



Annual Governors' Report to Parents / Guardians 2021 – 2022



The School Governing body play a key role in improving standards within school.

They also:

- ✓ Have a duty to promote the highest standards of educational environments.
 - ✓ Establish a strategic framework for the school.
 - ✓ Regularly review the progress made.
- ✓ Act as a critical friend to the school leadership team.

CORFF LLYWODRAETHWYR / GOVERNING BODY

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to present the Annual Report from the Governing Body of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, on the activity and life of our School. I hope that you will find the content of this report helpful and informative.

My name is David Jerman and I am the newly appointed Chair of Governors. Trefeglwys and the local area is well known to me; having grown up in the village and attended the local primary school. I am also a member of Trefeglwys Community Council. Despite having only been a governor at the school since August 2022, I am pleased to take on the role as Chair for this academic year. I would like to express a sincere thanks to the outgoing Chair, Mrs Sue Wilcox, for her commitment, support, guidance and contribution to the school over recent years.

The Governing Body are extremely proud of our school community and recognise the important contribution that pupils, staff, parents / carers and governors make. We are particularly grateful for the way the staff provide many enriching opportunities and experiences that help to make our school an exciting place to learn and grow.

Over the last academic year, Covid-19 continued to impact the school, particularly in the first part of the year with the children and parents unable to mix freely within the school and most off-site visits were not possible. During this time, the governors continued to meet regularly via Teams to support staff and listen to the learners.

In July 2022, the school was inspected by ESTYN and we have since received a very pleasing report highlighting many positive aspects along with areas to develop. The positive report is proof that the school has coped remarkably well with the challenges of the past two years.

The governing body recognises that high standards cannot be achieved without the dedication of the entire school staff. Our thanks go to the teaching staff and support assistants who support the children to reach their potential, to the secretarial staff, midday supervisors and cleaning staff who ensure we have an organised, clean and safe environment in which to teach and learn. Thank you also to Mrs Harries who ensures that all runs smoothly to give pupils the opportunities they deserve. I would also like to thank the 'Friends of YDT' for their hard work in raising additional funds that are vital for the school.

Finally, I would just like to say a big thank you to all our pupils who have worked so hard this year and have made us all very proud of their achievements.

David Jerman
Chair of Governors

Staffing Structure for 2021-2022

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Harries

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gwenfair Owen

Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo): Miss Emma Richardson

Class	Teacher	Teaching assistants
WM Reception	Mrs Beth Jones	Mrs Sarah Walters
WM Year 1 & 2	Miss Emma Richardson	Mrs Nesta Jones
WM Year 3 & 4	Miss Cerys Richards	
EM Year 3, 4, 5 & 6	Mrs Jemma Davies	Mrs Nic Macken Mrs Anna Gethin
WM Year 5 & 6	Mrs Gwenfair Owen	Mrs Emma Baker-Davies Miss Ffion Richards
PPA	Mrs Sara Aeron	

*English medium – EM Welsh medium – WM

Supporting Staff

School Secretaries: Mrs Tracy Jones and Mrs Sian Canning

Midday Supervisors: Mrs Tracy Jones and Mrs Ann Jones.

Peripatetic Music Teacher: Miss Lowri Preston (Piano)

2021-2022 members of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's Governing Body

Category of Governor	Name of Governor	Term Expires	Position held
Headteacher	Caroline Harries	-	
Local Authority	Gary Mitchell	June 2026	
Local Authority	Iwan Owen	February 2023	
Minor Authority	Nick Bennett	Resigned June 2022	
Community	Sue Wilcox	Resigned July 2022	Chairperson
Community	Jordan Davies	March 2024	Vice Chairperson
Parent	Gerwyn Hughes	October 2024	
Parent	Roland Davies	February 2026	
Parent	Hannah Gittoes	February 2026	
Teaching staff	Gwenfair Owen	March 2025	
Non-teaching	Sarah Walters	February 2026	
Clerk of Governors	Jen Wilde	-	

Arrangements for the next election to the Governing Body:

The Educating Authority and the school will notify parents / guardians about any opportunities to be part of the Governing Body and the election arrangements.

The Governors' Annual Report to Parents is one way which Governors use to keep parents informed about the school their child attends.

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (The Act) removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to three meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them. If parents wish to use their rights under the Act to hold a meeting, four conditions will need to be satisfied:

1. Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.

The parents of at least 10% of the school's registered pupils. If it is a paper petition, then a written signature must be given as well as the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school. If the petition is in electronic format, the 'signature' required is the typed name of the parent plus the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school and the email address of each parent who 'signs' the electronic petition.

There were 101 children registered as pupils with this school at the beginning of this academic year. Exact roll numbers at any time during the year may be obtained from the school office.

2. The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school

The meeting cannot be called to discuss such matters as the progress of individual pupils, or to make a complaint against a member of the school's staff or governing body.

The petition should contain brief details of the matter(s) to be discussed, and the reasons for calling the meeting. This information should be clearly displayed at the top of the petition, with parents' signatures appearing below.

3. A maximum of three meetings can be held during the school year

The law allows parents to use their rights to request up to three meetings with a school governing body during the school year.

4. There must be at least 25 school days left in the school year

The law makes it a condition that at least 25 school days are left in the school year when the petition is received so that the meeting can be held. A "school day" means a day when the school is open to pupils: it does not include weekends, public holidays, school holidays or INSET days.

The address for service of a petition requesting a meeting with this school's governing body is:

The Clerk to Governors

Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon,

Trefeglwys,

Caersws,

Powys,

SY17 5PH

Further advice on how parents may go about requesting a meeting with a governing body is available on the Welsh Government's website at: <http://wales.gov.uk>

School Calendar 2022-2023

Autumn term 2022	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Monday 5 September to Friday 28 October	Thursday 1 September Friday 2 September Friday 7 October	39 days
Half Term – Monday 31 October to Friday 4 November		
Monday 7 November to Wednesday 21 December		33 days
Spring term 2023	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Monday 9 January To Friday 17 February		30 days
Half Term – Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February		
Monday 27 February to Friday 31 March		25 days
Summer term 2023	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Monday 17 April to Friday 26 May		29 days
Half Term – Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June		
Monday 5 June to Friday 21 July	Friday 14 July Monday 24 July	34 days

Good Friday	Friday 7 April 2023
Easter Monday	Monday 10 April 2023
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 May 2023
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 29 May 2023
Royal Welsh Show	Monday 24 July to Thursday 27 July 2023

Admissions

The school complies with Local Authority guidelines. There is one intake each September, the beginning of the Autumn Term, after a child has had their fourth birthday.

Admission arrangements for pupils with disabilities

We are keen to ensure that the needs of each individual in the school, regardless of ability or disability, should be met as far as possible. The head teacher will discuss the needs of each pupil wishing to be admitted to the school with their parents/carers and with any other agency involved.

The governing body is committed to planning for the needs of people with disabilities – whether pupils, teachers or visitors when making alterations to the school building, but in the meantime, we have the flexibility to plan and cater for particular needs, as far as we possibly can.

Transition – Year 6 pupils 2022

We have strong links with Llanidloes High School and aim to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 6 pupils as they generally move to Llanidloes High School. Visits are planned each year giving opportunities to attend a range of lessons and activities. The Head of year 7 and Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) from Llanidloes High School visit in the Summer Term to meet the children of Year 6 and to consult with staff. Teachers work hard to share all relevant information in the knowledge that regular liaison between teachers ensures progress and continuity during this important period of transition. Transition activities usually include Design & Technology activities, sporting events and Science sessions.

At the end of their time at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the summer, our children left to begin their secondary schooling at Llanidloes High School. We wish them well on the next stage of their journey.



Pupils' attendance

Parents have a duty to inform the school of reasons for any pupil absence on the morning of the first day of absence by telephone, email or personal contact. The Headteacher or Deputy (in the Headteachers absence) is the only person allowed to authorise an absence. If a reason for absence is not deemed sufficient the absence will be considered unauthorised. Judgements regarding the school are made in respect of pupil attendance by Estyn inspectors and the Local Education Office.

The school monitors attendance and punctuality on a regular basis. For 2021-2022, the school's actual attendance was 92.81%. Absence from school is a contributing factor in low pupil attainment, so Welsh government continues to target attendance. The attendance target for 2022 – 2023 is 95.5%.

Parents / Carers are encouraged to take holidays when school is closed, or these may be recorded as unauthorised absences. Where attendance falls below an acceptable level, the school works in collaboration with the Education Wellbeing Officers and warnings may be issued where deemed necessary.

School Hours

Times	Sessions
08:55 – 10:30	Morning session 1
10:30 – 10:45	Playtime
10:45 – 11:45	Morning session 2 (Foundation Phase)
10:45 – 12:00	Morning session 2 (Year 3 & 4)
10:45 – 12:00	Morning session 2 (Year 5 & 6)
11:45-12.45pm / 12-1pm	Lunchtime
1:00 – 3:10 / 3.20	Afternoon session
<i>Foundation Phase pupils finish at 3:10pm</i>	
<i>Bus pupils leave at 3:15pm</i>	
<i>Key Stage two finish at 3:20pm</i>	

Review of school policies

The Governing Body is continually reviewing school policies on a rolling programme and over the last year, several policies have been revised and approved. For further information regarding policies, please refer to the school website. The school prospectus / handbook is updated annually to include any changes required by Welsh Government or other related bodies. Updates include staffing, calendar of dates, school routines, school results etc. The prospectus is available on the school website.

School strategies

At Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, leaders have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making. Each member of staff and each governor is a member of at least one aspect of the school's life, working as a strong team to improve and raise standards. Pupil voice is supported through the School Council, Criw Siarter Iaith / Criw Cymraeg Campus, Eco Committee and parents valued through meetings and surveys; ensuring that the whole school community is part of the consultation and decision-making process. The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, work with the school community and Local Authority to identify priorities, plan and action developments for these, and to closely monitor impact and outcomes.

The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and 'hands on' monitoring visits. School to school support is also utilised effectively to improve standards, provision and leadership. During 2021-2022 meetings were held virtually and face-to-face.

The School's main priorities in 2021-2022.

<u>Priority 1</u> Implementation of the new curriculum – continue to refine and improve pedagogy	<u>Priority 2</u> Improve standards of oracy and reading across the school.
<u>Priority 3</u> Implement the new ALN Act from September 2021 and further develop the role of the ALNCo	<u>Priority 4</u> Improving leadership at all levels and ensure that self-evaluation activities are effective.
<u>Priority 5</u> Improve provision around active independent learning in the foundation phase, focusing on basic literacy and numeracy skills, following the pandemic.	

The study of the school's progress data is carried out to ensure that the school answers all the pupils' needs. The teachers meet regularly to plan, train and to focus on the school's improvement plans.

The priorities are monitored and reported on termly, this is checked through support visits by the Local Authority, School Improvement Advisors.

Estyn Recommendations

Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon was inspected in July 2022. Estyn gave the following recommendations:

1. Improve pupils' skills and raise their standards of extended writing.
2. Ensure that pupils apply their numeracy skills effectively across the curriculum.
3. Plan effective progression in pupils' skills as they move through the school.
4. Ensure consistency in practices when responding to pupils' work across the school

Target Setting

Governors have worked with the Senior Leadership Team to set targets for the forthcoming three years. The process of agreeing targets is based on the following principles:

- Targets should be challenging, realistic and manageable.
- Targets should be school specific.
- Targets should be meaningful.
- Targets should be considered over a time span of more than one year.

Staff training

Examples of courses attended by staff between September 2021 and August 2022:

Courses / Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Epi Pen Training▪ VAWDAAW▪ Safeguarding inc. Designated Safeguarding Lead training▪ Taith 360 tracking tool▪ First Aid▪ Behaviour for Learning (Cluster)▪ New Curriculum▪ Cluster Heads meetings▪ Purposeful Planning▪ NQT mentor training▪ Mental Health Launch
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Bilingualism

Bilingualism is the ability to live part of your daily life in two languages. Welsh and English provision exists side by side at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon – a dual stream school. We are a school in transition to Welsh medium.

Additional Learning needs (ALN)

Arrangements for those pupils with additional learning needs have been monitored both within the school and externally. Support mechanisms have been put in place to best fit each child's individual needs. During the year, there were between 10 – 14 pupils listed on the ALN register: below the national average. Intervention programmes have included strategies such as speech therapy, Nessy literacy, Catch-up and basic skills work. External support has included hearing / visual impairment support and speech therapy sessions. The ALNCo is Miss Emma Richardson, appointed in the Autumn Term 2021.

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

The school sets a high importance on the 'Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing' of all its pupils and staff. The staff have undertaken numerous training events and have worked with parents/carers to address any individual pupils needs. The school is lucky to have one member of staff ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) trained and two members are in the process of studying for a diploma in 'Trauma Informed Schools' (TIS). Staff go above and beyond to build trusting relationships with all pupils and to work with all families to fully support pupils.

Curriculum

At Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon we offer a broad and balanced curriculum that meets all statutory requirements. Teachers continue to review the curriculum considering the new curriculum. Activities and topics are planned using the 'Literacy and Numeracy Framework' and 'Digital Competency Framework'. We focus on 'Pupil Voice' where the learners take an active role in the curriculum and support in generating ideas towards topics.

We have been fortunate to welcome Arad Goch to YDT who performed 'Inside, Outside, to our year 5 & 6 pupils – one of our first live performances since Covid! Pupil voice led the learning in Mrs Davies class as they were inspired by COP26 as part of their theme 'Oceans'. Letters were written to Mark Drakeford and Boris Johnson to ask them to reduce the plastic that pollutes our oceans.

As part of the new curriculum preparations, the pupils worked hard to compose a new anthem / song for YDT. A fantastic couple of days were had, with the help of Branwen and Osian from Candelas. This was followed by a whole school mural, created by the help of Catrin Williams. Creativity at it's best!



School links with the Community

The school is keen to promote links with local businesses and other organisations within our community and benefits greatly from their support. We have established links with a number of local sports organisations, including Llanidloes Junior Football Club, Llanidloes Rugby Club and Tennis Club. Established links with the library continue to enrich our pupils with the summer reading challenge.

Musically, the school encourages children actively to participate in a wide variety of activities. It is recognised that these have been limited due to the continuing Covid restrictions, but we are steadily re-introducing many aspects included participation in Eisteddfodau and Urdd dance competitions, albeit limited due to restrictions this year. Instrumental lessons are offered on a weekly basis by a peripatetic member of staff for pupils to learn the piano. The Urdd is supported by pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon and this year saw our 100 pupils singing 'Happy 100th Birthday' to Mr Urdd and being part of a successful Guinness World Record Breaking attempt!

Children have many opportunities to listen to a wide range of speakers from various agencies. These include our community police liaison officer, pupil voice groups, school nurse, the fire brigade, and Open the Book assemblies – many of the presentations were held virtually 2021-2022 however, the children responded very well. We have good links with the local church, St Michael's, although our Thanksgiving service was held at school in October 2021, due to the restrictions. By Christmas, we joined the Church for the 'Roving Nativity' and Christmas tree lights switch-on.

Charities that we supported include Young Minds, Children in Need, Christmas Jumper Day, Operation Christmas Child, the Poppy Appeal and Comic Relief. We also support 'Llani Pantri' foodbank as part of our Harvest celebrations.

The Criw Siarter Iaith and Cymraeg Campus worked closely to arrange 'Shwmae, Su'mae Day' and created a video to help people to speak Welsh by sharing some Welsh phrases. with the local shop 'Mantles', to produce bi-lingual signage to display. At the end of the summer term, each pupil had chance to go to the shop and choose an ice-cream / lolly of their choice – what a treat!



Sporting Aims and Achievements

Sport plays an important part in school life and our Bronze Ambassadors support many activities. Children participate in a variety of team games as an integral part of the Health and Wellbeing - P.E. curriculum. The children also benefit from the work of the WRU sports coach who teaches them on a rota basis. The schools facilitate a sports club 'DM Pro', run by Mr Matthew Savage.

Several pupils were successful in swimming gala's over the year and worked individually and in team events.

It was lovely to welcome parents and carers back for our annual Sports Day in June 2022. We were lucky that the weather was so nice and a good time was had by all!



Residential Visit

We were thrilled to be able to offer year 6 pupils the opportunity to visit Elan Valley Lodge in June 2022. Experiences included rock climbing, abseiling, archery, orienteering, kayaking and much more. The pupils gained valuable skills and were a pleasure to take.



Health and Hygiene

Hygiene – the school water systems are checked monthly for legionella bacteria and the toilets and cloakroom are cleaned thoroughly each evening. Pupils are encouraged to form good hygiene habits from a young age.

Healthy Living – we encourage within many aspects of school life:

- Fruit snacks at morning breaktime
- Milk provision – Foundation Phase
- Promoting healthy lunch boxes
- Encouraging children to drink plenty of water
- Breakfast club available
- A range of outdoor learning activities and opportunities

Breakfast club

The Breakfast Club has been running in school for a few years. The doors open for children to enter the club at 7:55 each day. The club is popular. Cereal, toast and water is available for the children to have. A variety of activities are also available in a happy and safe environment.

After School Club

The After-School club – ‘Tree Tops’ opened in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in 2011. It has now been running for a number of years now which has proven a popular choice for parents. It is open between 3:20pm and 5:00pm Monday to Friday. Healthy snacks are offered to the children whilst in club. The pupils also enjoy being involved in a variety of after school clubs.

Pre-school: Cylch Trannon

Cylch Trannon has expanded and in addition to 2year old provision, the Cylch also offers pre-school (3-plus) provision at the school. Provision is available across a range of hours on each day the school is open, and the setting is a valued feeder setting for children who go on to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.

Toilets

We have excellent toilet facilities here at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. We have staff toilets by the main entrance, male and female. We also have a disabled toilet to meet the needs of all. There are two cloakroom areas – one is Foundation Phase and one is Key Stage 2. These cloakrooms lead to the Foundation Phase toilets and the Key Stage 2 toilets (3 girls toilets, one disabled toilet, one boys toilets, one urinal and one disabled toilet). Cylch Trannon pre-school provision have direct access from their classroom to the toilets, one disabled toilet is located here too. Catering staff have access to one toilet by the school kitchen for staff only.

All toilet facilities provide privacy for the user and have properly maintained supplies at all times of warm and cold water, soap, hand drying facilities and toilet tissue dispensers are provided at a convenient height to suit the children.

Finance

The local authority provides the school with a budget for each financial year based primarily on pupil numbers. Governors then decide how this money should be allocated and agree a budget that is followed for the year. The account is monitored by the senior leadership team, the local authority and the Governing Body.

School Delegated budget accounts 2021-22

Actual Outturn 2021-22	£550,962
<i>Salaries and wages</i>	£468,283
<i>Premises cost</i>	£76,070
<i>Supplies, Office and other expenses</i>	£41,427
<i>Total expenditure</i>	£585,780
<i>Income (EIG / PDG etc)</i>	£119,337
<i>Net expenditure</i>	£466,443
<i>Balance B / F</i> (includes previous balances b/f)	£63,827

School Fund

This account is separate from the delegated school budget and is where such monies as donations, contributions to school activities / trips, school organised fund-raising activities etc is placed. This account is externally audited on an annual basis.