



Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2024-2025

Message From The Chair of Governors

Wrth i flwyddyn brysur arall ddod i ben, ar ran Llywodraethwyr Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail, mae'n bleser gen i gyflwyno'r adroddiad hwn i chi ar weithgarwch 2024-25. Roedd hi'n flwyddyn lwyddiannus i'r ysgol, gan gynnwys ymweliad gan Estyn yn nhymor y gwanwyn. Mae'r ysgol nawr yn gweithio ar yr argymhellion. Trist iawn oedd ffarwelio â Mr Aled Hughes, ond mae wedi bod yn bleser croesawu Miss Harriet John a Miss Natasha Doyle, dwy o'n cyn-ddisgyblion sydd wedi ailymuno â theulu Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail. Diolch yn fawr iawn i Miss Downes a phob un o'r staff am eu gwaith caled yn sicrhau bod gan ddisgyblion ein hysgol yr hyder, y wybodaeth a'r sgiliau i ffynnu fel dysgwyr gydol oes ac fel aelodau o gymuned ysgol gynhwysol ac iach. Os byddwch chi byth eisiau sgwrs gyda fi am unrhyw agwedd ar waith yr ysgol, mae croeso i chi gysylltu.

As another busy year draws to a close, on behalf of the governing body at Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail, it is my pleasure to present this report on the school's activities in 2024-25. It was a successful year for the school, including the Estyn inspection in the spring term. The school is now working to implement the recommendations. It was sad to part with Mr Aled Hughes, but it has been a pleasure to welcome Miss Harriet John and Miss Natasha Dolye, two former pupils who have returned to the Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail family. A huge thanks to Miss Downes and all the staff for their hard work ensuring that our pupils have the confidence, the knowledge and the skills to thrive as lifelong learners and as members of an inclusive and healthy school community. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the school's work with me, please get in touch.

Helen Prosser



Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail



Clerk to the Governing Body

The Clerk to the Governing Body is Mrs Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion, Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon, CF45 4SN.

Chairperson of the Governing Body

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Helen Prosser c/o Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail, Martin Crescent, Tonyrefail, Rhondda Cynon Taf, CF39 8NT.

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Retirement Date
Mrs H Prosser	LEA	Council Members	19/11/2027
Mrs B Cameron	Parent	Parents	20/03/2026
Mrs A Spooner			31/10/2026
Mrs D Barwick			07/02/2028
Mrs A Phillips			19/11/2028
Mr L Owen	Community Governor	Governing Body	23/11/2025
Mrs L Middleton			16/07/2028
Mrs D Walters			13/11/2028
Cllr J Abbott	Minor Authority (If applicable)	Community Council	31/08/2027
Miss C Hughes	Teacher	Teaching Staff	12/10/2029
Mrs S Jones	Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	03/11/2028
Miss N Downes	Headteacher		

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows:

- 3 L.A. Representatives
- 4 Parent Governors
- 3 Community Governors
- 1 Minor Authority Representative
- 1 Teacher Representative
- 1 Support Staff Representative
- 1 Head Teacher



School Development Plan 2024 -2025

The School Development Plan for the 2024-2025 academic year was approved by Governors and were regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

PRIORITY 1	Digital Competence A range of digital skills have been successfully developed across the Progression Steps to enhance learning. Staff in Progression Steps 1 and 2 have received targeted training to familiarise themselves with the Digital Competence Framework, ensuring that relevant strands are embedded throughout teaching. Pupils in these steps have become confident in using J2E on HWB, and pupil voice has been used to evaluate its effectiveness in supporting learning. Additionally, learners' understanding of e-safety has been deepened, promoting responsible and safe use of technology across the curriculum.
PRIORITY 2	Languages, Literacy and Communication The school has successfully revisited opportunities for pupils to write for a range of purposes and genres, ensuring tasks are increasingly skill-specific to raise standards and improve accuracy. Earlier development of independent writing skills has reduced reliance on scaffolds, while bespoke extended writing opportunities have been embedded across different Areas of Learning. Written skills have been reviewed with a strong focus on using feedback as a tool for improvement, and pupil voice has been integral in shaping these approaches to ensure they meet learners' needs effectively.
PRIORITY 3	Ensure effective use of feedback as a means for pupils to improve their learning Whole-school training led by Gareth Coombes, who is an experienced independent education adviser, has taken place to strengthen consistency in the effective use of feedback, both oral and written, supporting pupils to take the next steps in their learning. Pupils are beginning to improve their work independently by referring to success criteria and responding to feedback from peers and teachers, while metacognitive strategies have been introduced to help them take greater responsibility for their learning. Information has been shared with stakeholders about these processes, and pupil voice has been used to evaluate opportunities for independent improvement. While significant progress has been made, some aspects require further refinement and will therefore be carried forward into the next School Development Plan.
PRIORITY 4	Health and Wellbeing The school has successfully implemented whole-school activities that reflect our core values of respect, happiness, and diversity. The Wellbeing Carousel for Years 3–6 has provided pupils with engaging opportunities to explore emotional wellbeing, complemented by ongoing refinement of our provision through Shine and SHRN surveys. Initiatives to build self-confidence and independence have been strengthened by promoting metacognition. Collaboration with stakeholders has supported improvements in pupil attendance, while pupil voice continues to play a vital role in shaping and evaluating these strategies to ensure they meet learners' needs effectively.

School News

Diolch yn fawr i @MewnCymeriad a Llion Williams am ddrama arbennig 'Taith yr Iaith' i Flwyddyn 3 a 4 heddiw. @CSC_Cymraeg @CSCSiarterlaith



Darganfyddodd Blwyddyn 5 a 6 hanes yr iaith Gymraeg yng nghwmni @MewnCymeriad yn sioe wych 'Taith yr Iaith' heddiw. @CSC_Cymraeg @CSCSiarterlaith



Mae Blwyddyn 3 a 4 wedi jio yn y jambori 😊
Diolch @Urdd @MartynGeraint 😊
@CSC_Cymraeg @CSCSiarterlaith



Y Cyngor ysgol yn codi arian er mwyn cefnogi'r elusen Macmillan.
The School Council raising money to support the Macmillan charity.



Cyngor ysgol yn ymweld â'r @coopuk Tonyrefail heddiw i drafod a phrynu cynnyrch Masnach Deg. Thanks to the staff @coopuk in Tonyrefail for contributing to our Fairtrade project. A fantastic experience.
@CscHumanities @FairtradeUK #masnachdeg @FairTradeWales



Blwyddyn 6 ar eu diwrnod trosglwyddo yn @YsgolLlanhari. Pawb yn mwynhau y gweithgareddau!
Year 6 are enjoying the activities on their transition day at @YsgolLlanhari.
@CSCJES



School News

Cafodd Blwyddyn 6 ymweliad i Fferm Solar Coed-Elai heddiw. Diolch i staff @VitalEnergy a @RCTCouncil am y croeso a'r cyflwyniadau. Thanks to the staff of @VitalEnergy and @RCTCouncil for giving year 6 an interesting tour of the Coedely Solar farm today. @CSCJES @STEMLearningUK



Diolch yn fawr i gwmni Services Design Solution (SDS) am gyfrannu llyfrau Gwyddoniaeth newydd i'r ysgol. Many thanks to Services Design Solution (SDS) for contributing 15 new science books to the school. @CSCJES



Diolch i Ganolfan Ailgylchu Bryn Pica am fore gwych. Mwynheuodd ein Cyngor Eco y profiad! Thanks to the Bryn Pica Recycling Centre for an amazing morning. Our Eco Council thoroughly enjoyed the experience! @RCTCouncil



Plant y Cyngor Ysgol yn cyflwyno sic o £804 i Sue, Steve a Saxon y ci o Gymdeithas Cŵn Tywys y Deillion. An amazing £804 was raised by Progression Step 1 & 2 pupils for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Gwaith gwych blant! 😊



Profiad y Nadolig / Christmas Experience. Diolch i'r Parch Belinda a ffrindiau Eglwys Dewi Sant am rannu stori profiad y Nadolig gyda Blwyddyn 2. Thank you to St David's Church for sharing the Christmas experience with our Year 2 pupils. Profiad arbennig.



Mae Blwyddyn 3 wedi mwynhau trip gwych i Gastell Caerdydd heddiw i ddysgu am fywyd yn ystod yr Ail Ryfel Byd. Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Cardiff Castle today to learn about life during WW2.



School News

Cafodd Blwyddyn 5 a 6 ymweliad gwych i'r @SeneddWales ym Mae Caerdydd heddiw.
Year 5 and 6 had a great day visiting the Senedd today.
@CSCSiarteriaith @CSCJES



Fe aeth y Criw Cymraeg am dro i'r pentref heddiw i hybu siarad Cymraeg yn y gymuned i ddathlu Diwrnod Shwmae Shwmae!
The Criw Cymraeg went to the village today to promote learning Welsh in the community to celebrate Diwrnod Shwmae Shwmae. #siarteriaith



Dathlu Diwrnod Shwmae Shwmae gyda brigau a dail ym Mlwyddyn 1 heddiw. Celebrating Diwrnod Shwmae Shwmae with leaves and twigs today. 🍁🍁🍁 #siarteriaith



Diolch i'r disgyblion a ddaeth i gynrychioli'r ysgol yng ngwasanaeth Sul y Cofio. Thank you to the pupils who represented the school at the Remembrance Day Service.



Diolch o galon i'n cyn-ddisgybl Gwynfor Dafydd am ymweld â'r ysgol heddiw i rannu ei brofiad o ennill Coron @eisteddfod 2024 ym Mhontypridd. @LIC_Addysg @CSCCymraeg @CSCSiarteriaith



Cafodd Blwyddyn 5 a 4 llawer o hwyl heddiw yn ymweld â Senedd Cymru. Year 5 and 4 had a great experience today when we visited the Welsh Assembly @SeneddWales @CSCJES





Gwobr Aur y Siarter Iaith / Language Charter Gold Award

We are pleased to share that the school has achieved the **Siarter Iaith Gold Standard / Gwobr Aur**, reflecting our commitment to promoting the Welsh language and culture. This success is thanks to the hard work of our **Criw Cymraeg**, who have led initiatives both within the school and in the wider community to embed the principles of Siarter Iaith. We also appreciate the support of pupils, staff, parents, and governors in helping us reach this important milestone.

National Museum of Wales & The Edina Trust Spring Bulb Project

Pupils in Mr. Hughes' class won third place throughout Wales with a high commendation for their work on studying the growth of spring bulbs in conjunction with the National Museum of Wales and the Edina Trust.

RCT Christmas Card RE-cycling Competition

We would like to thank the Eco Council for organising the recycling of Christmas cards. The school was awarded second prize in the RCT competition for this initiative. We also extend our thanks to parents and families for their support in making this achievement possible.

Eisteddfod yr Urdd

Pupils achieved success in singing, recitation, and art and craft competitions at both the Eisteddfod Cylch yr Urdd held at Ysgol Llanhari and the County Eisteddfod held in Maesteg. They thoroughly enjoyed taking part in these events, which provided valuable opportunities to celebrate Welsh culture and showcase their talents.

Christmas Entrepreneurship Project

Our entrepreneurship project to design, create, and sell Christmas decorations was highly successful again this year. Throughout the process, pupils developed a wide range of skills, including creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork. The project generated a profit, which the children chose to reinvest by purchasing resources for their classes, giving them a real sense of ownership and responsibility.

Sporting Aims and Achievements

Pupils take part in numerous sporting activities throughout the year including: swimming and basket-ball lessons for all Progression Stage 3 pupils, Year 2 pupils also receive basketball lessons.

The school's football, rugby and basketball teams competed in numerous tournaments.

Sporting activities also take place in afterschool clubs, training workshops, outdoor learning, School Sports Day and during Team Building activities.

We have two RCT Sport Ambassadors who help arrange sporting activities within the school.



Post Inspection Action Plan (PIAP)

The Governing Body is very pleased with the positive outcomes of the ESTYN inspection carried out in March. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the children, staff, parents for their hard work and commitment in achieving these results. We are now focusing on the recommendations outlined in the report, which have been incorporated into our current School Development Plan as part of the Post Inspection Action Plan to ensure continued improvement and excellence within the ARP. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated as we work together to achieve these goals.

Recommendations:

Estyn have made three recommendations to help the school continue to improve

R1. Challenge all pupils by ensuring consistency in teaching practices across the school

R2. Ensure that the quality of teachers' feedback identifies the next steps in pupils' learning correctly

R3. Improve the quality and provision of outdoor learning experiences

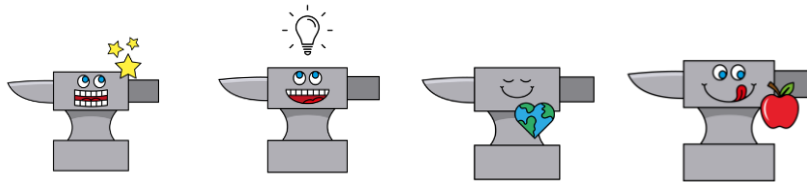
School Development Plan 2025-2026	
PRIORITY 1	<p>Challenge all pupils by ensuring consistency in teaching practices across the school</p> <p>INSET session will be delivered to focus on aligning teaching across the school and ensuring consistency and progression in continuous and enhanced provision. Staff will attend relevant courses and share feedback during staff meetings to support professional development. Opportunities will be provided for teachers to observe good practice within the school, and cluster work will continue through collaboration and shared INSET at Llanhari, where progress will be discussed and books and evidence reviewed. Monitoring will take place regularly through lesson observations and book scrutiny to ensure high standards of teaching and learning are maintained.</p>
PRIORITY 2	<p>A meeting will be held to revisit Gareth Coombes' feedback materials, focusing on ensuring consistency in the effective use of both verbal and written feedback to support pupils in taking the next steps in their learning. Lesson books will be monitored to evaluate how teachers and staff use feedback to improve pupils' work, and joint book scrutiny will take place during staff meetings. Monitoring and evaluation will also consider opportunities for pupils to improve their work independently by referring to success criteria and responding to feedback from peers and teachers. Additionally, pupils will be supported to develop their metacognitive skills and take increasing responsibility for the next steps in their learning by reflecting on previous feedback and targets when completing new tasks.</p>
PRIORITY 3	<p>Improve the quality and provision of outdoor learning experiences</p> <p>As part of our School Development Plan, we will build on the recent visit and learning walk by Cath Delve, independent primary school advisor, by creating a detailed action plan to enhance outdoor learning provision. Staff will take part in an INSET session to review current practice and identify steps for improvement, with termly monitoring in place to assess progress. Following Cath Delve's training, resources will be purchased to support and enrich outdoor learning experiences. We will also develop the Outdoor Classroom as part of the Federation of Welsh Schools project and engage in cluster work by visiting another school to observe and share good practice.</p>
PRIORITY 4	<p>Health and Wellbeing: introducing the Jigsaw programme to improve students' health and wellbeing</p> <p>The school has invested in the Jigsaw Health and Wellbeing whole-school resource to support the effective delivery of our wellbeing curriculum. To ensure successful implementation, a comprehensive INSET session will be provided for all staff, introducing the Jigsaw programme and its key components. A whole-school assembly will launch the scheme to pupils, including the characters associated with each class, followed by weekly assemblies for each Progression Step to present different aspects of the programme. The development and use of Jigsaw resources will be monitored across the school, with feedback and examples of good practice shared among staff. Pupil voice will play a key role, allowing children to provide input and share their opinions on the scheme.</p>

Curriculum

We have continued to work both as a school and as a cluster in developing Curriculum for Wales. The curriculum is based on the 4 purposes and 6 Areas of Learning and Experience. The curriculum is mainly taught thematically – where this is appropriate for the subject matter and skills being taught. We use a variety of teaching and learning methods depending on the nature of the task.

Four Purposes

- Ambitious and capable learners: who are ready to learn throughout their lives
- Enterprising, creative contributors: who are ready to play a full part in life and work
- Ethical, informed citizens: who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.
- Healthy, confident individuals: who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society



Six Areas of Learning

- Expressive Arts
- Health and Well-being
- Humanities
- Languages, Literacy and communications
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Science and Technology



Additional Learning Needs

The school's policy for the Assessment of and Provision for Pupils with Additional Learning Needs is summarised as follows:

The school's policy for the identification, assessment and provision for pupils with additional learning needs is consistent with the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales (approved by the Senedd on 23rd March 2021) under section 4 of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.

The school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) works closely with all other members of staff to ensure that individual educational plans are developed and implemented to meet the needs of pupils, appropriate to those who require them.

The ALNCo also liaises with all members of staff, to ensure that the progress of all pupils is regularly monitored and assessed and to ensure that each pupil reaches his or her potential.

During the academic year 2024/2025 - 3 pupils were in receipt of an Individual Development Plan (IDP)

Access for Disabled Pupils

The Governing Body is mindful of the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) 2001 in drawing up the School Development Plan/Post Inspection Action Plan, and the day-to-day operation of the whole site.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils are able to participate in the school curriculum and (where they desire) in activities such as after school clubs, leisure/sporting events and educational visits. All aspects of accessibility, including access to written information are included in the planning process.

The Authority has in place an Accessibility Strategy Plan and in line with this strategy has had an audit of the school site undertaken, as part of an Authority wide brief, to identify any potential barriers and to improve the access to the school.

Fabric of the Building & Provision of Toilet Facilities

The building is generally in a good state of repair. Over the past year the following refurbishment/repairs have been carried out. School perimeter fencing has been upgraded to meet with safeguarding requirements.

Our school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. Toilets are cleaned on a daily basis.

Use of the Welsh Language – Communication

Welsh Language Charter:
Seren and Sbarc



Since we are a designated Welsh school, Welsh is the official language of the school, and it is used for every aspect of the curriculum. Pupils become completely bilingual by the time they leave the school at the age of 11. We are privileged to be able to enjoy the cultural riches of Wales through the medium of two languages.

Community Focused Schools

A community-focused school is one that provides a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community. Across Wales many schools already provide some community services including adult education, study support, ICT facilities and community sports programmes.

The development of community-focused schools is not just a short-term project or initiative, but a real opportunity for schools and communities to work together in new ways for the future benefit of children, young people and adults.

At our school we have:

- Breakfast Club
- Wraparound and after school care service provided by Flourish Cymru
- Cylch Meithrin Cwm Elai on site which is a Flying Start and a Registered Education Provider
- U3A Welsh language sessions held at the school

The school has close links with the following groups in the community:

Cylch Meithrin Cwm Elai & Ysgol Llanhari, The Savoy Theatre, St David's Church, Tonyrefail & Gilfach Goch Community Councils, Caffi ar Ben y Byd, Focal Point, U3A, Gilfach Goch Community Centre, Community Police Force, School Nurse, Fire Brigade, Leisure Centre, Coop, Spar, Tonyrefail Skate Park.

Healthy Eating

We promote healthy eating within the school and children are encouraged to bring fruit/vegetables and a still drink or water to have during playtimes.





Supporting Charities

The school supported the following charities during the 2024-25 academic year

- Children in Need - £245.45
- Macmillan - £394
- Guide Dogs for the Blind - £804
- Comic Relief £70
- World Down Syndrome Day £70
- Food collected during the Harvest Festival was donated to local food banks

Attendance Information

The school attendance was 92.08% for 2024/25. The target for 2025/26 is 94%. Attendance of all pupils is closely monitored.

Review of School Policies

The school has many policy documents covering both curriculum and non-subject areas. These documents are constantly reviewed/revised by staff/governors to incorporate changing trends and legislation. Further information is available on the school website or by contacting the Headteacher during school time.

School Performance Data

The New Curriculum for Wales provides progression information for the pupils. National tests for Years 2 to 6 are still undertaken. The school is performing at a good level.

Target Setting

Pupils no longer have targets but are measured on achievement of progression steps.

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail



Term Dates and Session Times 2025-2026

The school day is arranged as follows:

	Start Time	Lunch Time	Finish Time
Years 3 - 6	9:00am	12:15 – 1:15pm	3:30pm
Years 1 & 2	9:00am	12:00 – 1:00pm	3:30pm
Derbyn	9:00am	11:45 – 1:00pm	3:10pm
Meithrin	9:00am	11:45 – 1:00pm Full time pupils	12:00pm & 3:00pm

A copy of the terms and Holiday dates for the 2025-2026 academic year is listed below. The Welsh Government have allocated 6 INSET days during this academic year.

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2025	Mon 1 Sept 2025	Monday 27 Oct 2025	Friday 31 Oct 2025	Friday 19 Dec 2025	75
Spring 2026	Monday 5 Jan 2026	Monday 16 Feb 2026	Friday 20 Feb 2026	Friday 27 March 2026	55
Summer 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Monday 25 May 2026	Friday 29 May 2026	*Monday 01 July 2026	65
					Total 195

Inset Days 2025-2026

Monday 1 st September 2025	Friday March 26 th 2026
Tuesday 30 th September 2025	Monday 20 th July 2026
Monday 5 th January 2026	One date to be allocated
All schools will be closed on Monday 4th May 2026 for the May Day Bank Holiday.	



Admission/Transition Arrangements

The County Borough Council is the Admissions Authority for all schools (other than Church schools where the schools governing body is the admissions authority) within the Authority's boundary. The school's admission arrangements are therefore operated in line with the Authority's policy on school admissions which is contained in the publication Starting School Book. The book is made available to parents at the point of their application for their child's admission to school. The contents of this book can also be accessed online on the Authority's website.

Pupils will usually remain in the school until they complete year six and then transfer to secondary school. This school is a feeder school for Ysgol Llanhari however pupils may apply to attend any secondary school they choose, subject to compliance with the Authority's admissions policy.

School Leavers

21 pupils moved on to Secondary Education at the end of the Summer Term 2025.

Ysgol Llanhari cluster has a robust and effective Transition Policy. The pupils at the school visit Ysgol Llanhari regularly throughout Year 6 as part of their transition programme and once in year 5. Year 7 pupils also visit the school to talk with Year 6 pupils about Ysgol Llanhari. Modern Languages are taught to Year 5 a 6 in school on a weekly basis as part of the transition programme.

Financial Statement

Please see Appendix A below.

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail



APPENDIX A

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tonyrefail

PROVISIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2024/2025

<u>EMPLOYEE COSTS</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>
STAFFING COSTS INCLUDING SUPPLY	£968839
<u>PREMISES RELATED COSTS</u>	
INCLUDES ENERGY, REPAIRS, CLEANING, BUILDING RELATED SLA's	£113483
<u>TRANSPORT</u>	
INCLUDES INSURANCE, PETROL, TRAVEL CLAIMS	£0
<u>SUPPLIES AND SERVICES</u>	
INCLUDES CAPITATION, ICT, COURSES, PHOTOCOPYING, STAFF INSURANCE, SERVICE SLA's	£94835
<u>GRANTS</u>	
EIG, PDG, EYPDG, PDGCLA	£178625
<u>ADDITIONAL INCOME</u>	
INCLUDES WELSH GOVERNMENT GRANTS, MISCELLANEOUS, STAFF INSURANCE CLAIMS,	£59164