



**YSGOL BRYN DERW
GOVERNORS
ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS
2022-23
FULL REPORT**



**YSGOL BRYN DERW,
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Dear Parents/Carers

The Governing Body have pleasure in presenting this Annual Report for parents and carers of learners of Ysgol Bryn Derw. We are proud to present another very positive report giving you information about a further successful year in the life of the school.

We continue to grow as a school, with exciting new developments and achievements to report during the last academic year, despite the ongoing difficulties that the COVID epidemic continues to pose to the school community.

The Governing Body are pleased to report that the school continues to recruit hardworking and talented staff who bring further skills and knowledge to share with Ysgol Bryn Derw. This in turn enables our staff to support and share their skills with schools across Newport and the region, giving Ysgol Bryn Derw the reputation of a school of excellence to which we are all very proud.

We are fortunate to have a committed and supportive Governing Body who continues to meet as a full Governing Body and two sub-committees, meeting on a Wednesday evening every half term. The virtual meetings introduced in COVID lockdown are continuing, but last year it was agreed to introduce a hybrid version so that there was an opportunity for the Governing Body to also discuss business in person. The Governing Body will always challenge constructively and appropriately in each meeting. They ensure the correct school policies are in place and provide effective and proper scrutiny of any decisions to be made. I appreciate the time and support given by all Governors and would like to take this opportunity to thank all my Governor colleagues for everything they have given to the school again this year.

The facilities and opportunities for our younger learners at Kimberley Park continue to develop. The official opening of Kimberley Park was held last year and we were pleased to welcome our first class of younger learners into the building for the start of their Ysgol Bryn Derw journey.

Working together is always an important element of any school community and I would like to thank all parents, grandparents, family and carers for your continued support and involvement.

Best Wishes,

Paula Halsall

Chair of Governors

YSGOL BRYN DERW – GOVERNORS ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2022-23

This is the sixth Governors Annual Report to Parents. No petition for an annual parents' meeting with Governors was received during the year, and so no meeting was held under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The Governing Body consisted of:

Name	Category of Governor	End of term of office
Paula Halsall	Local Authority	26/09/25
Chris May	Local Authority	27/01/26
Andi O'Brien	Local Authority	21/11/26
Estelle Cartlidge	Community	28/03/27
Carmel Conn	Community	15/10/23
Kate Drew	Community	01/02/25
Sally Purchase	Parent (Elected)	29/11/25
David Rendell	Parent (Elected)	05/07/27
Rebecca Forward	Teacher (Elected)	24/09/24
Antonia Jeavons	Staff (Elected)	23/09/25
Richard Drew	Head Teacher	n/a

If you wish to contact the Governing Body, the relevant contact details are:

Chair of Governors

Paula Halsall

C/o Ysgol Bryn Derw, Melfort Road, Newport, NP20 3FQ

Clerk to the Governing Body

Clare Williams

C/o Ysgol Bryn Derw, Melfort Road, Newport, NP20 3FQ

There is one current vacancy for Parent Governors and nomination forms are currently in circulation.

Section 52 Statement:

Ysgol Bryn Derw

Financial Statement for Year Ending 31st March 2023

2021/22 Outturn		2022/23 Outturn
£	Employees	£
704,892	Teachers	962,505
1,011,654	Support Staff	1,393,028
32,252	Caretakers	68,899
0	Midday Supervisors	0
0	Cleaners	0
	Other Employee Costs	
653	Supply Insurance Premium	641
171,145	Agency Staff	218,405
0	Lunch Time Meal Entitlement	0
0	Foreign Language Assistants	0
0	Exam Invigilators	0
1,413	Advertising	1,850
0	Interview Expenses	0
1,290	Misc Employee Costs	1,730
	Energy	
6,846	Gas	9,679
10,688	Electricity	25,545
0	Oil	0
69,742	Capitation and ICT	49,322
0	SCC, EIG and PDG Expenditure	0
	Premises Related	
673	Hire of Facilities	673
0	Rates	2,028
121,945	Building Maintenance and Alarm Lines	49,571
3,897	Grounds Maintenance	4,496
2,571	Water	4,387
27,747	Building Cleaning Contract	32,594
2,563	Refuse Collection	3,698
13,589	Miscellaneous Premises	16,269

Communications		
164	Postage/Fax/Telex	66
1,445	Telephones	3,166
Transport		
627	Vehicle Maintenance	389
0	Purchase of Vehicles	0
0	Vehicle Hire	0
282	Car Allowance	530
104	Travel Expenses	19
0	Exam Fees	0
External Courses		
15,355	School Funded Training	11,479
0	Alternative Curriculum Provision	0
0	Sixth Form	0
23,189	Central Services	30,231
Income		
0	Lettings	0
-4,118	Sales Income	-4,348
0	Music Service Income	0
-3,181	Donations	-1,840
0	Miscellaneous	0
-3,954	Supply	-5,268
0	Exam Fees	0
-127	Interest	-716
0	Rental Income	0
0	EIG	0
0	PDG/EYPDG	0
0	Energy Compensation	0
0	Coaching Fees	0
-315,320	Other Grant and Contributions	-316,878
0	Reserve Transfer	0
0	After Schools Club	0
1,898,025	Total Net Expenditure	2,562,151
1,978,244	Total Funding	2,500,583
80,219	In Year Surplus / Deficit	-61,569
212,451	Prior Year Surplus / Deficit	292,670
292,670	Accumulated Surplus / Deficit c/fwd	231,101
14.79%	Balance as % of Funding	9.24%

The total funding received in 2022-23 was £2,829,632, made up of a £2,500,583 budget share allocated by NCC, and £329,049 in additional Newport City Council (NCC) funding for increased pupil numbers, Welsh Government grants, donations from parents and businesses, and income from training courses and lettings.

The budget was spent as follows:

- Approximately 85.6% of the budget was spent on staffing costs.
- Approximately 7.7% of the budget was spent on supply staff to cover long-term vacancies, ad hoc staff sickness, and planned staff absences due to training courses.
- Approximately 1.7% of the budget was spent on supplying the school with the required furniture and equipment, general classroom and stationery supplies, ICT equipment (such as laptops, iPads, iPods and some required ICT licences), and photocopier charges.
- Approximately 4% of the budget was spent on premises related costs, including: installation of new equipment and resources; repairs and general maintenance; insurance and required licences; cleaning and hygiene supplies; improvements to the security system; work carried out by Newport Norse to improve our environment.
- Approximately 1% of the budget was spent on energy costs.
- Approximately 0.4% of the budget was spent on staff training (e.g. Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), Intensive Interaction).
- Just over 1% of the budget was allocated to required Service Level Agreements with Newport City Council (e.g. Finance, HR, Legal Services, and Health and Safety).

A 9.24% surplus (£231,101) was carried forward to undertake improvement projects to accommodate rising pupil numbers and associated staffing and equipment costs in 2022-23.

We did not receive any gifts in 2022-23 (aside from monetary donations listed above).

No travel and subsistence claims were made by members of the Governing Body in 2022-23.

There were two Year 11 pupils in 2022-23, and both pupils stayed at Ysgol Bryn Derw for Sixth Form learning.

The school has links with the Community which have brought considerable benefits to pupils and helped them to develop their communication, interaction and independence. Links in 2022-23 included:

- Visits from professional partners including Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Learning Disability Nurses, Educational Psychologists, Counsellors and Music Therapists.
- Visits from a range of work experience providers.
- Shopping at Local Shops, Tesco.
- Visits to Stelvio Park & Serennu Park.
- Trip to the Medicinema at Serennu Centre.
- Raising funds for charities including Children in Need.
- Regular sessions from Dragons Rugby, Yoga and Key Create.
- Visit to Barry Island as part of the Rotary Club 'Kids Out' event.
- Participation in the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative and visit to collect our award.
- Wheels 4 All cycling at Tredegar Park.



Attendance in 2022-23 was 91.8%, slightly down from 92.4% in 2021-22.

Targets for attendance for 2023-24 have been set:

	2023-4 targets
Overall	93%
Primary	93%
Secondary	93%

Particularly notable successes in 2022-23 included:

Our Headteacher, Richard Drew, won an award: The South Wales Argus Education Awards 'Headteacher of the Year'.

The school was audited by the Newport City Council Audit team and our processes and procedures were graded in the highest category of 'Substantial Assurance'.

A group of 14-19 pupils attended the residential centre at Gilwern and took part in caving, canoeing and high wall climbing.

We had our first Leavers' Prom which was brilliantly attended by pupils, families and staff.

The five priorities in to 2022-23 School Development Plan (SDP) were all either met in full or partially met, with funding restrictions limiting progress in some areas.

The key foci of the School Development Plan for 2023-24 have been agreed and are:

1. Higher level pupils will make greater progress, measured by use of appropriate summative assessment processes begun in 2022-3 in line with new Curriculum for Wales. Non-verbal pupils will make greater progress in communication skills, measured using non-verbal pupil communication skills ladder developed in 2022-3.
2. Pupil attendance rates will be restored to pre-COVID years' levels. Levels of engagement in learning will be measured to be higher for most pupils.
3. Pilot digital/online pupil work/marking folders will be established across all classes. Embed clear progression guidance and teaching resources for teachers in Language, Literacy and Communication and Maths & numeracy AoLE areas. All classes will have access to regular community visits and lunchtime clubs.
4. RSE programme of study will be finalised and introduced across all classes. Training and support offer to families via FLO and therapy leads will be collated and calendared.
5. Acting AHTs and acting TLR will be effective in roles and adding value. Kimberley Park outdoors will be developed to include Wetpour floor and play equipment.

Physical Education is an important aspect of the curriculum and experience for all pupils. PE and sporting activities are designed to develop the following:

- Improved Fine and Gross Motor Skills.
- Increased self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Improved skills in listening and following instructions.
- Positive attitudes to health and exercise.
- Mature approaches to competition and to winning and losing.

All pupils participate in specially designed PE lessons every week. Relevant pupils have access to Rebound Therapy with specially trained staff each week. We held our annual school Sports Week in the Summer Term. We were unable to attend swimming lessons but hope to book sessions in 2023-24.



The following policies were adopted/updated by the Governing Body in 2022-23, and are available on the school website (www.ysgolbrynderw.co.uk):

- Staff Dress Code
- Careers Education
- Collective Worship
- Display Policy
- Food & Fitness
- Total Communication Environment
- Homework
- Special Education Needs
- Subject Session, Subject Allocation & Teaching Times
- Transition
- Continuity of Learning
- Accessibility
- Assessment & Target Setting
- Continuing Professional Development
- E-Safety
- Intimate Care
- Parent Partnership
- Positive Behaviour Management
- Physical Intervention and Restraint Policy
- Photography at School Events
- Marking Pupils' Work
- Safeguarding
- Attendance
- Health & Safety

The pupils arrive at Ysgol Bryn Derw, either with families or on Local Authority Transport accompanied by escorts, by 8.55am. They proceed, or are taken by school staff to their classrooms where their teachers are in the classrooms ready to receive them. After the pupils have all been taken to their classrooms, the structure for each school day is as follows:-

9.00	Registration
9.05	Lessons commence
10.30	Break
10.45	Lessons continue
12.00	Lunch
1.00	Lessons continue
3.15	End of School Day

(Pupils transported home – families or Local Authority Transport)

The term dates set by Newport City Council are as follows:

Term	Start	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Friday 1 Sept 2023	Monday 30 Oct 2023	Friday 3 November 2023	Friday 22 Dec 2023
Spring	Monday 8 Jan 2024	Monday 12 Feb 2024	Friday 16 Feb 2024	Friday 22 March 2024
Summer	Monday 8 April 2024	Monday 27 May 2024	Friday 31 May 2024	Friday 19 July 2024

May Bank Holiday will be on Monday 6 May 2024

Additional school closure dates:

Autumn Term INSET days:

Friday 1 September 2023 - Core Safeguarding & Team Teach Training
 Monday 4 September 2023 - Core Safeguarding & Team Teach Training
 Monday 6 November 2023 - IPBS, attachment and TIS Training

Summer Term INSET days:

Monday 8 April 2024 - Wellbeing
 Friday 3 May 2024 - Sensory Regulation & Social Interaction
 Monday 3 June 2024 - School Development Plan & Curriculum for Wales

The school prospectus can be found in the following location

<http://ysgolbrynderw.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Prospectus-August-2019.pdf>

The School is committed to providing access to a broad curriculum for all of our pupils. Alongside this, we recognise that the curriculum must be relevant to pupils' individual needs and there must be in-built flexibility in order to ensure continued relevance for all pupils at the various stages of their time at Ysgol Bryn Derw. This will mean that not all of our pupils will experience all aspects of the curriculum all of the time, but rather that a balance in the whole curriculum will be reflected in pupils' individual experiences according to the various age related stages of their school life. Balance across the curriculum will also be dictated by the diverse and complex individual needs of our pupils. We recognise that our pupils benefit from a wide variety of sensory activities and the many forms of therapy which are offered to them and that some of our pupils with very challenging behaviours will need an even greater degree of flexibility in their learning and social programmes.

In 2022-23 pupil numbers grew from 85 to 105.

All of our pupils, where appropriate, have access to the full range of subjects in the National Curriculum Framework appropriate to their age provided in a way that matches the stage of their development.

The teaching experiences/activities provided and accompanying schemes of work reflect the programmes of study from Foundation Phase, KS2 and 3 of the National Curriculum and for KS4 & 5 accredited units and modules.

The language of the school is designated as English medium.

All pupils experience Welsh as an additional language and have incidental Welsh opportunities throughout the school day. Pupils experience Welsh at a level appropriate to their academic and communication skills, and incidental opportunities include greetings, praise, days of the week, numbers, colours, body parts and weather. These will typically be used alongside the English term for the same word. The school has a number of fluent Welsh speaking staff and so is able to offer more sophisticated Welsh language interaction and learning to those who require it. No pupils are dis-applied from any subjects in the National Curriculum.



The school has 3 hygiene bathrooms (1 per corridor in the main building at Melfort Road and 1 at Kimberley Park) with changing beds, toilets and showers. There are also separate sets of toilet cubicles (2 per corridor in the main building at Melfort Road, 1 in the Annex building and 1 at Kimberley Park). All bathrooms and toilets are cleaned daily by Adapt Commercial Cleaning and checked throughout the day by staff.

Healthy eating and drinking is an important aspect of the curriculum and experience of all pupils. The approach of the school to eating and drinking is designed to develop:

- A broadened diet.
- Increased awareness of the impact of diet on health and the human body.
- Improved decision making skills.
- Positive attitudes to health and exercise.
- Increased independence in eating and drinking.

The School has achieved Level 3 of the Healthy Schools Award. To achieve progress in healthy eating and drinking, the school take a 'whole school/whole day' approach to the provision of food and drink.

The school provide in partnership:

- Healthy, nutritious, affordable and attractively presented meals in partnership with NCC catering department and Chartwells.
- Breakfast Clubs, as far as possible, in line with Welsh Government guidance.
- Encouragement of healthy snacks at break times.
- An enjoyable eating experience in a quality environment.
- Encouragement for parents to provide healthy lunch boxes.
- Fresh water, available to all staff and pupils in classrooms.
- Display materials within and around the school that promote the positive relationship between food and physical activity.
- Engagement with pupils, where appropriate, on healthy food and fitness activities (e.g. Fruit Tuck, Healthy Lunchbox etc.)
- Procurement and menu planning that recognises the importance of purchasing locally, seasonality and environmental sustainability in partnership with NCC catering department and Chartwells.