



Annual Governors' Report to Parents / Guardians September 2022 – August 2023



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,

On behalf of the governing body, I am pleased to present the school's 2022-2023 annual report. It provides an overview of the life of the school along with information about school priorities, staffing, finance, membership of the governing body and other useful information.

I am in my second year as governor, and it has been a privilege to be part of a dedicated team of committed volunteers who give up their valuable time to support the school. As governors, we aim to make sure that an already successful school continues to improve. The children's progress and happiness remain the focus of our efforts.

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.

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

Current School Staff

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Harries

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gwenfair Owen

Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo): Miss Emma Richardson

Class	Teacher	Teaching assistants
WM Foundation Learners Reception, Years 1 and 2	Mrs Beth Jones Miss Emma Richardson Mrs Sara Aeron	Mrs Sarah Walters Mrs Nesta Jones Mrs Emma Baker-Davies Mrs Anna Gethin
WM Year 3 & 4	Miss Cerys Richards	
EM Year 4, 5 & 6	Mrs Jemma Davies	
WM Year 5 & 6	Mrs Gwenfair Owen	
Additional cover	Mrs Caroline Harries	

*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) Mr Duncan Bache (Guitar)

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 2027	
Minor Authority	David Jerman	August 2026	Chairperson
Community	Pat Davies	June 2027	
Community	Jordan Davies	March 2024	
Parent	Gerwyn Hughes	October 2024	
Parent	Roland Davies	February 2026	Vice Chairperson
Parent	Hannah Gittoes	February 2026	
Teaching staff	Gwenfair Owen	March 2025	
Non-teaching	Sarah Walters	February 2026	
Clerk of Governors	Jen Wilde	-	

The full Governing Body met at least twice a term, the sub-committees met as required, 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>

No expenses for travelling or subsistence were paid to Governors.

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 term of office is 4 years.

School Calendar 2023-2024

Autumn term 2023	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Monday 4 September to Friday 27 October	Thursday 1 September Monday 25 September Tuesday 26 September	38 days
Half Term – Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November		
Monday 6 November to Thursday 21 December	Friday 22 December	34 days
Spring term 2024	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Tuesday 9 January To Friday 9 February	Monday 8 January	24 days
Half Term – Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February		
Monday 19 February to Friday 22 March		25 days
Summer term 2024	Non- pupil days	No. of school days
Monday 8 April to Friday 24 May		34 days
Half Term – Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May		
Monday 3 June to Friday 19 July	Monday 1 July	34 days

Good Friday	Friday 29 March 2024
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 27 May 2024
Royal Welsh Show	Monday 22 July to Thursday 25 July 2024

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 2023

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 (or via MS Teams) 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 2022-2023, the school's actual attendance was 93.68%. This was below our school target of 95.5%. Absence from school is a contributing factor in low pupil attainment, so Welsh government continues to target attendance. The attendance target for 2023 – 2024 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 Learners)
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 learners 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 next parent survey will be shared January 2024.

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.

The school's main priorities in 2022-2023 were:

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Priority 1</u></p> <p>Improve pupils' skills and raise their standards of extended writing.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Priority 2</u></p> <p>Ensure that pupils apply their numeracy skills effectively across the curriculum.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Priority 3</u></p> <p>Plan effective progression in pupils' skills as they move through the school.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Priority 4</u></p> <p>Ensure consistency in practices when responding to pupils' work across the school.</p>

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 2022 and August 2023:

Courses / Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Epi Pen Training▪ Team around the Cluster meetings▪ ALN Fora and consultations▪ Safeguarding inc. Designated Safeguarding Lead training▪ First Aid at Work▪ Fire Marshall Training▪ Fire e-learning▪ Charanga music resource▪ AoLE (Area of Learning Experience) cluster training▪ Cluster Heads meetings▪ NQT (Newly Qualified Teacher) mentor training
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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. For 2022-2023, the school benefitted from an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) and two members successfully gained a Level 5 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 studied our 'Cynefin' which included researching the old school. Mrs Sioned Bowen, previous Headteacher, was invited to come and speak with the pupils. A wonderful experience.
- Sioned Webb and Arfon Gwilym visited and pupils enjoyed a harp workshop.
- Members of the Farmers Union Wales came to visit on World School Milk Day 2022. Pupils enjoyed listening to Mrs Anwen Jones and enjoyed tasting some fresh milk from Daisy Bank Dairy.
- Caersws Primary School joined our pupils, and we supported them in developing their Welsh language skills and pupils had an Easter competition.
- Most year 6 pupils visited Swansea for the DVLA Coding challenge.
- Theatr visit – Snow White
- Criw Cymraeg Campus gained the SILVER award – well done!
- Healthy Schools Committee set up the 'Fan Ffrwythau – Fruit Van', every Friday breaktime.
- Session with Huw Aaron the illustrator.
- Science activities from 'Explore', as part of 'Science Week'.
- NSA Sheep Event



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 several 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. We have seen pupils participating in Trefeglwys and the Urdd Eisteddfodau along with Urdd dance competitions. Instrumental lessons are offered on a weekly basis by a peripatetic staff for pupils to learn the piano and the guitar.

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. We have good links with the local church, St Michael's, and our Thanksgiving service was held there in October 2022. At Christmas, we joined the Church for the 'Roving Nativity' and Christmas tree lights switch-on.

One amazing experience from the beginning to the end, was when Penri Roberts started a week off with a re-enactment of the Chartist's history, classes researched the life of the chartist's, made costumes and created placards for the march which took place through the streets of Llanidloes.

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 invited Delma Thomas to school, to talk through the process of producing 'Seren Hafren' – the local Welsh newspaper.





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 school facilitate a sports club 'DM Pro', run by Mr Matthew Savage.

Several pupils were successful in cross country, in swimming galas and rugby competitions over the year and they worked individually and in team events. We had success in netball which was great as we had not competed in a netball competition for some time!

It was lovely to welcome parents and carers for our annual Sports Day in June 2023. We were lucky that the weather was fine 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 2023. 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 Learners
- 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.

After School Club

The After-School club – ‘Tree Tops’ opened in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in 2011. It has been running for several 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.

Pre-school: Cylch Trannon

Cylch Trannon offers 2-year-old provision and pre-school 3-year-old 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 / visitor toilets by the main entrance. We also have a disabled toilet to meet the needs of all. There are two cloakroom areas – one is for foundation learners, and one is for older learners. 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 2022-23

Total Delegated Budget	568,675
Salaries and Wages	525,424
Premises cost	76,705
Supplies, office and other expenses	42,676
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	644,805
Income (EIG/PDG etc)	66,663
NET EXPENDITURE	578,142
Balance B/F	148,346

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.