



"United we, Empower, Nurture and Challenge."

"Wrth uno mae'n ein arfogi i feithrin a herio."

BLACKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL / YSGOL GYNRADD COED DUON

Governing Body Annual Report to Parents Adroddiad Blynyddol y Llywodraethwyr i Rieni

October 2019

Chair of Governors Annual Message to Parent/Carers of Blackwood Primary School
Neges Blynyddol Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr i Rieni/ Gofalwyr plant Ysgol Gynradd
Coed Duon.

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the Governor's Annual Report to Parents in which we reflect on the activities and achievements of the 18-19 academic year and our progress from September 2019.

There has been a lot of change throughout the 18-19 year...in September 2018 we welcomed our new Head Teacher, several more new members of staff have since joined our school community and we have warmly wished all the best to those members of staff that have left us as they move onto their new ventures.

You may have noticed changes in your children's classrooms as the school engages with the new curriculum and develops our learning environment so that it promotes and enables children in independent learning. Governors have had the pleasure of attending many events and celebrating with you in your children's outstanding work and achievements. There are exciting and challenging times ahead and the whole school community will continue to work together in delivering the new curriculum.

As Governors we are very pleased to let you know that the excellent practice at Blackwood Primary school has been recognised and the school has been selected as a regional professional learning lead which will result in increased visitors to the school to share our excellent practice.

We thank you all for your ongoing support and valuable contributions towards the success of Blackwood Primary School.

With warm regards

Zoe Lewis

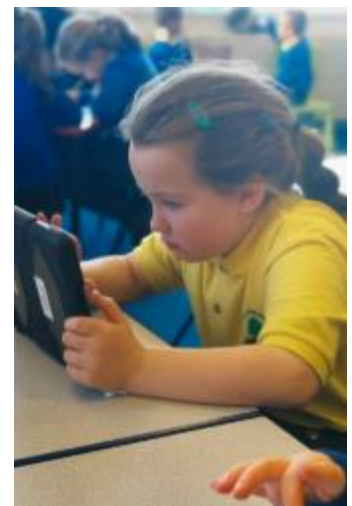
Chair of Governors

Blackwood Primary is a local authority maintained primary school within Caerphilly County Borough Council. The school is part of the Blackwood cluster of schools and the local authority is known as Islwyn region.

At Blackwood Primary school we share a commitment to the development of the whole child. Our current roll is 422 as of September 2019 which includes nursery provision. Blackwood Primary School has 15 classes and has a two form entry. Nearly all children come from non-Welsh speaking families. 8.76% of pupils are from non-White British backgrounds. On a three year rolling average 22.22% of our children are eligible for free school meals. The current Free School Meal (FSM) status is 22.51% of statutory school age. The percentage of Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision is 16.59% of the school population; 7.34% are at School Action (School support) and 7.82% are at School Action Plus (external agency support). There are six pupils with Statements of SEN. This equates to 1.42% of the school population.

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive primary school family, supporting and encouraging all our staff and pupils to achieve their potential. We ensure all stakeholders have a voice in decision making, and have the opportunity to improve all aspects of school life. We aim to ensure that everyone has the same chances and opportunities irrespective of race, sex, class or disability. We believe that by working together and consulting with all our stakeholders, everyone feels valued and included - a key factor for school improvement.

Our school mission statement was reviewed in September 2019 and continues to be ‘United we, Empower, Nurture and Challenge, Wrth uno mae’n ein arfogi i feithrin a herio.’ We strive in all aspects of school life to be a continuous, self improving learning community, aiming for excellence in all we do.



Term Dates Current Year

Tymor	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends	INSET Days
Autumn Hydref 2019	Monday 03/09/19	Monday 28/10/19	Friday 01/11/19	Friday 20/12/19	02/09/19 03/09/19
Spring Gwanwyn 2020	Monday 06/01/20	Monday 17/02/20	Friday 21/02/20	Friday 03/04/20	22/05/20 01/06/20
Summer Haf 2020	Monday 20/04/20	Monday 25/05/20	Friday 29/05/20	Monday 20/07/20	20/07/20

Next Year

Tymor	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends	INSET Days
Autumn Hydref 2020	Monday 01/09/20	Monday 26/10/20	Friday 30/10/20	Friday 18/12/20	TBC
Spring Gwanwyn 2021	Monday 04/01/21	Monday 15/02/21	Friday 19/02/21	Friday 26/03/21	TBC
Summer Haf 2021	Monday 12/04/21	Monday 31/05/21	Friday 04/06/21	Tuesday 20/07/21	TBC

Session Times

Nursery AM 9:00 - 11:30 Nursery PM 13:00 - 15:30

Foundation Phase 9:00 - 3:30 (1 Hour Lunch Break)

KS2 9:00 - 3:30 (45 Min Lunch Break)



Governing Body Structure and Terms of Office as of 2019 -2020

Clerk Mrs Emma Lawrence Community Gov apptd by GB Rev Mark Thomas 18/10/2021 Mr Delwyn Davies 22/05/2023 Mr Philip Diamond 05/07/2021 Mr Richard Gibbs 06/04/2021 Rev Heulwen Rees 06/10/2023 Headteacher/Pennaeth Mrs Karen Davies LA Appointed Mrs Zoe Lewis 14/12/2019 (Chair) Mr James Edwards 01/02/2022	Observer Miss Hayley Davies Parent Representative Mr Richard Wilks 29/11/2022 Mrs Catherine Ashcroft 06/04/2021 (Vice Chair) Mrs Claire Milton 06/04/2021 Miss Sarah Jones 20/03/2023 Staff Representative Mrs Ellen Ioannou 13/02/2023 Teacher Representative Ms Kathy Lohmus 16/05/2022 Mr Richard Turner 13/02/2023
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Parent Governor Vacancies

When a vacancy for a parent governor becomes available, then invitations for nominations will be sent home with every pupil and balloting will take place in accordance with statutory requirements.

There is a parent governor vacancy. If you would like further information on the role of a parent governor, then please contact the school or any of the governors above.

Parent Meetings with the Governing Body

It is important that parents are able to engage with governing bodies on issues that matter to them and parents may request up to 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them. If parents wish to use this right 4 conditions need to be satisfied.

Further advice on how parents may go about requesting a meeting with a governing body is available on the Welsh Government's website at:

<https://gov.wales/parent-meetings-guidance-governing-bodies>

There were no parental petitions for meeting in the 2018-2019 academic year and so there were no meetings held under section 94 of the Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

To contact the Chair of Governors or the Clerk, please write to the school postal address or via email. Blackwood Primary School, Apollo Way, Blackwood. NP12 1WA or email for the attention of the Chair of Governors to blkpa@caerphilly.gov.uk



Financial Summary

Blackwood Primary School	OUTTURN BUDGET 2018/2019
<u>EMPLOYEES</u>	£
<i>Sub Total</i>	1,309,068.00
<u>PREMISES RELATED</u>	
<i>Sub Total</i>	130,407.00
<u>SUPPLIES & SERVICES</u>	
<i>Sub Total</i>	140,723.00
<u>SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS</u>	
All Services	39,701.00
<u>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANS</u>	6,025.00
	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,625,924.00
<u>INCOME</u>	
TOTAL INCOME	514,418.00
<u>NET EXPENDITURE</u>	1,111,506.00
<u>TOTAL SURPLUS/CONTINGENCY</u>	85,814.00
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,197,320.00
<u>TOTAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOL</u>	
<u>FUNDING</u>	
Formula Allocation (net of retro. adj)	1,169,239.00
Retrospective Adjustment from prev yr.	- 11,745.00
<i>Total Formula Allocation</i>	1,157,494.00
Total Carried Forward from prev. yr.	39,826.00
TOTAL FUNDING	1,197,320.00
<u>BUDGET SHORTFALL</u>	-

Note: there were no payments made to governors for expenses or applications of any gifts made to school.

School Attendance

Attendance remains a school priority. A Health and Wellbeing lead was appointed in September 2019 and with a restructure, the school has incorporated a Family Liaison Officer - with a focus on Attendance.

The Governing Body is grateful for all the efforts of families to ensure children are in school every day. Looking forward to the school year ahead the school has adopted a new mascot 'IOAN' (Improve Our Attendance Now). The Governing Body reviews attendance throughout the year and supports the school in developing a reward system through pupil voice. Holidays during term time are granted at the discretion of the Headteacher based on family circumstances and on current excellent attendance levels.

Pupil Numbers on Roll

Nursery to Y6

Class	September Class Count 2019
N	37
R	56
Y1	45
Y2	59
Y3	64
Y4	61
Y5	55
Y6	45
Total	422

School Attendance 2018 – 2019

	Autumn 18/19	Spring 18/19	Summer 18/19	Total 18/19	19/20 To Date
Attendance	94.2%	93.9%	91.1%	93.2%	96.1%
Authorised Absences	4.2%	3.5%	5.2%	4.3%	3.1%
Unauthorised Absences	1.6%	2.6%	3.7%	2.5%	0.8%
Targets for Attendance				94.5%	94.3%

Attendance Impact

100% Attendance	Optimum Chance to achieve well. Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
95% Attendance	Good chance to achieve well. Your child is taking advantage of learning opportunities.
90-94.9% Attendance	Satisfactory. Your child is missing out on learning opportunities.
85% - 89% Attendance	Cause for concern. Your child is at risk of underachieving.
80% and below Attendance	High cause for concern. Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education.

School Improvement Priorities and targets

<p>Year 1: 2019/20 20</p>	<p>Priority <i>Blaenoriaeth</i></p>
<p>1</p>	<p>To develop all staff as leaders of learning and to develop the strategic role of governors in relation to: Curriculum Reform; The National Mission; Professional Standards for Teachers, Leaders and Teaching Assistants; Schools as Learning Organisation</p> <p>(to include Estyn R6. improve financial controls to ensure better value for money)</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>To maintain standards in literacy, focusing on oracy, grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling. To develop a strong Welsh ethos throughout the school by achieving the Bronze Cymraeg Campus Language Charter targets developing pupils as competent bilingual learners.</p> <p>(to include Estyn R2. To continue to build systematically on pupils' Welsh skills)</p> <p>(to include Estyn R4. Ensure that pupils have a clear understanding of how to improve their work)</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>To maintain standards in mathematics throughout the school and improve the application of numeracy across the curriculum. To improve reasoning skills throughout the school.</p> <p>(to include Estyn R1. Further develop pupils' ability to apply their numeracy skills in work across the curriculum)</p> <p>(to include Estyn R4. Ensure that pupils have a clear understanding of how to improve their work)</p>

4	<p>To embrace the Well Being and Equity Strategy to improve outcomes for all learners in particular, vulnerable groups of learners, including ALN reform.</p> <p>(to include Estyn R2. Improve Attendance)</p>
5	<p>To engage in the curriculum for Wales - embedding the four purposes and AoLEs and ensuring our young people are more digitally competent.</p> <p>(to include Estyn R5. Develop greater independent learning in the Foundation Phase)</p>

End of Key Stage School Performance Data

Foundation Phase - Percentage targets at Outcome 5+ and Outcome 6+ in 2019

Average expectation at the end of Foundation Phase (Year 2) is Outcome 5 and above average is Outcome 6.

	Outcome 5+	Wales	Outcome 6+	Wales
Literacy Language & Communication	89	82	43	32
Maths Development	89	85	45	32
Personal Social Development	92	92	62	57
Foundation Phase Indicator	89	80	38	Data not available



Key Stage 2 - Percentage targets at Level 4+ and 5+

Average expectation at the end of KS2 (Y6) is Level 4 and above average is Level 5

	Level 4+	Wales	Level 5+	Wales
English	95	90	52	44
Mathematics	95	91	50	46
Science	95	91	50	44
Welsh 2nd language	92	81	42	28
Core Subject Indicator	95	88	N/A	N/A

The Governing Body reviews pupil outcomes on a termly basis and are pleased to report that the school continues to achieve higher outcomes compared to Caerphilly and Wales.

Curriculum

At Blackwood Primary School we follow the National Curriculum. A new Curriculum for Wales is being developed for settings and schools in Wales. Following a feedback period which ended in July 2019, the refined version will be available in January 2020, which will be used throughout Wales from 2022. The link below provides useful information on Curriculum development. <https://gov.wales/new-school-curriculum-overview>

Pupil Voice is very important to Blackwood Primary School. The governors have worked in liaison with different Pupil Voice Groups to complete the rest of this document. The governors would like to thank the children for their input towards this annual report.

Pupils have written what learning looks like at Blackwood Primary School:

‘As part of our new curriculum we have different areas in our classrooms, these help us to be independent, instead of being with the teacher all the time. In the independent areas we work on our own to the best of our ability. The reason for this type of learning is to help prepare us for the future. As well as independent learning, focused learning happens in groups with our teacher, where we work on specific skills.

As part of our curriculum, every class has a curriculum flower on display. The curriculum flower includes four pink petals, which represent our four core purposes. These are: Ambitious capable Learners, Enterprising Creative Contributors, Ethical Informed Citizens, Healthy Confident Individuals. These can be difficult for some children to remember, so we have come up with some characters to help them remember. They are called Ambitious Alys, Enterprising Elin, Ethical Elis, Healthy Hywel. You can find these characters on display in every classroom. Surrounding the four pink petals are eight blue petals, these are our Areas of Learning Experiences: Welsh, Community, Science and Technology, Expressive art, Mathematics &

Numeracy, Language Literacy & Communication, Humanities, Health & Wellbeing. This flower has four green leaves, these represent our skills: DCF, metacognition, Literacy and Numeracy. The Authentic Learning goal sits in the middle of the flower, which is different for every year group.'

Welsh Language Provision *Datblygu'r Iaith Cymraeg*

The Criw Cymraeg meet on a regular basis. Each member of the team has various responsibilities including encouraging others to use Welsh inside and outside the classroom, during dinner times and when on trips. Some are responsible for weekly tweets of our phrase of the week. The Criw are having a busy time collecting evidence as we aim to achieve our Cymraeg Campus Bronze award during the Autumn term.

All year groups have a 'Cwtsh Cymraeg' where Welsh books, magazines, dictionaries, language mats and activities are kept to make Welsh learning fun. Curriculum Cymraeg plays an important role in our learning for example the new hall display of our giant Welsh Dragon includes posters of our Welsh Heros and heroines. We also have a map of Wales where year groups will be given mini projects to complete and present e.g. castles, places and people.

The Criw organise St David's Day celebrations and school eisteddfod activities. Urdd members have entered various competitions and enjoy a residential trip to LLangrannog.

Extra curricular clubs

There are many opportunities available to engage with extra curricular activities. Some of our year 6 pupils wrote about how they get involved in these throughout the school:

'Pupils choose what clubs we would like to have in a school. we chose the most popular because children would turn up. Like Healthy Hywel we like to keep ourselves energised, fit and healthy. Once we had chosen activities staff then chose what would suit them the best.

At these activities we can make new friends, have exercise and fun, and learn life skills, sometimes you try something new and other times we practise what we've learnt . You can choose what you are interested in or would like to try.'

The Governing Body would like to thank the staff at Blackwood Primary for their commitment and enthusiasm for delivering a wide range of extra curricular opportunities after school during their own time.

Current clubs are:

	Monday/ Dydd Llun	Tuesday/ Dydd Mawrth	Wednesday/ Dydd Mercher	Thursday/ Dydd Iau
Foundation Phase	Funky Fitness (Nursery, Mrs Postians, Mrs Evans and Mrs Golding)	Globe Trotters (Y1, Mrs Shand and Mrs Brennan)		Craft (Reception, Miss Sims, Mrs Cooper and Miss Fisher)
				STEM (Y1, Miss Owens and Mrs Jones)
Key Stage 2	Netball (Yard, Mrs Davies and Miss Kinsey)	Dance (Main door, Miss Llewellyn and Mrs Ioannou)	Y3 - 6 Girls Football (Yard, Kirk)	Y5 & 6 Boys Football (Yard, Kirk)
	Rugby (Yard, Mr Withey)	Globe Trotters (Y1, Mrs Shand and Mrs Brennan)		Choir (Y5, Miss Miller)
	Lego (Y2, Mrs Lohmus and Mr Jones)	Y3 & 4 Boys Football (Yard, Kirk)		
	Minecraft (Y5, Mr Turner)	Cooking (Y6, Mrs Jones and Miss Powell)		
	STEM (Y3, Mrs Shuker)	Art (Y4, Mrs Barber and Mrs Thomas)		



Some School Activities, Experiences and Visits

Nursery:

Tooth Brushing Smile Campaign
Trip to Cefn Mably Farm



Reception:

Tooth Brushing Smile Campaign
Beatrice Webb-Christmas Concert
Walnut tree Farm
Visit to blackwood library



Year 1:

Tooth Brushing Smile Campaign
Christmas market
Trip to Caerphilly Mountain Ranch
visit to baptist church



Year 2:

Cantref Farm
Kerbcraft
Made film Which was shown at the cinema
visit From Fire Service
Visit from police man



Year 3:

Trip to St Fagans
Trip to Southerndown
Trip To West Midlands Safari Park.
EAS- STEM
Governors- STEM
STEM Ambassadors
Sirhowy bees



Year 4:

Trip To West Midlands Safari Park
Visit from Cardiac Rehab Nurse and Patient
Lead creative Schools
Pyka- Digital artists
Physiotherapist
P-Buzz
Ukelele



Year 5:

Visit to Longleat
Visit to Llangrannog
Trip to St Fagans

Swimming lessons
 Visit to cefn glas (extra care scheme)
 violin/trumpet/harp lessons
 Drum workshop
 Visit from Fire Service.
 Mini police
 Litter picking -various locations
 Gwent archives
 Police officer- talks
 Alzheimers society
 Griffiths construction
 Internet safety
 Mark- Mount Pleasant Baptist Church



Year 6:

1940s War Museum Swansea
 Royal British Legion visit
 PGL weekend residential
 visit to Llangrannog
 Ukulele/Saxophone/harp lessons
 Transition visits to Blackwood Comprehensive
 Crucial Crew
 Wings to Fly
 visit to cefn glas (extra care scheme)
 Veterans Tea
 Authors
 Residents of Beatrice Webb came to visit
 Police- various visits
 Velvet Coalmine



Whole School:

Sports Day
 Free Breakfast Club run daily
 Charity Days eg: Children in Need, Urdd
 Extra-Curricular opportunities via after school clubs
 Welsh Week - Eisteddfod
 Police Liaison Officer PC Davies - KS2 talks
 Authors



Sport Achievements

Caerphilly Swimming Gala

Caerphilly
 Sports Week / Sports Day
 Taekwondo



Community Engagement

Blackwood Primary have very strong links with the community and support services including the education inclusion service, educational psychology services, police, health and social care. Some examples of this are (written by pupils):

- Mini Police

Police officers came to school and interviewed us in years 4 & 5 and selected who should become the mini police. We went to local parks and litter picked with police officers. We made posters to make parents aware of where to park and not to park outside school. This made it safer for children coming into and leaving school. Whenever we went on a local trip, the mini police made sure we were all safe walking and crossing roads. During playtime we ensured everyone was safe and looked out for each other, stopping bullying.

- Authentic learning goals - links with the community

Year 4:

We gathered together and blind voted on what we wanted to do over the term.

We decided on the FitPit which is about keeping fit and healthy, we focused on Healthy Hywel as inspiration for our learning goal. We did research on fitness videos and for music we used a Calvin Harris playlist. We did it in the big hall and got the whole of year 4 together to do a fitness workout. We did exercises such as: situps, burpees, squats and push ups. We lived streamed it on twitter!

- Governor involvement

Various Governors have established links between the community and the school. Some of these include: links with Blackwood Cinema, where a Y2 film was shown to parents, links with a local shop, where candles (that were made by Y3) were sold. A STEM workshop was delivered by a highly skilled governor and a workshop was delivered for staff on ACES.

- PTFA -

The Governing Body values the contribution of the ongoing support of the PTFA



Family engagement

The school prides itself in working in partnership with families. September 2018 started with the very well attended Meet and Greet session followed by weekly opportunities for families to work alongside their children on various topics. At this years Meet and Greet families have been asked how the school can support them which determine this years family engagement sessions. Through the restructure of staff, the school have incorporated a Family Liaison Officer - Mrs Hancox can be contacted through the school.

Provision of and cleaning of school toilets and services

School toilets are cleaned daily at the end of the school day. Toilets are checked by staff and hygiene and cleaning issues are dealt with on a needs led basis throughout the day. Facilities for disabled staff and pupils exist in three locations in the school.

Healthy eating and drinking

The school currently holds a level 5 healthy Schools Accreditation. It is working towards the level 6 with support from Caerphilly healthy Schools. The most recent focus has been on Food and Fitness. Every year group now takes part in a healthy snack with KS2 pupils buying and selling fruit daily. FP pupils can opt to pay £1 per week and choose from a range of fruit and vegetables. Parental engagement sessions focused on Healthy Hywel and dealt with healthy eating and exercise too.

Pupils from R-Y6 do a daily mile, and all FP pupils have continuous access to outdoor provision. The governing body has agreed a Food and Fitness Policy which is to be made available on the school website.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02-healthy-lunchboxes-leaflet.pdf>

