



Governors Annual report to parents

Sept 2018 - July 19



Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn
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Parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body on issues that concern them. This parental right may be exercised on up to 3 times in any school year, provided that the purpose of the meetings is to discuss issues which relate to the school, not individual pupil progress and achievement or grievances against a member of staff or the governing body. Similarly, governing bodies may continue to call parents' meetings whenever they believe that an issue which affects the school needs to be discussed. During 2018-19, no meetings were requested or held with parents under Section 94 of the School Standards Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.



Welcome by chair

Welcome to the 2018-2019 Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn Annual report by the school Governors.

This report is a legal requirement and what goes into it is set down by law. This means the report can seem formal and dry. We hope the photos will add some life and colour to the content.

The school continues to be true to its aim of providing high quality education to the young people in our care. We are very grateful for the support you offer as parents and for the help we receive from our various partners who make a real contribution to the successful running of the school. And, of course, thanks must go to our committed and hard-working staff.

Alison Duncan
Chair of Governors

Headteacher's comments

The annual report is a great opportunity to reflect on the past year at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn.

The school year 18-19 was a busy year. We really enjoyed developing the outdoor curriculum with staff attending training and then delivering the new curriculum across the sites. Feedback from staff and pupils was fantastic and we look forward to further developing this over the coming year and giving more of our youngsters the opportunity to take part. A group of sixth form students performed with the BBC Wales orchestra in Cardiff and then again in Venue Cymru in Llandudno. There were trips to Glan Llyn & climbing trips to name a but a few as well as all the hard work that takes place in the classrooms. Thanks to our amazing staff and your fantastic youngsters for making Plas Brondyffryn a fantastic school!

Jane Bryant
Headteacher

About the annual report

The Annual report to parents is a document that Governors provide to parents each year outlining events and developments at school over the last 12 months. This is a summary version of the report, if you would like a full report please contact the school office.

Our School Governors

Who's who on the Governing Body (2018 – 2019)

Name	Capacity	Responsibilities	Committees	Term of office end date
Jane Bryant	Headteacher		Human Resources Asset Management Pastoral Teaching and Learning	
Alison Duncan	Local Authority	Chair of Governors Implementation of New Welsh Curriculum	Human Resources Teaching and Learning- Chair Asset Management Pastoral HT Performance Management Complaints and Appeals A Staff discipline and appeals A Pupil discipline & Exclusions Pay & Capability	15.9.20
Simon Humphreys	Community	Vice Chair of Governors Governor Training NAS Accreditation New Governors mentor Child Protection, safeguarding and LAC Health & Safety- including e-safety	Human Resources-Chair Asset Management HT Performance Management Complaints and Appeals A Staff Discipline and Appeals A Pay and Capability	14.2.23
Cheryl Cooper	Parent	Primary School Council Pupil Attendance ALN Communication Forum Wellbeing Ty'r Ysgol link	Pastoral-Chair HT Performance Management Complaints and Appeals A Staff Discipline and Appeals A Pupil discipline & Exclusions	02.10.23
Cllr Roy Tickle	Community	Looked After Children (LAC)	Human Resources Complaints and Appeals B Staff Discipline and Appeals B	26.9.21
Paul Flanagan	Parent		Asset Management- Chair Complaints and Appeals B Staff Discipline and Appeals B	01.11.20
Amanda Turner	Teacher		Pastoral	06.11.22

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Ali Ballantyne	Teacher		Human Resources Pastoral	05.03.22
Sarah MacFarlane	Local Authority		Human Resources Asset Management	20.3.23
Richard Crowther	Local Authority		Teaching and Learning	26.10.22
Andrea Phipps	Local Authority	Ty'r Ysgol Link	Human Resources	26.10.22
Nathalie Thomas	Community	Staff discipline and Appeals B Cwricwlwm Cymreig	Teaching and Learning	05.03.22
Hannah Maddock	Parent	ALN reforms Gerddi Glasfryn Numeracy Literacy	Asset Management Teaching and Learning	18.07.22
Joanne Morris	Parent	Friends of YPB	Asset Management Pastoral	06.11.22
Louise Hollingworth	Parent	Pupil Discipline and Exclusions	Teaching and Learning Pastoral	26.11.23
Sian Evans	Staff		Pastoral	03.06.23
Vacancy	Community			

Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is a local authority maintained co-educational special school for pupils with ASC and associated learning difficulties from the age of 3 to 19. We have a 38 week residential facility which is open Monday to Friday. The majority of the children/young people are from English speaking families. For most children/young people, Welsh is taught as a second language; however, education can be provided through the medium of Welsh if requested by the family and detailed in the Statement of Special Educational Needs.

The school is currently located on four sites:

The purpose built Primary Department was opened in September 2006. The facilities offer an up to date and stimulating environment for children between the ages of 3 and 11 years in attractive accommodation with specialist play areas and facilities including a Soft Play room, Sensory room, and adventure playground. The children are divided into 8 classes, one foundation stage class and 6 Key Stage 2 classes

The Secondary Department moved into new purpose built provision in November 2004. The building has been sympathetically designed to offer a safe and stimulating educational environment that meets the needs of young people with ASC aged between 11 and 19 years (key stage 3, 4 and Post 16) It provides specialist classrooms and play areas that include a computer suite, science laboratory, food technology area and an Art and Design Technology workshop. The 6th Form groups are housed in their own suite of rooms which includes two class bases and a common room offering leisure facilities.

Ty'r Ysgol department is situated adjacent to Gerddi Glasfryn and supports our pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties and Complex Needs. There are two classes on site: Aled - mixed KS 3 & 4 and Conwy - mixed KS 4 & Post 16. Onsite resources include four small classrooms, two individual rooms, a small cooking room, offices for AHT, Inclusion Team and Admin, a large garden to the rear of the building containing an adventurous playground and a trampoline. We have also developed an outside area to deliver a therapeutic approach to outdoor learning. By arrangement, pupils are able to access the hall and Immersive room in Gerddi Glasfryn.

As a result of an increase in pupil numbers we are working with the Local Authority to look at further developing our school sites.

Gerddi Glasfryn is our residential accommodation. It is situated on the outskirts of Denbigh and is set on an elevated position overlooking open countryside. This outstanding provision opened in September 2005 and offers the very highest standards of resources and facilities. The main building is listed as Grade 2. The accommodation has been skillfully refurbished and modernised with the specific aim of meeting the needs of young people with Autism Spectrum Condition. The gardens offer splendid opportunities for play and generally having fun.

During 2018 – 2019, 134 pupils attended the school. There was 4 in the Foundation Phase, 47 in Key Stage 2, 37 in Key stage 3 and 23 in Key stage 4 and 23 in Key stage 5. 11 pupils used the residential facility.





School council

The school council are a group of children who represent their classmates in having a pupil voice in school. We have a school council on each site including the residential

Throughout the year they hold regular meetings to discuss suggestions from their peers.



Friends of Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn

Friends of Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn relaunched in November 2018 with a small group of 4 parents and school staff. The first fundraiser was a Christmas raffle, thanks to donations for the hampers from the wider school community this raised £512. Following this work, the group focused on governance and recruiting new members and looking ahead to plan for future fundraising. A summer raffle on the theme of summer fun raised a total of £230, thanks to donations of days out and activity vouchers. Also an application was submitted to Co-op to become one of their chosen local charities for support in 2019 – 2020. Friends of YPB agreed to fund Urdd membership for school pupils to further build on the engagement that pupils have had with the Urdd and in preparation for the Eisteddfod yr Urdd which is coming to Denbigh in 2020. Planning for fundraising in 2019-2020 has begun and Friends of YPB hope to grow in membership and fundraising efforts in the coming year. If you are interested in getting involved in Friends please get in touch via school. Joanne Morris – chair.



Summer 2019

External Accreditation										
GCSE										
		Entries	Grades Obtained							
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Maths	Boys	2				2				
	Girls	0								
Maths Numeracy	Boys	3				1	1		1	
	Girls	0								
Science	Boys	1			1					
	Girls	1						1		
English	Boys	2				1	1			
	Girls	1					1			
Entry Level										
		Entries	Grades Obtained							
			3	2	1					
English	Boys	1	1							
	Girls	0								
Maths	Boys	4	4							
	Girls	1		1						
Science	Boys	2		2						
	Girls	0								
Information Technology 6010 A3	Boys	3	Pass- all							
	Girls	0								
Information Technology 6010 A2	Boys	0								
	Girls	0								
Information Technology 6010 A1	Boys	0								
	Girls	0								

Princes Trust Achieve Qualification			
Entry Level 3 Certificate in Teamwork Skills	Boys	11	Pass
	Girls	1	Pass
Entry Level 3 Certificate in Participating in Exercise	Boys	11	Pass
	Girls	1	Pass

ASDAN			
New Horizons KS3	Boys	1	5 units (up to)
	Girls	1	5 units (up to)
Transition Challenge KS4	Boys	3	2 units
	Girls	0	0 units

KS5 - Towards Independence	Boys	11	Completed from 1 to 15 units
	Girls	4	Completed from 1 to 15 units
Post 16 Awards	Boys	3	3 Bronze Awards 3 Silver Award
	Girls	0	0 Bronze Award 0 Silver Award

E.C.D.L.			
	Boys	0	
	Girls	0	

City & Guilds: Skills for Working Life Entry Level 2			
	Boys	3	Pass
	Girls	2	Pass
City & Guilds: Skills for Working Life Entry Level 3			
	Boys	3	Pass
	Girls	1	Pass
City & Guilds: Land Based Studies Level 1			
	Boys	0	
	Girls	0	

BTEC Level 1 Award in Work Skills			
	Boys	0	
	Girls	0	

Agored Cymru- Vocational- Entry Level	
Cooking A simple Meal E1	10
Music Appreciation E2	23
Recognising Rhythms E2	9
Crime Prevention and Keeping Safe E3	5
Learning Through Work Experience E2	3
Develop Music Making E3	10
Developing Skills For A Healthy Life E 3	2
Ball Skills – Basketball E3	5
Introduction to Web Design L2 (Llandrillo College)	9

Destinations after summer 2019:

Year 11 and Post-16:

College: 3 Other schools: 0 Adult Placement: 3 Residential Specialist: 0

Employment: 0 Employment with training: 0 Unemployed: 0

Not Known: 3

Pupil Attendance

Term	Total Attendance	Unauthorised Absence	Authorised Absence
Autumn 18	90.5%	0.4%	9.1%
Spring 19	88.4 %	0.7%	10.9%
Summer 19	86.6%	1.7%	11.7%

Without notification of absence from parents, a child’s absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Parents can email, text or ring the school to inform of a child’s absence. Parents are not permitted to take their children on holiday during term-time.

The governors have set a target of 91% attendance for the pupils at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn for 2019-2020

THE SCHOOL DAY

	Primary	Park Street (Secondary)	Ty’r Ysgol (Secondary)
Start of day	9.05am	8.55am	8.50am
Lunch	12.45pm	12pm	12pm
End of day	3.20pm	3.35pm	3.30pm

HEALTHY SCHOOLS/ECO SCHOOLS

The school takes positive actions to promote healthy eating and drinking. We also take into account the issues that some pupils with autism have around food, drinks, textures, flavours etc.

The school and the Governing Body are fully committed to follow the Healthy schools regulations. A relaunch of our Eco Schools council was very well received by the pupils, we will continue with this work over 19-20, working towards the Green Flag Award.

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS AND POLICIES

Copies of the prospectus are available upon request from the school office. The prospectus can also be downloaded from the school website: www.ysgolplasbrondyffryn.co.uk

All of the policies are available in the school office and copies are available to view on the school website.

Security arrangements for Pupils, Staff and School premises:
 Security alarms are fitted. Doors, which cannot be opened from the outside, are fitted. The staff ensure that the children’s security is always at the forefront of their responsibilities.

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS
 Parents at our school are entitled to elect five Parent Governors. Current Parent Governors are Mrs. Cheryl Cooper, Mr Paul Flanagan and Mrs Hannah Maddox, Mrs Joanne Morris , Mrs Louise Hollingworth . Parent Governors serve for a period of 4 years.
Instrument of Government
 5 parent governors, 4 LEA governors, 2 teacher governors, 1 staff governor, 4 community governors, 1 headteacher.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN)

As a special school, all matters relating to meeting special educational needs are integral to the school's functioning and all activities are geared to offering children with disabilities access to a full curriculum. We also aim to encourage all our pupils to participate as widely as possible in the life of the local community. The principles of the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs, published by the National Assembly for Wales, guide the work of the school. We will be working to respond to the new Additional Learning Needs Bill as it becomes legislation.

In its role as the regional centre for children and young people with Autism, Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn caters for an extremely wide range of additional learning needs. Some of our pupils have severe learning difficulties accompanied by severe medical problems.

Some children often have no expressive language or communication skills. In contrast there are pupils at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn, typically those diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome or High Functioning Autism, who are academically gifted whilst socially naive. The school's response to meeting this range of needs is to work in a multi-disciplinary way with a variety of professionals from Education, Health and Social Services.

The Governors, Headteacher and Staff of Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn are committed to the principle of integration and inclusion for children with additional learning needs. Close links exist currently with mainstream educational settings as appropriate to individual needs- Ysgol Frongoch for KS 2, Denbigh High School for KS 3, 4 and 6th Form and local Colleges such as Rhyl College and Llysfasi College for Post-16.



Pupils achievements/sporting opportunities/extracurricular clubs/partnerships:

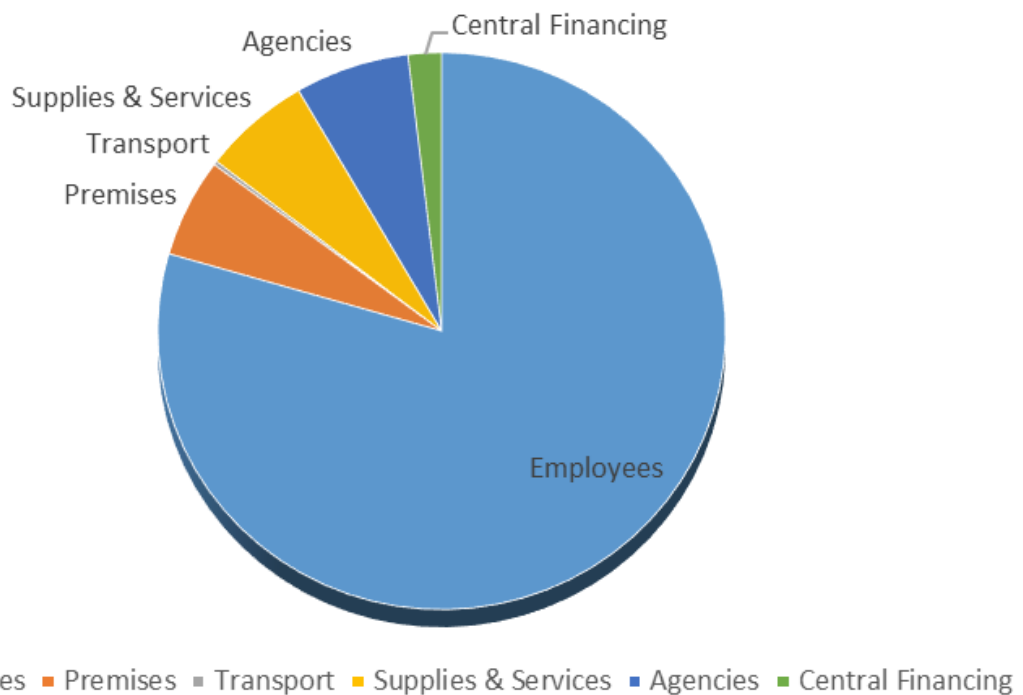
The School has attended and taken part in a variety of competitions, musical events, concerts and performances throughout the year, including a performance in Cardiff and Venue Cymru in Llandudno with BBC Wales Orchestra. The secondary choir/band performed at the Christmas concerts in Denbigh Church and the ROA at the end of the year. Post 16 went to Glan Llyn with a number of other groups from across the area. Ty'r Ysgol have really enjoyed getting involved in forest schools and more trips out into the community, primary took part in the enrichfest with so much enthusiasm the performers returned to school for more!

All pupils have enjoyed a high level of engagement with the local community over the year —using shops, cafes, local library and local theatre. 6th Form have continued to run the school's stall in Denbigh Market selling the products they have made in the Enterprise Groups and developing a whole range of skills in the process. Over the year 6th Form students have attended a number of courses at local FE colleges and specialist providers. This has provided opportunities not only for the learning experiences associated with the specific course but also excellent transition work in preparation for leaving the school. This has included Coleg Cambria, Llysfasi and Pengwern College.

**Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn – Delegated School Budget 2018/19
Year End Accounts as at 31st March 2019**

Revenue	£	Expenditure	£
Allocation 18/19	3,067,071	Employees	2,897,656
Balance b/f 17/18	488,072	Premises	107,354
Income	340,800	Transport	7,373
		Supplies & Services	245,973
		Agency Costs	169,698
		Capital Costs	65,850
Total	3,895,943	Total	3,493,904
		Balance c/f 19/20	402,039

Expenditure elements as a percentage of the budget allocation



TERM DATES 2019 – 2020

Autumn Term

Monday 2nd September - INSET

Tuesday 3rd September - INSET

Wednesday 4th September to Friday 25th October

Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December

Spring Term

Monday 6th January - INSET

Tuesday 7th January to Friday 14th February

Monday 24th February to Friday 3rd April

Summer Term

Monday 20th April to Friday 22nd May

Friday 8th May - May Day

Friday 26th June - INSET

Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July - INSET

We hope you found this report informative and that it gives you further insight into the work of the governors within the school. If you have any questions or comments to make after reading this report, please contact Alison Duncan or Jane Bryant via school office. This report like all school documents is available in Welsh and a copy can be requested from the school office.