

GOVERNORS REPORT TO PARENTS

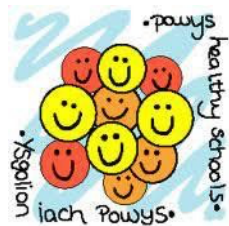
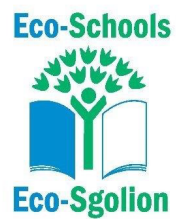
SCHOOL YEAR: September 2024-July 2025

Ysgol Maesyrhandir School



“Everybody’s Somebody”

“Mae Pawb yn Rhywun”



Foreword from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

I have pleasure in presenting the 2024 - 2025 Governors' Annual Report to Parents.

I would like to once again thank the headteacher and school staff for their continued hard work and dedication. I cannot emphasise enough how lucky we are to have the staff that we have in our school which is a privilege.

This year has seen us carry on with all our activities both external visits and on-site. They present marvellous opportunities for our children to have these different experiences led by experienced and enthusiastic members of staff. We had some amazing Christmas performances which were a joy and once again the hard work from staff and pupils was obvious to see.

As always, uncertainty over future budgets delegated by Powys County Council, during this time of national financial pressures, will present further challenges going forward. Additional funding continues to be given for each child who is registered for free school meals (eFSM), whether they receive a school meal or decide to bring their own packed lunch. If your child is eligible for free school meals, then please do register them as the school will benefit both financially and in the way that pupil outcomes are judged by the Welsh Government. Other pupils are not aware of who receives free school meals. We will continue to monitor the situation being mindful that shortages in our budget do not impact on the education of our children.

Our school attendance is unchanged this year. I would like to remind you all how important it is that your child attends every day that they are fit and well enough to do so. Judgements regarding the school are made in respect of pupil attendance by Estyn and the Local Authority.

This year we are again indebted to Friends of the School for their excellent support both to the school and the wider community. The constant activities that they undertake are inspirational and we are extremely fortunate to benefit from their endeavours. Thank you to all the parents who support them and support the activities that they arrange for our children.

Every year brings its own challenges, some we are unable to predict, but I am confident that given the wonderful staff, pupils and parental support we will work together and have another successful year.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Walters

Acting Chair of the governing body, 2024 - 2025

The Governing Body did not hold a parents' meeting in the academic year, 2020/21, pursuant to section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. For detailed information regarding statutory requirement, petitions and the process for holding a meeting, please follow this link: www.gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/130503-statutoryguidance-parentsmeetings The Governing body and Headteacher share responsibility and are accountable for the strategic direction of Maesyrhandir C.P. School and for the quality of education provided. The core responsibilities of the Governing Body are:

- **Volunteers**
- **promote the highest educational and behaviour standards**
- **establish a strategic framework for the school**
- **ensure all learners have access to a broad, challenging and balanced curriculum**
- **regularly review the progress made**
- **act as a 'critical friend' to the senior leadership team**
- **determine and monitoring school's budget**
- **staffing – e.g. staff appointments, performance management**
- **provide parents with information regarding school performance**
- **the wellbeing and safeguarding of staff and pupils**

Maesyrhandir School Governors 2024/25

Community	GOV0910	G61339B	Hendy	Rebecca		20/06/2016	11/10/2022	10/10/2026
Community	GOV0911	G61816B	Jennings	Graham	Mr		28/01/2025	27/01/2029
Community	GOV0912	G60720B	Allen	Yuko	Mrs	10/1/2013	06/04/2022	05/04/2026
Headteacher	GOV0909		Bufton	Caroline	Mrs			
LEA	GOV0919		Healy	Kelly	Cllr	09/11/2022	09/11/2022	08/11/2026
LEA	GOV0920		Wilcox	Susan		14/12/2023	14/12/2023	13/12/2027
LEA	GOV0921	G51323C	Rowlands	Carolyn	Miss	11/05/2009	26/06/2021	25/06/2025
Minor Authority	GOV0908		Gwilt	Darryl	Mr	09/07/2024	09/07/2024	08/07/2028
Parent	GOV0915	G62406A	Walters	Sarah	Ms	14/03/2023	14/03/2023	13/03/2027
Parent	GOV0916		Allum	Robert	Mr	20/09/2024	20/09/2024	19/09/2028
Parent	GOV0917		Thomas	Laura	Ms	20/09/2024	20/09/2024	19/09/2028
Parent	GOV0918		Bell	Monique	Ms		17/01/2025	16/01/2029
Staff	GOV0914	G03942B	Kelly	Heather Elizabeth	Mrs	24/9/1991	21/10/2024	20/10/2028
Teacher	GOV0913		Hughes	Lynne	Miss	21/10/2024	21/10/2024	20/10/2028

We will notify you if a vacancy should arise in the parent governor, or community governor positions, with details of how to apply and the election process.

Contact Details for the Chair and Clerk

Chair: Sarah Walters, c/o Maesyrhandir School, Plantation Lane, Newtown, Powys, SY16 1LH **Clerk:** Mrs Jennifer Wilde, C/O Powys LA, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5DG . jennifer.wilde@powys.gov.uk

Meetings

During the academic year 2024 – 25 the full Governing Body have met in person and via teams.

In addition to this, the following sub-committees have also met over the course of the year: Pay and Review, Staffing and Finance, Curriculum, Sites and Buildings, Heads performance Management and Policy Committees. The dates of the meetings are listed below.

17/09/2024

16/12/2024

28/01/2025

07/04/2025

09/04/2025

20/05/2025

24/06/2025

Involvement in School Life

The governors play an active role in school life. Most have met in small groups in person to carry out their roles. Several governors have met with pupils to discuss wellbeing and their learning.

Policies

The following policies were **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED** by full governors and signed by the chair and the head teacher, following The Curriculum & Policy Committee

Model Schools disciplinary policy 2022

Personal data breach policy and procedures 2022

Corporate Health & Safety policy

Data protection impact assessment policy 2022

Fairness and Dignity at work – All staff Flexible working policy

FOI policy 2021

GDPR school privacy notice 2022

Management of change

redundancy policy

Paying governors policy

School letting policy.

Model performance management policy.
 Performance capability policy 2013
 Powys school grievance policy 2023
 Powys school social media & E-safety policy
 Privacy notice for governors 2022
 School workforce privacy notice 2022
 School retirement policy 2023
 Sickness management policy 2017
 Supporting working parents 2017
 Whistleblowing policy 2023
 Vexatious complaints policy
 Lockdown policy
 Safeguarding policy

Governor Training

This year governors have attended the following training:

Governor	Understanding school data	Induction	Chairs training	Safeguarding	ALN training	Cyber security & GDPR	Safer recruitment	Embedding the shole school approach to wellbeing
Cllr Kelly Healy sent passwords 06/12/23	11/06/24 course			17/01/24				
Yuko Allen	22/01/14 course	14/05/14 course		staff		staff		
Caroline Bufton - exempt				Headteacher DSL:				

Carol Rowlands	21/11/11 Creating an anti-racist culture 21/11/24	18/03/13 course	28/11/17	08/11/23 DSL -	16/11/23	Yes	22/11/22	Supporting HT and Staff wellbeing 04/12/24
Darryl Gwilt		06/02/25						
Rebecca Hendy	21/05/19	08/05/19 Newtown 30/01/20	27/12/21	04/12/23 DSL -			08/11/18	
Lynne Hughes	11/02/25	06/02/25		teacher		staff		
Heather Kelly	26/03/19	26/03/19		08/11/23 17/01.24 DSL -		staff		
Laura Thomas	06/11/24 Creating an anti-racist culture 21/11/24	25/11/24	Supporting HT and staff wellbeing 04/12/24				16/10/24	28/11/24
Sarah Walters	14/03/23	14/03/23		08/11/23	16/11/23			
Robert Allum	06/11/24	25/11/24						
Sue Wilcox	04/12/20	19/03/20		10/06/22				

School Prospectus

The prospectus was reviewed and updated and a hard copy is available from the office, a digitally one is available on the website.

School Structure

The school is organised into five classes with teaching and learning delivered through the medium of English, with Welsh taught as a second language.

In the academic Year 2024-25 the structure of the classes is shown below.

Class	Teacher
Yr 5/6	Mrs Whitley and Mrs Bufton
Yr 4/5	Miss Williams
Specialist Centre	Miss Box)
Yr 2/3	Miss Hughes (PPA covered by Miss A Hughes HLTA)
Yr R/1	Mrs Morris (PPA covered by Miss Box)

Numbers at Summer 25 – 100 children

Support staff; -Mrs L Box, Mrs L Cadwallader 1-1, Mrs Y Allen, Mrs S Shackleton, Mrs L Sheehy, Mrs D McQue, Mrs J Parkes, Miss C Powell, Miss Chloe Talbot, Mrs Joyce Jones
Miss A Hughes- interventions

Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs L Box, Mrs Y Allen, Mrs S Shackleton, Miss A Hughes, Mrs D

McQue, Mrs J Parkes, Miss C Powell, Mrs W Davies, Miss Chloe Talbot, Mrs Joyce Jones, Mrs L Sheehy.

Key Stage 2 Centre (SEN) Teacher Miss Chloe Box

Assistant Mrs H Kelly

Little Stars: Mrs A Pelling, Miss Anna Davies, Mrs Sami Vaughan

School Secretary: Mrs L Rowe.

Cleaning and maintenance staff:

Mrs W Davies Mrs L Davies, Mrs Donna Love and Mr Paul Cashmore .

Catering Staff:

Mrs Julie Ross, Mrs L Owen and Ms Hayley .

Staff Training

Staff have attended training on:

- Child Protection
- Self-Evaluation
- Assessment and Moderation
- On line domestic abuse
- ALN development
- Bach a lach
- Leadership coaching
- Food and Nutrition
- AOLE workshops with ERW
- Mindfulness
- Pupil poverty
- Thrive/Family Thrive
- Collaborating Planning
- Outstanding teacher programme
- People handling course
- On line safety
- New Curriculum - ERW
- Updating First Aid training
- EAL and Trauma Informed Schools
- Mindfulness
- Safeguarding
- Schoop training

Curriculum

A Maesyrhandir all children cover Programmes of Study identified within the National Curriculum or Foundation Phase. Documents are available in the school should any parent wish to see them. The school's aim is to provide - a broad and balanced curriculum catering for each child's physical, intellectual, emotional, social and moral well-being curriculum. Work on development of the digital competency framework, will ensure that the children are using their digital skills in all areas of the curriculum. Through the curriculum the school promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of our pupils whilst preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities based on the 2021 Curriculum for Wales which promote developing the skills of the pupils to become:

- *Ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives.*
- *Enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work.*
- *Ethical, informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.*
- *Healthy, confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.*

Promoting Healthy Living

The school follows the Welsh Government guidelines for Appetite for Life, which sets out the strategic direction and actions required to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink served in school.

School Calendar

Autumn term:

- Monday 2 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024
- **Half Term - Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024**
- Monday 4 November 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024

Spring term:

- Monday 6 January 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025
- **Half Term - Monday 24 February 2025 to Friday 28 February 2025**
- Monday 3 March 2025 to Friday 11 April 2025

Summer term:

- Monday 28 April 2025 to Friday 23 May 2025
- **Half Term - Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025**
- Monday 2 June 2025 to Friday 18 July 2025

Inset days

2nd September, 6th January, 21st March, 3rd October, 4th October, 11th June

The School Day

8:00 – Breakfast Club

8:45 – Morning Registration: - School start time

10:40- 10:55 – Rec/Yr1, Yr2/3 break

11:00 -11: 15 – Yr 4/5, 5/6 break

12:15 – Lunch

1: 15 – Afternoon Registration

3:00 – End of School Day

Additional Learning Needs

Our policy for Additional Learning Needs follows the Powys Code of Practice and is published on the school website.

Our aim is to ensure that all of our pupils thrive, developing to their full potential socially, emotionally and intellectually. We aim to help every pupil develop their self-esteem with a sense of responsibility for themselves and towards others.

Children who need extra help are supported in different ways depending on their level of need. This ranges from support within the classroom setting to individual or group work. A number of pupils have lessons in our Specialist Centre. Pupils who have been identified as requiring an Additional Learning Provision have access to further support.

Pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) also receive support within the classroom to help them access the curriculum.

Children also have access to Nessy, precision teaching, ELSA, MeLSA and other support programmes.

Maesyrrhandir school works with other local schools in hosting consultation meetings where we share the expertise of colleagues and the Educational Psychologist.

More able and talented children are identified by class teachers using a range of data and assessments. Through a range of differentiation and provision we ensure that these pupils are catered for.

September 2023 saw the implementation of the new ALN act in schools. However, the aims and principles that underly our ALN policy will not change – the school will continue to strive towards ensuring that every pupil develops and progresses at a level that is appropriate to them.

Pupils with Disabilities

The school welcomes all children regardless of ability. Where pupils with disabilities need extra provision or adaptations, the school work with the Local authority to ensure that these needs are catered for.

ESTYN Inspection

The last core Estyn inspection took place in June 2022 and the full published report can be found on the Estyn website. An interim inspection was held in December 2024 and the interim visit letter can also be found on the Estyn or school website.

The School Development Plan

The school continued to review and to implement specific school strategies as outlined in the School Development Plan (SDP).

Focus areas for improvement this year have been:

Priority 1: To raise standards of competency and confidence in Welsh Oracy skills across the School.

Priority 2 : To develop and embed the planning and assessment for progression for the Curriculum for Wales with a clear focus on assessment

Priority 3 : To develop RSE curriculum

Priority 4: To raise standards of targeted eFSM learners in literacy and numeracy

Music and Creative Arts

Children from year 2 upwards have the opportunity to learn brass, guitar or drums. Mr Cashmore is employed to teach these lessons with payment from the Pupil Development Grant.

Food and fun

Working with Others

- The school works very closely with Miss Davies at Newtown High School, our main feeder secondary school alongside Welshpool and Llanidloes High schools as pupils are allocated places.
- Newtown Together through their Raising Aspirations programme available to year 6.
- Cluster schools including Maesyrhandir working through new curriculum
- Mrs Bufton continues to be part of the child poverty task force.
- Counselling continued with TLG
- MFCC counsellor
- Area 43 Counselling
- The WOW (world of work) project
- The school worked closely with Newtown football club as part of their 100 anniversary

Links with Business and Community

- Professionals from school health work with staff to support pupils medical and health needs including flu nasal spray, fluoride varnishing and height and weight screening and delivering growing up talks to year 5/6
- Design to Smile dental programme accessed by all Foundation Phase.
- Spectrum workshops on healthy relationships.
- Year 4/5 continue to visit the Oakes care home every half term.
- The Early team and the school work closely together to support families.
- Grants and donations were acquired on behalf of pupils sourced by Mrs Rowe.

- Food surplus donate food every Friday for families
- Newtown Football club have delivered football sessions in school as well as at Latham Park.
- Phillip Jones builders donated gates for the school car park
- Year 2/3 went on a litter pick with keep Wales Tidy
- Helping hands supported the Salvation Army with their Christmas food bank donations
- Kerb craft sessions were delivered to year 2/3
- Visits have been made to Newtown Library
- Regular visits have been made by the story tellers from All saints Church
- Hope church have continued to support the families with their coats for school and Christmas lunch donations
- TGL coaches have supported children in school, this is supported by Hope Church
- Chance to shine cricket sessions

Friends of the school

There are good links with parents who have arrange school fairs and discos, parents, friends and staff worked together.

Little Stars

Our three plus setting has had a very successful year; developing and strengthening links between themselves and school through the robust transition sessions that are carried out throughout the summer term. Setting leader is Alicia Pelling and is supported by Anna Davies and Sami Vaughan. All staff have updated their training and skill through on going staff development.

Secondary School links

The school maintains a strong link with Newtown High school. At Maesyrrhandir, we continue to improve our links with Newtown High School through cluster transition work and therefore foster a positive and productive partnership. We also liaised with Ysgol Robert Owen and Brynlllywarch Hall School as pupils were accepted on to their role.

Attendance Data

Parents, schools and LA's share legal responsibilities in respect of school attendance. Our current attendance rate is 89% which is well below our 95% target. We are working with Shona Perry our EWO to improve this.

Budget

2024 – 2025 EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	
Delegated funds	
Salaries	
Premises	
Supplies, office and other expenses	
Total expenditure	
Income	
Net expenditure	
Underspend brought forward	
Overspend carried forward	

Buildings

Through careful management of the budget, the governors are continuing to maintain and improve the standards of the school buildings and grounds.

Work carried out this year:

- Emergency lighting
- New canteen tables
- Fire alarms serviced
- Electrical repairs to supply Thrive room.
- Extractor fan in kitchen.
- Repairs to leak in kitchen

- Glass replacement doors/windows
- Ceaning and repairs to truffins around school
- Repair and replacement of radiators
- Hoist and changing table serviced

Toilets

There are nine blocks of pupils' toilets, a disabled toilet and staff toilets in school. All cleaned daily and are now in good condition through recent repairs.

The Governing Body expresses their sincere thanks to all those who supported this school, many on a voluntary basis, bringing skills from which the pupils' benefit. We also wish to record our thanks to the teaching and support staff, the school secretary, the maintenance person, the kitchen staff, friends of the school and all others for their continuing support and commitment. As a group, we are mindful of the guidance offered by the LA and we are appreciative of that support.

This report is digitally accessible via the school's web site, as an ECO friendly school a hard copy can be available through request at the School office.