

Rhayader Church In Wales Primary School

Ysgol Gynradd Yr
Eglwys Yng
Nghymru Rhaeadr
Gwy



Annual Report
to Parents

2020 - 2021

Dear Parent,

All around us life is currently feeling very full of challenges and this is certainly true in a school context, but at Rhayader Church in Wales Primary School we are seeking to ensure we take them on effectively and efficiently in order to provide the best opportunities for our children.

Clearly one of the challenges is the ongoing impact of COVID, and therefore it is crucial for all of us to be acting responsibly to help make sure the School remains as safe as possible for both staff and children on a daily basis.

Another challenge for staff is the ongoing development of the School's curriculum ready for the implementation of the new curriculum across Wales in September 2022. It has four key purposes, to help children become:

- 1) ambitious, capable learners,
- 2) healthy, confident individuals,
- 3) enterprising, creative contributors, and,
- 4) ethical, informed citizens

Please take the time to read this Annual Report to find out more about the different aspects of the work taking place within our School and do not hesitate to contact Mrs Crockett or myself if you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely,
Mr Graham Taylor
Chair of Governors (2020—2021)



About the Annual Report

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

To contact the Chair of Governor please address all correspondence FAO Mr Graham Taylor, c/o Rhayader Primary School, Bryntirion, Rhayader, Powys, LD6 5LT or via email on office@rhayader.powys.sch.uk

CONTACT DETAILS

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Who is who on the Governing Body?

Name	Capacity	Responsibilities	Term of office
Graham Taylor (Chair)	Co-opted	Personnel, Data, Finance, Complaints Officer	31/08/2018 31/08/2022
Linda Crockett / David Lewis	Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher (Observer)	Teaching and Learning	
Alison Peters	Foundation	Numeracy	01/06/2018 Left 2021
Guto Carrod (Vice Chair)	Parent		05/12/2018 05/12/2022
Anneka Price	Parent	Transition	01/11/2020 01/11/2024
Rebecca Unsworth	Parent	Literacy	01/11/2020 01/11/2024
Rhys Thomas	Parent	Attendance & Well-being	04/11/2019 04/11/2023
Councillor Kelvyn Curry	Local Authority	Equal Opportunities	31/12/2020 31/12/2024
Angela Davies	Local Authority	Safeguarding	01/06/2019 01/06/2023
Dr John Buchan	Local Authority	Maths ALN	31/08/2020 31/08/2024
Christian Walton	Local Council	Health & Safety	31/08/2020 31/08/2020
Carys Jones	Non-Teaching Staff		02/07/2018 02/07/2022
Julie Rimmer	Teaching Staff		02/07/2018 02/07/2022
Vacancy	Foundation		
Rev'd Lance Sharpe	Foundation		04/03/2019 04/03/2023

Clerk to Governors Caroleann Albiston – resigned September 2021 – current vacancy

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In 2020 – 2021, 203 pupils attended the school. There were a total of 94 pupils in the Foundation Phase and in Key Stage 2 there were a total of 109 pupils. A total of 69 pupils attended the Welsh Stream and were taught through the medium of Welsh.

As numbers on roll change each year and the choice between Welsh and English also differs, the class structure in the school changes annually to try and keep cohorts together where possible and to maximise learning.

During the Summer Term the governors met and discussed the class structure for September 2021 and made the difficult decision to split some year groups. A parent consultation was held to see how this could be done fairly and some of the Key Stage 2 children were involved in this. The pupils and parents voted to split the year groups based on age; the older children in a year group would work with the year group above and the younger children would work with the year group below. This structure meant all classes were kept under 30 and numbers across the classes were generally balanced. The average class size for 2020 – 2021 was 26. In 2021 – 2022 the class size average remains at 26.

Rhayader Church in Wales Primary School is a category 2 dual stream school. Both English and Welsh are used in the day to day business of the school.

The majority of the communication with parents is through the medium of English, however Welsh copies and translations are available if requested. Parents can choose Welsh medium or English medium education for their child.



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During the academic year 2020 - 2021, the children were assessed by teachers for internal use but pupil performance was not externally collated and therefore there are no performance indicators for this year and target setting for the next 3 years does not need to be reported. Governors and staff will continue to assess and target set each pupil for the school's own purpose and ensure support and challenge is provided appropriately. The information will not be shared publicly in this report.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE

The percentage of attendance at Rhayader Primary School for 2021 – 2022 was 94.7%. The percentage of unauthorised absences was 0.68%.

The full year's attendance cannot be compared to other schools due to the school closures and Covid remote learning periods.

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.

The governors have a target of 95.0% attendance for the pupils at Rhayader Primary School. To achieve this target it requires that pupils must not have no more 10 days absence from school in total inclusive of sickness and medical appointments.

The governors are keen that all parents follow this as high absenteeism impacts significantly on the school and pupils. We would like to remind you about the importance of good attendance and punctuality, which as a school we take very seriously.

Days off school soon add up and missing lessons makes it hard to catch up, resulting in children having to work harder when they come back and missing vital information that will prevent their progress. Teachers are unable to spend time individually teaching skills missed during days off as this impacts on the rest of the class.

Research shows socially children struggle when they have a high level of absenteeism.



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ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Sian Protheroe is the school's ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator). Dr John Buchan is the Governor with responsibility for ALN (Additional Learning Needs) provision at the school. For the academic year 2020 - 2021 the school had 19.7% of pupils on the Additional Learning Needs register.

Across the school:

14.8% were at School Action (pupils who have support in small groups or individually out of class);
4.43% were registered as School Action Plus (pupils have external agency involvement); and
0.47% Statemented pupils (pupils who have a legal entitlement to one-to-one provision).

Mrs Sian Protheroe and John Buchan meet regularly to discuss pupil progress and interventions used at the school. Each term class teachers and the ALNCo meet with parents of children on the ALN register to discuss the child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).



Start of day	8.55 a.m.
Register	9.05 – 9.30
First break (staggered)	10.00 – 11.15
Dinner	Reception, Year 1, Year 2, 3 to Year 6
	11.30 – 1.00 12.00 – 1.30 (staggered)
End of day	3.30 p.m.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

The school takes positive actions to promote healthy eating and drinking. The School achieves and maintains the Healthy Schools Award, WG Teeth Brushing Programme 'Designed to Smile', promotes healthy lunch boxes and complies with the WG requirements for school lunches via the canteen and catering department. Drinking water is freely available during the school day and pupils are encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Rhayader Church in Wales Primary School has achieved Phase 5 of the Healthy Schools Award. Kate Williams the Healthy School Officer visited the school to meet with the Well-being team and discuss new initiatives.

Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes



Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru

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GOVERNOR TRAINING

Name	Training	Date
Guto Carrod	Chair's Briefing	Termly
Graham Taylor	Chair's Briefing and Meetings with LA	Termly
Angela Davies	Safeguarding	Autumn 2020
Angela Davies	Online Safety	Autumn 2020
Angela Davies	360 degree Safeguarding audit	Spring 2021

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

The personnel committee met each term to review teacher pay and review Performance Management of the headteacher and for a summary of monitoring of teaching at the school.

The school became a partner Teacher Training Centre and Rebecca Unsworth was successfully recruited as an unqualified teacher to complete a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education) in primary teaching. The committee appointed Mr David Lewis as the Deputy Headteacher for the school and was assisted by Eurig Towns from the Local Authority for this process. The personnel governors also appointed Miss Tricia Rees-Jones as an extra teacher due to a rise in pupil numbers.

Unfortunately, Miss Rose Crowe was taken ill and has been on long term sick since May 2020. Miss Rhianydd Gardner was appointed to cover her absence. Miss Gardner had been on placement at the school and knew the children Miss Crowe was supporting. The governors would like to thank Miss Crowe for her dedication and work over the years and wish her a full recovery.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Governors conduct a Health and Safety Audit throughout the year of the school building and school grounds. Areas that were focused on were:

- Condition of car park and driveway. The works to the visitor car park and driveway were carried out in the Summer holidays 2020/2021
- Condition of outbuildings at rear of school. These were demolished in February 2020 and a new electric supply installed to the school.
- Woodland Management—external health and safety report. Tress causing concern are removed as necessary.
- Flooding / drainage to the playground and internal flooding issues
- Cylch Meithrin purpose built nursery unit
- Covid Risk Assessment – reviewed regularly to follow guidance and keep pupils, parents and staff safe.

CURRICULUM

During the summer term, 3 governors met via TEAMS with a small group of children from Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 to discuss their learning during the year. The governors were able to view samples of work and reported the pupils were aware of feedback from their teacher and how to incorporate the suggestions into the topic. Governors were pleased to hear that the pupils felt safe and happy to be back in school and were able to talk about their learning during lockdown.

FINANCE

The finance governors met to discuss the grounds maintenance contract. Tenders were sent out to Interested companies and three met the criteria to be considered. The governors unanimously decided to award the contract to HighGround Maintenance. The governors met termly to review the school budget and attended finance surgeries with Powys County Council Officers. Due to additional COVID-19 grants awarded to schools by the Welsh Government the school budget was in surplus for the year.

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The school had an internal audit in May 2016, the report concluded that Rhayader School has Effective Governance Framework in operation and the Auditor concluded the school has good financial controls in place in the relation to the management and use of the delegated budget.

Each year the school endeavours to improve the school environment, purchase teaching and learning resources and maintain low staff to pupil ratios whilst keeping the school delegated budget in credit. Rising costs and local authorities efficiencies have put an increasing strain on the school budget. The school is becoming more reliant on grant funding and PTFA funding for equipment and resources.

	RHAYADER BUDGET 2020 - 2021	-
Final 19/20		Final 19/20
186	Actual Pupil Numbers	200
	INCOME	
759,774	Total Delegated Funds from Powys CC	834,636
62,774	Other Income	160,051.74
822,548	TOTAL INCOME	994,687.74
	EXPENDITURE	
796,733	SALARIES & WAGES	794,385.61
74,719	PREMISES	86,645.13
26,907	SUPPLIES, OFFICE & OTHER EXPENSES	51,120.61
865,973	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	932,151.35
(45,752)	Surplus/(deficit)	62,536.39
(122)	Surplus/(deficit B/F)	(45,860.48)
(45,854)	Surplus/(deficit C/F)	16,675.91

The carry forward of £16,675.91 will be used to offset a predicted deficit budget in 2021 – 2022 due to the rise in pupil numbers.

The school also has a school fund account, which is a current account with a local bank allowing the school to pay in cash and cheques and have a chequebook and bankcard to pay for non-vat resources and equipment to companies not registered on the Powys e-procurement payment site. This fund is often used as a holding account for donations, which are then paid to the Powys account when equipment is purchased.

Opening Balance 1.04.20		£ 2,585.15
INCOME		
Total Income		£ 14,978.15
EXPENDITURE		
Total Expenditure		£ 11,441.96
Closing Balance 31.03.21		£ 6,121.34

Both of the school accounts are audited and thoroughly checked annually to ensure all payments are accounted for and received. The budget sheets are sent to Powys County Council annually.

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COMMUNITY LINKS

Community links are strong at Rhayader Church in Wales Primary. The school maintains close links with the Church, local Secondary Schools, various local businesses and other primary schools. The school uses the community as an important resource to enrich the curriculum.

PC Viv Ainsworth attends the school regularly to speak to the children about E-Safety, anti-social behaviour, stranger danger and also drug awareness. Laura Saunders, Fire Safety Officer, visited the school to talk to the Year 2 and Year 5 classes.

The school has fundraised for a number of charities. The charities are selected in consultation with the Pupil Voice Committee. The school held a Children in Need Parade, Cancer Research and Shoe-boxes for the Amen appeal.

The school raised for school funds from recycling clothes for the Rags to Riches scheme and the Pupil Voice Committee set up 'Siop Revolve', a stall to sell second hand uniform and clothes and a scheme to hire out party ware to save wasted paper plates etc.

Each bubble focused on an environmental project in the Summer term, the older children worked with Powys litterpicking around Rhayader, the younger children learnt about bees and created bee-friendly gardens. The local shops helped the children to grow plants and Hafod Hardware and CCF donated seeds and compost to the classes.

The Year 6 leavers attended a service in St Clement's Church with Rev'd Lance Sharpe and the diocese officer Mr John Meredith.

Carad provided every family with a half-term craft bag so the children could make and do things with their family when they were on school holidays.

PTFA

This year the PTFA have purchased Christmas gifts for the children and Year 6 Leaver hoodies.

The governors are extremely grateful to the PTFA for their support and would like to encourage more parents to become involved in the PTFA. The additional pressures on the school's limited budget makes the fundraising by the PTFA essential for the school to afford basic resources.

Due to Covid, events were limited but a grand draw of Wales rugby shirt and shorts donated by Mr Wyn Jones raised £2,075 and Llion Bennetts donated £535 for fundraising for his Scout Walk 20K challenge, the PTFA has the proceeds of the School Lottery as a regular income.



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SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

The school prospectus for parents has been updated for the Academic Year with the updated classroom structure and staffing. This was distributed to new parents. A copy of the new prospectus can be obtained as a hard copy from the school office on request and can be viewed and downloaded from the school website. The school prospectus meets all requirements of the Welsh Government. A working party of governors meet with the headteacher to review and update the Prospectus and Staff Handbook.

The purpose of the School Prospectus is to provide a comprehensive insight into all aspects of the school and to convey details about current school procedures.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/2022

Autumn Term 2021

Thursday 2nd September 2021 to Friday 22nd October 2021

Half-Term: Monday 25th October 2021 to Friday 29th October 2021

Monday 1st November 2021 to Wednesday 22nd December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Wednesday 5th January 2022 to Friday 18th February 2022

Half-Term: Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022

Monday 28th February 2022 to Thursday 7th April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 26th April 2022 to Friday 27th May 2022

Half-Term: Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022

Monday 6th June 2022 to Thursday 14th July 2022

The governors held the last Annual General Meeting reporting to parents in 19th November 2012. Since this there has not been a petition to hold a meeting. There were no issues raised by parents for the governors to address following the 2019-2021 Governors' Report.

We hope you found this report informative and that 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 Graham Taylor (Chair of Governors).

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