

Bryniau Clwyd Federation of Schools

Ysgol yr Esgob and Ysgol Lixwm



**Governors Annual Report to
Parents
for School Year 2024/2025**

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Foreword from the Governing Body

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Governing Body of the Bryniau Clwyd Federation is pleased to share the Annual Report to Parents for the 2024–2025 academic year.

During the year, governors focused on increasing visibility within the school community and strengthening oversight of key priorities, including wellbeing, attendance and curriculum development. Governors also continued to support the development of the federation across both sites, ensuring that each school retained its unique identity whilst working collaboratively.

The Governing Body would like to thank the school leadership, staff and pupils for their continued hard work and commitment throughout the year. We also thank parents and carers for their ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

The Board of Governors

The Governing Body

Composition of the Governing Body (2024–2025)

Name	Role	Category
Mrs J Pierce-Jenkins	Chair	Local Authority Governor
Mrs J Taylor	Vice-Chair	Additional Community Governor
Ms A Pugh	Governor	Parent Governor
Ms K Davies	Governor	Parent Governor
Miss S Jones	Governor	Teacher Governor
Mrs A Burke-Williams	Governor	Staff Governor
Mrs E O'Neill	Governor	Acting Headteacher
Rev A Hooper	Governor	Foundation Governor
Rev R Sparey	Governor	Foundation Governor
Mrs K Lloyd-Jones	Governor	Foundation Governor
Miss K Pierce	Governor	Foundation Governor
Mrs G Jones	Governor	Foundation Governor
Mrs A Rowlands	Governor	Foundation Governor
Mrs M Dooley	Governor	Foundation Governor
Vacancy	—	Foundation Governor

Clerk to Governors: Mrs S de Prez

Governance Arrangements

The governing body meets twice per term.

Minutes are available from the school on request.

The Work of the Governing Body

Governing Body Priorities

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the Governing Body agreed a number of priorities to strengthen governance across the federation and support school improvement.

These priorities included:

- Increasing governor visibility within the school and wider community
- Strengthening governance oversight of school improvement priorities and monitoring processes
- Supporting staff to enable pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) to thrive and make appropriate progress
- Supporting the effective management of school finances across both sites
- Strengthening communication and engagement between governors and staff

Throughout the year, governors attended school events, services and activities across both sites in order to increase visibility and engagement with the school community. A governor information page was also established on the school website to improve communication and accessibility for parents.

Governors continued to strengthen governance procedures through regular committee work, policy review and link governor monitoring activities. Monitoring visits took place across a range of curriculum areas including Literacy, Welsh, Mathematics, Expressive Arts, Foundation Learning and ALN.

The governing body also maintained regular oversight of finance through Finance Committee meetings and budget monitoring. Governors reviewed and approved budget decisions and approved the 2025–2026 budget prior to submission to the Local Authority. Governors worked with the Acting Headteacher to ensure the effective use of resources across both school sites.

Governors continued to engage with staff throughout the year through staff governor feedback, monitoring activities and regular dialogue regarding wellbeing and school improvement priorities. Staff governors contributed to discussions relating to staff wellbeing and school priorities throughout the year.

School Development Priorities

Governors monitored progress against the School Improvement Plan (SIP) throughout the academic year through reports from the Acting Headteacher, link governor visits, committee discussions and reports from the School Improvement Partner.

Key priorities within the School Improvement Plan included:

- Improving attendance and wellbeing across the federation
- Developing consistency across both school sites
- Embedding Curriculum for Wales and strengthening curriculum planning
- Supporting pupil progress in Literacy and Mathematics
- Strengthening provision and support for pupils with Additional Learning Needs
- Developing assessment, monitoring and pupil progress tracking systems
- Continuing to develop expressive arts and wider curriculum opportunities

Governors received updates on progress towards these priorities throughout the year. Governors also received reports and challenge from the School Improvement Partner regarding leadership, school improvement and progress against identified priorities.

Governors monitored the continued development of Curriculum for Wales across both schools, including curriculum design, assessment arrangements and wider learning experiences. Governors also reviewed work relating to pupil wellbeing, attendance and support for vulnerable learners.

Governors monitored the continued development of collaborative working across both school sites in order to strengthen consistency and shared practice across the federation.

The governing body continued to support the development of the federation across both sites whilst recognising and valuing the unique identity of each school community.

Monitoring and Oversight

The Governing Body carried out its monitoring responsibilities through:

- Full Governing Body meetings
- Finance and Staffing Committee meetings
- Link governor visits and monitoring activities
- Reports from the Acting Headteacher
- School Improvement Partner reports
- Review and ratification of policies

Governors reviewed progress against the School Improvement Plan on a termly basis and used monitoring activities to provide both challenge and support for school leaders.

Governors also maintained oversight of safeguarding arrangements, attendance, wellbeing and ALN provision throughout the academic year.

The governing body reviewed and ratified a range of statutory and operational policies during the year in order to support the effective running of the federation.

Support for Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Governors maintained oversight of ALN provision through link governor roles and monitoring activities. This enabled governors to understand how effectively pupils with additional needs are supported to make progress.

Impact of Governance

During 2024–2025, governors continued to strengthen governance processes and oversight across the federation.

Monitoring activities and increased governor visibility supported governors in developing a stronger understanding of the strengths, priorities and challenges across both schools.

Governance processes, including policy review and monitoring, became more consistent and effective across the federation.

Governors maintained effective oversight of finance, wellbeing, attendance and school improvement priorities throughout the year.

Relationships between governors, staff, parents and the wider community continued to strengthen throughout the year.

The governing body continued to support collaborative working across the federation whilst recognising the individuality and strengths of each school community.

Governors remain committed to supporting continued school improvement and positive outcomes for all pupils across the federation.

School Performance and Attendance

Attendance

Attendance across the federation for the academic year was:

- Ysgol Licswm: 92.03%
- Ysgol yr Esgob: 93.07%

Governors monitored attendance regularly and supported the school in maintaining and improving attendance levels.

Outcomes

Pupils across the federation continue to make appropriate progress in their learning and development.

Finance and Resources

The governing body, through the Finance Committee, monitored the financial position of the federation throughout the year.

At the start of the financial year, both schools held brought forward balances. During 2024–2025, expenditure was primarily focused on staffing, premises, and resources to support teaching and learning.

Governors ensured that:

- spending aligned with the priorities in the School Development Plan
- resources were used effectively to support pupils across both sites
- financial decisions were carefully monitored and reviewed

The governing body approved the budget for 2025–2026 and continues to work closely with the headteacher and local authority to ensure financial sustainability across the federation.

Both schools maintained positive balances at the end of the financial year.

Additional Statutory Information

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

The federation supports pupils through both SEN and ALN systems in line with current legislation.

Provision includes:

- Universal and targeted support
- Individual Development Plans (IDPs) where appropriate
- Support from external agencies

Governors maintain oversight of this provision through monitoring and reporting.

Healthy Eating and Drinking

The school promotes healthy eating through:

- Healthy snacks and milk provision
- Access to drinking water
- School meals in line with Welsh Government guidance

School Facilities

Governors monitor the condition and maintenance of school buildings and facilities to ensure they are safe and suitable for pupils.

Toilet facilities are maintained to an appropriate standard and are accessible throughout the school day.

Extra-curricular Activities

Pupils benefit from a range of enrichment opportunities including sporting activities, residential visits and community experiences.

School Prospectus

The school prospectus is reviewed annually and is available via the school website or on request.

Welsh Language

The federation promotes the Welsh language through curriculum provision and daily school activities.

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The governing body continued to monitor safeguarding arrangements throughout the year to ensure statutory responsibilities were met.

Governors also monitored pupil wellbeing, attendance and support provision across the federation.

Meetings with Parents

During the academic year 2024–2025, no formal meetings were requested by parents under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

Parents may request meetings with the governing body in accordance with Welsh Government guidance.