schools Leader
Mrs Sian Rees	Teaching Assistant Dosbarth Bedwen/ALN/Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Rachael Blakeway	Teaching Assistant Dosbarth Ceiriosen
Miss Amelia Morgan	Teaching Assistant Dosbarth Helygen
Mrs Susan Humpheys	Clerical Assistant/Clerk to the Governing Body/Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Sue Williams	School Cook

Breakfast Club Staff

Mrs Sue Williams
Mrs Suzanne Jones
Mrs Amanda Jones

3 Year Setting Staff

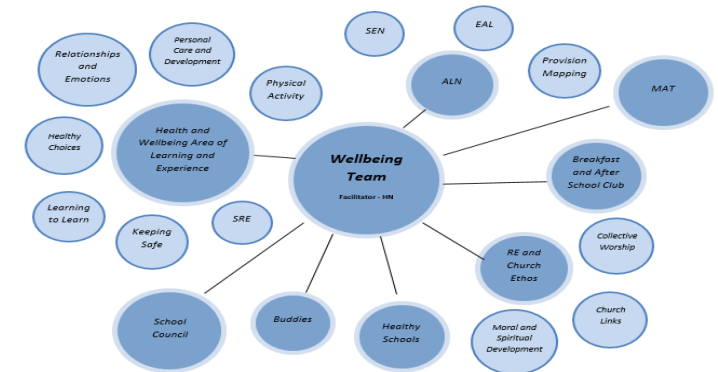
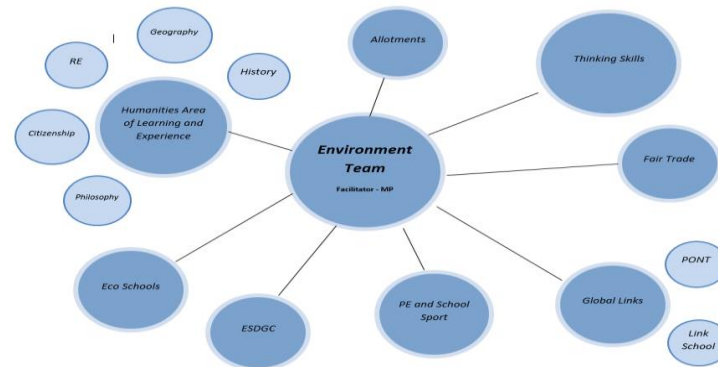
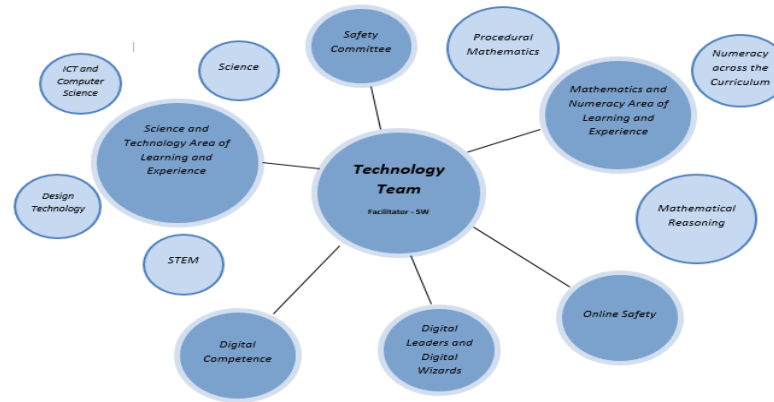
Mrs Michelle- Harvard Pratt
Mrs Hannah Morris
Mrs Rachael Blakeway

Cleaning Staff

Mrs Karen Snooke – Cleaner in Charge
Mrs Lesley Bingley

School Teams

A Class Teacher is responsible as Subject Co-Ordinator for each Curriculum Subject or Area of Learning, but instead of an individual Governor having matching responsibility, each subject or area of school life is allocated to one of 4 Teams. Each Team includes different teachers, support staff and governors and senior pupils sometimes attend meetings.



Topics covered over the last year

Foundation Phase

Dosbarth Ceiriosen

'In my paint box'
 'Once upon a time'
 'Growing and changing'

Dosbarth Helygen

Incredible Inventions
 Space
 'Proud to be Welsh'
 Castles

The Foundation Phase is the statutory curriculum for 3- to 7-year-olds in Wales. The Foundation Phase at Newbridge on Wye includes children from the 3-year setting, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently organised across two classes, Reception and Year 1 in Dosbarth Ceiriosen and Year 2 with the Year 3 pupils in Dosbarth Helygen. Miss Samantha Williams is our Foundation Phase Lead Teacher, supported by Miss Michelle Pugh and by Mrs Michelle Havard-Pratt in the three-year setting.

During the school closure period the Seesaw learning platform was used to facilitate learning across the Foundation Phase. A massive thank you for the engagement in the learning tasks and for working so hard to ensure learning could continue during this difficult time.



Key Stage 2

Topics covered over the last year

Dosbarth Derwen

'Prehistoric World'
'World Beneath the Waves'
'Rainforest Rumble'

Dosbarth Bedwen

'Early People'
'Africa'
'Food Glorious Food'

Our key stage two pupils are split over two classes, Year 4 and 5 taught initially by Mrs Butters and then Miss Fell and Year 6 taught by Mrs Nixon and Mrs Thomas. At key stage two, pupils follow the national curriculum and class topics allow pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding of a broad range of concepts. Pupils at Newbridge-on-Wye benefit from a creative curriculum and staff provide meaningful opportunities for skills development.

During the lockdown period Key Stage Two staff developed blended learning through the Google for Education platform, setting weekly tasks for home learning. A huge thank you for the efforts put in and the patience shown as we worked to develop our blended learning approach.



Inspection

School Development Plan 2020 -21

The school was subject to a successful Estyn inspection in June 2018. The school was rated as 'good' by the Estyn inspectors in all categories. The report states that the school provides strong, caring leadership and promotes effective team working and positive behaviour.

"All teachers and adults have high expectations of pupils. As a result, nearly all pupils make good progress in their learning."

Overall, the inspection process proved to be a very positive experience for the school and its pupils. Estyn inspectors commented that communication from the school is particularly effective. The school is very proud of this result and would like to thank all those who contributed to this successful outcome. The full report is accessible at www.estyn.gov.wales.

- ▶ **Priority 1:** Develop and refine the school's arrangements for blended learning
- ▶ **Priority 2:** Develop and maintain provision and support for the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of all learners and staff
- ▶ **Priority 3:** Review practice and provision across the school, in order to implement the new curriculum in Wales

Child Protection and Safeguarding

“Safeguarding” covers the whole process of keeping pupils safe and well at school and helping to educate them to deal with the various hazards which they will face in adolescence and later life. It includes such matters as Health and Safety, Site Security, First Aid and Medication, Behaviour and Discipline, Anti-Bullying, Physical Restraint of Pupils, Attendance, Safe Staff Recruitment and Induction, Sex and Relationships Education, Personal and Social Development Well Being and Cultural Diversity Education, Equality, Data Protection, Photographing of Pupils and e-Safety. “Child Protection”, which is an important part of Safeguarding, covers the protection of children from abuse or the risk of abuse, as defined in the Children Acts. The School has adopted the Powys County Council model Safeguarding Policy (with slight adaptations to make it suitable for our School). In November 2016 we adopted the ERW model Child Protection Policy in place of the previous PCC model policy. Copies of the current Policies are available on the School website or on request from the School office.

By law, if staff have a child protection concern about a pupil, they are required to refer the concern to Social Services, possibly without telling the pupil's parent/carer. It may also be necessary to share information about a pupil with other agencies. This happens from time to time in all schools including Newbridge. In following this procedure, staff are not making any judgement, they are simply carrying out their legal duty and a failure to refer a concern would be a disciplinary offence by the member of staff responsible.

The Governing Body receives a report from the Head Teacher on Child Protection and Safeguarding annually at its July meeting, when it reviews relevant policies and procedures.

The Designated Person responsible for Child Protection / Safeguarding is the Head Teacher, Mrs Nixon. Her designated Deputy is Miss Williams. The Nominated Governor responsible for Child Protection / Safeguarding is Mr D J Gibson-Watt. The staff training programme during the year has resulted in 3 members of staff now being trained to Child Protection Level 3.

Additional Learning Needs

Here at Newbridge-on-Wye School we endeavour to offer every pupil the support and help they need to enable them to reach their full potential. Each pupil is monitored throughout the year to assess whether any extra support is required and parents are kept informed of any changes via Individual Provision Maps (IPM's). Parents are invited in to discuss their child's progress and are asked to contribute when setting targets at three points during the school year.

Foundation Phase: Eight pupils on 'School Action', no pupils on 'School Action Plus'.

Key Stage 2: Eight pupils on 'School Action' and Six on 'School Action Plus'. One child with EAL.

Basic skills catch up programmes are used to provide targeted intervention to pupils who require extra support in numeracy and literacy, sessions are tailored to the child's individual needs. These pupils may have individual or group provision maps.

More Able and Talented

At any one time, Newbridge-on-Wye Primary School will have a number of more able, gifted or talented pupils. We recognise that these pupils have specific learning needs that must be addressed. We use a range of assessment tools to identify these children who are then placed on the More Able and Talented Register. Following identification, opportunities for extension, enhancement and enrichment are provided to allow our MAT pupils to flourish and achieve their full potential. We believe that by addressing the learning needs of the More Able and Talented pupils, teaching and learning throughout the School will also be enhanced. In addition, we feel that these pupils will benefit most where there is a personalised approach to learning and where pupils have more control over how and what they learn. Pupils identified as being more able and talented have personalised individual or group provision maps which outline any challenge or opportunities they are provided with. Identified pupils and their parents are asked to contribute to their provision maps during open evenings. Opportunities are sought for these pupils to access wider opportunities to enhance and develop their skills.

Highlights of the Year

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School Virtual Eisteddfod

Foundation Phase and
KS2 Christmas
Productions

Eco Week

Eco Platinum Renewal

Work on Developing our
school vision

Sports Week

Mrs Butters and Miss Rees
welcomed two
wonderful babies into the
world

Online Harvest Service

School Council

“The pupil voice is very strong in this school”
NQA Report 2014

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Elected Members of the School Council met for the AGM in April. Due to the pandemic this was the first School Council Meeting of the year. The Meeting took place via Microsoft teams with council members from each class attending remotely. The meeting proved a valuable opportunity for senior members of the School Council to introduce themselves to the younger members. The protocols of electing new officials were observed with members nominated and seconded by members before conducting a vote and filling the vacant posts. Mrs Nixon observed School Councillors had acted in a most disciplined manner and should be congratulated for the way they had responded to this task .

The School Council representatives for 2020\2021 were:

Chairperson: Billi Chance

Vice Chair: Eifion Surian Holder

Secretary: Sam Nixon

Staff representatives: Mrs H Nixon
and Mrs S Humphreys

Healthy Schools Committee

Healthy Schools Committee Activities 2020-21

The Healthy School committee was restricted to online meetings due to Covid during this year but were still able to plan a limited amount of activities.

Raised in our action plan was the need to educate the children about need for healthy eating and exercise particularly in 'covid times'. A fantastic assembly with PowerPoint and quiz was delivered by Healthy Schools children in Dosbarth Derwen in the summer 2021 via teams to the whole school. Children in KS2 started doing lunch box checks and giving out stickers for healthy lunch boxes (within their class bubbles), due to covid the need to put posters up about washing hands and hygiene wasn't necessary as it was already being done.

Unfortunately many of the ideas we had in our action plan for 'sampling healthy foods' and 'Morning moving' didn't happen due to Covid restrictions.

The Committee representatives for 2020-21 were:

Chairperson: Billi Chance
Vice Chair: Aiden Hammond

Secretary: Charlie Couzens
Vice Secretary: Wyatt

Staff representatives: Mrs Juliette Thomas and Mrs S Jones

Buddies

The Buddy group has continued its work in supporting pupils at break and lunchtimes. The Buddy group feel strongly about making playtimes fun and ensuring all pupils are able to 'Smile together, Play together and Learn together'. The group develop fresh ideas for our playgrounds, purchase and look after equipment and teach pupils new games. Worked closely with Criw Cymraeg to keep ideas fresh and activities varied. The Buddy committee are aiming to promote the school's anti bullying values by carrying out KiVa lessons and assemblies with the rest of the school throughout the year.

The Buddy representatives for 2019/20 were:

Chairperson: Alice Samuel

Secretary: Caitlin Wallace

Staff representatives: Mrs S Rees and Miss C Rees

Safety Committee

2020-2021 saw the Safety Committee move 'online' for the first time! We had one committee meeting via Microsoft Teams whereby we discussed issues regarding safety matters around the school. Our online meeting was a lovely opportunity for pupils in both Key Stages to share ideas and concerns. We talked about the important safety measures put in place as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and all agreed that these were needed in order to keep our school as safe as possible. The Safety Committee very much hope to be able to meet in person very soon!

The Safety Committee representatives for 2020/21 were:

Chairperson: Rhys Abberley

Secretary: Isaac Woods

Staff representatives: Miss S Williams and Mrs A Jones

Eco Committee

2020/2021 proved to be a very unusual year however this didn't stop the Eco Committee from gaining the 'Platinum Award' for Eco Schools Wales and work produced in Newbridge on Wye Church in Wales School was described by Eco Schools Wales as 'exemplary'.

The committee organised an Eco Week during blended learning. They provided KS2 pupils with a vast variety of activities to complete at home to help and encourage a more sustainable lifestyle.

Foundation Phase were in back in school during Eco Week and thoroughly enjoyed creating 'bags for life' and reusable food produce bags by reusing and recycling items.

The Eco-Committee put together an action plan where the main focus was reducing litter. They worked very hard to reduce litter around the school grounds and in the village by going on several litter picks during the Summer Term.

Sadly our annual Ground Force Day couldn't run in the same way but the Eco Committee quickly devised a plan and set to work transforming the school grounds within their own bubbles. Thank you to the parents and carers for their wonderful compost and plant donations this year. We look forward to another successful year ahead.

The Eco Committee representatives for 2020/2021 were:

Chairperson:
Sam Nixon

Secretary:
Abdullah

Teacher Rep: Miss
Michelle Pugh
and Mrs Liz Towns

Criw Cymraeg

Activities of the Criw Cymraeg 2020/2021:

The committee have had a busy year continuing to develop the Welsh ethos within the school. We helped organise the online School Eisteddfod. Upon our return to school, we held a committee meeting to discuss the use of our Welsh in school. Following the meeting, Criw Cymraeg representatives led weekly assemblies for the whole school via Teams. We are now working towards the Cymraeg Campus Silver Award.

Unfortunately, our Mascot, Dewi Draig has not been able to go home with a pupil or enter each classroom. Therefore, our year 6 committee members created certificates for each class to reward those using Welsh across the school.

The Committee representatives for 2020/21 were:

Chairperson: Evie Jones
Vice Chair: Jade Wright

Secretary: Niamh Bowen
Vice Secretary: Mason Davies

Staff representatives: Mrs Butters/
Miss Fell and Miss Jones

Forest Schools

The school have two qualified Forest School Practitioners in Mrs Liz Towns and Mrs Suzanne Jones. Both staff members work tirelessly to provide all year groups with Forest School provision. Forest school sessions provide pupils with the opportunity to become ambitious, capable learners who are competent in identifying and solving problems. During a difficult year these sessions were a real tonic, providing a calm and somewhat normal space for learning and thriving.



Cultural and Community Links

- ▶ Developing the school's vision for the New Curriculum with pupils, parents and the wider community
- ▶ Olympic Scarecrow Competition with class and wider community entries
- ▶ Online Harvest Festival Celebration
- ▶ Fair Trade/ECO Fortnight
- ▶ Remembrance Day Activities
- ▶ Sports Week organised by Dosbarth Bedwen

Fundraising

- ▶ Covid-19 restrictions limited the fundraising activities, however we still managed to support a number of charities over the last year, including Comic Relief, Children in Need and Save the Children to name a few.
- ▶ Our pupils show great empathy and commitment when organising charity fundraisers and each year the school agrees on a number of charities and worthwhile causes to support.

Friends of the School

The academic year September 2020- July 2021 continued to be a challenging time for the school - our pupils, parents and teachers. Needless to say that during this period, we were sadly not able to carry out many of our normal scheduled and planned activities for the benefit and enjoyment of the children. However, we are delighted to report that despite the challenges, we were able to support the school in the following ways:

- Purchase of 4 x HP Chromebooks
- Purchase of 2 X Dyslexia C-Pen Readers
- Purchase of an outdoor picnic table
- Purchase of outdoor clothing and waterproofs for the Forest School
- Purchase of outdoor equipment - tarpaulins and terrace covers
- Purchase of new books for the children
- Purchase of an online Schools Panto package
- Coordination of fundraising through the school Christmas Cards scheme
- Purchase of hot chocolate and milk for Forest School
- Purchase of new netball posts
- Purchase of gifts for teachers from the pupils
- Purchase of School Leavers Books
- Purchase of 19 x Scientific Casio Calculators
- Purchase of equipment for the Forest School: including penknives, secateurs, palm drills and a BBQ Rack
- Purchase of School Book Bags for Reception children
- Purchase of wooden medals for all children as a memento of their hard work through the periods of Lockdown.

2021 - 2022

Due to the hard work and commitment from the previous Friends Committees, we currently have a very healthy £7,255 worth of funds available to support the school, and very much look forward to speaking to Mrs Nixon and the School Governors to understand how this money can be spent to support priorities for our school and pupils.

We are holding a Christmas Fayre on Sunday December 5th from 2-5pm, which we hope will be really well supported! As a new Committee, we are in the process of making plans for further activities for the remainder of the academic year 2021-22, which we very much look forward to sharing with you soon.

Contact us

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Website: www.newbridge.powys.sch.uk



“Smile together, Play together, Learn together”