



Ysgol Maesydderwen

Annual Report to Parents 2019-20

Welcome by the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents/Carers

It is my great pleasure and privilege as Chair of Governors to present, on behalf of the Governing Body this Annual Report to Parents. The school year 2019-20 was for Ysgol Maesydderwen like everyone else in the country an unprecedented one.

During the first half of the year, the school continued to develop and grow and make significant progress in addressing the recommendations from the last Estyn inspection. This progress was then paused on 20 March 2020 when the school was closed as part of the national lockdown.

In the week before the closure, the school was proactive to ensure that all learners were able to access the work remotely. This work coupled with supplying those learners who did not have personal digital equipment with chromebooks ensured that on-line learning was able to start at the beginning of the lockdown. This meant that no available learning time was lost and hence learners were able to maintain their progress.

Whilst in this initial lockdown all the staff of the school worked hard to develop new skills and techniques to sustain a high level of education for all of our learners. This included providing a number of different activities and resources to ensure a variety for all was maintained. These new skills have not been forgotten and they are now being used on a regular basis in the classroom.

It was also a difficult year for our learners who were sitting GCSEs and A Levels. Due to the cancellation of examinations, grades were generated by Centre Assessed Grades based on the work that learners had completed prior to the school closure. The school ensured that these grades were based on robust objective evidence and were rigorously moderated both internally and externally prior to submission. Because of the change in awarding grades this year it is difficult to make comparisons with previous years. However, we were very happy with the outcomes that the learners achieved – they thoroughly deserved their results.

Throughout this time the wellbeing of all learners was at the heart of all our thinking. At the end of the summer term the school reopened on a limited basis in preparation for September. The reopening was an outstanding success and has allowed the school to continue to support all learners with our excellent pastoral care.

On behalf of myself and the governing body we would like to thank both parent/carers for continuing to support the school and our learners for the way you have endured this the most difficult of years. Finally we would like to thank the staff of Ysgol Maesydderwen for all your continued hard work. We hope that things will eventually settle down and the challenges to be encountered over the coming year will not be quite as many and varied as they were during 2019-20.



Hugh Patrick (Chair of Governing Body)

Parent Governor Meetings

No parent meeting was held under Section 94 of the Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. Should parents wish to request such a meeting please contact the Clerk to the Governors (see below) where further information can be provided.

Members of Governing Body (as at 1 September 2020)

Name of Governor	Category	Term of Office Ends	Appointed by
Mr Hugh Pattrick (Chair)	Local Authority	20/11/2021	Local Authority
Cllr Susan McNicholas	Local Authority	31/08/2024	
Cllr Huw Williams	Local Authority	31/08/2024	
Cllr David Thomas	Local Authority	31/08/2024	
Mr Richard Walters (Vice-Chair)	Local Authority	30/9/2024	
Mrs Debbie Lewis	Community	30/09/2023	Governing Body
Mrs Susan Pyart	Community	21/03/2022	
Mrs Elaine Reynolds	Community	21/03/2022	
Mrs Nicola Griffiths	Community	12/12/2022	
Vacancy	Community		
Mr Craig Jones (2)	Parent	12/02/2022	Parent Governors
Mrs Bethan Panifili	Parent	20/11/2020	
Mr Nigel Hickey	Parent	02/07/2022	
Vacancy	Parent		
Vacancy	Parent		
Mr Craig Jones (1)	Parent	02/07/2022	
Mrs Linda Daniel	Staff	20/11/2020	Support Staff
Mr David Johnston	Teacher	05/07/2022	Teachers
Mrs Hayley Lougher	Teacher	05/07/2022	
Mr Phil Grimes	Headteacher	-	-
Mr Paul Hibben	Clerk to the Governors		

The Chair of the Governors and the Clerk to the Governors may be contacted through the school address and/or through Clerk's email address clerk@maesydderwen-hs.powys.sch.uk.

Election of Parent Governors

When a vacancy arises on the governing body for a parent representative, the school will inform all parents of the vacancy and will make the necessary arrangements for the subsequent election. Every parent of a registered pupil at the school will be entitled to stand as a candidate and to vote at the election, and will be given the opportunity to do so.

Financial Statement

The LA provide the school with a budget for each financial year based upon a number of factors, including the number of children on the additional learning needs register, the school's floor space etc, but the main factor is the number of pupils on the school roll.

The money received from the LA is called the **Delegated School Budget**.

On receiving the delegated school budget, the Governors of the school decide how this money should be allocated and agree a budget which must then be approved by the local authority. This budget is continually monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body at their regular meetings. At these meetings any surplus or overspends are identified against a range of cost codes. This information is used to adjust the budget during the year to ensure spending follows the agreed plan.

The Headteacher, Administrative Officers & Chair of Governors also provide monthly financial reports to the LA who monitor and support the school with the use of the delegated budget.

- No claims were made for travel or subsistence by members of the Governing Body in 2019-20.
- No gifts were made to the school or to governors in 2019-20.

<u>Budget Statement</u>		
<u>2018-19</u> <u>Amount (£)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2019-20</u> <u>Amount (£)</u>
	Income	
2,153,916	Delegated Funding	2,369,646
177,358	ALN core funding	31,975
380,501	Other income	398,584
2,711,775	Total Income	2,800,205
	Expenditure	
2,217,696	Staffing Costs	2,306,313
122,994	Curriculum	112,688
306,633	Premises	354,030
131,116	Other	107,688
2,778,438	Total Expenditure	2,880,719
	Overall	
<u>Amount (£)</u>	<u>Description</u>	
66,663	In year deficit	80,514
162,544	2017/18 Budget deficit	229,207
229,207	Carried forward deficit	309,721

Destination of Leavers

Year 11 (2018-19)

Destination	Number	%
Returned to Year 12 at Ysgol Maesydderwen	30	41.7
Studying a course in a 6 Form College	29	40.3
Apprenticeship	1	1.4
Other	4	5.6
Unknown	8	11.1
Total number of statutory 2019 school leavers	72	100

Year 13 (2018-19)

Destination	Number	%
Studying a course in Higher Education	20	87.0
Employment	1	4.3
Unknown	2	8.7
Total number of 2019 year 13 school leavers	23	100

Community Links

Our annual services, such as Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas continue to strengthen our links with the local British Legion, the local Church, and help us to support our community's elderly.

Ysgol Maesydderwen pupils are encouraged to become global citizens as well as local citizens. They have taken part in Fairtrade Fortnight Activities, raised money for various charities such as local Foodbanks, Macmillan Cancer Research, Young Minds Mental Health Charity and Muscular Dystrophy UK.

Artwork from learners within the school was selected to be part of a national exhibition to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The learners attended a private viewing with Mark Drakeford, the First Minister of Wales, in Cardiff on the exhibition's only stop in Wales as part of the national tour.

We continue to have very good working relationships with the local social services, the Youth Service and Police to help us provide care, support and guidance for all pupils including the most vulnerable.

The school continued to work closely with the cluster primary schools. A particular challenge this year was the successful implementation of virtual transition projects of pupils moving from year 6 to year 7.

Over the last few years, Ysgol Maesydderwen has established good links with the Swansea Valley Rotary club, participating in a range of competitions. This year one of our learners, Ben Pritchard, won through three rounds of the Young Chef competition through excellent results in the local and district rounds. This is the furthest any learner from Maesydderwen has progressed in this competition and we look forward to continued success in future years. Well done Ben.

Ysgol Maesydderwen Targets 2020-21

Key Stage 3

Level 5 Targets

Subject	Year 9 (Final)	Year 8 (Reviewed)	Year 7 (Provisional)
English	85%	86%	87%
Mathematics	86%	87%	88%
Science	86%	87%	88%

Level 6 & 7 Targets

Subject	Year 9 (Final)		Year 8 (Reviewed)	
	Level 6	Level 7	Level 6	Level 7
English	62%	21%	63%	22%
Mathematics	64%	27%	65%	28%
Science	64%	27%	65%	28%

2020-21: Year 9 (Final); 2021-22: Year 8 (Reviewed); 2022-23: Year 7 (Provisional)

Local Targets for 2020-21

1	Review, develop an implement a new literacy and numeracy intervention programme
2	Implement a KS3 MAT programme to improve the outcomes of MAT pupils in lessons
3	Improve attendance of KS3 FSM pupils by 2%

Key Stage 4

Year 11 (Final) : 2020-21

1	The Capped Points Score to be above modelled outcomes (364.6 points in 2018-19)
2	The Literacy Indicator to be above with modelled outcomes (40.3 points in 2018-19)
3	The Numeracy Indicator to be above modelled outcomes (38.1 points in 2018-19)
4	The Skills Challenge Indicator to be above modelled outcomes (37.6 points in 2018-19)
5	The 5A*/A % result to be above modelled outcomes (15.7% for 2018-19)
6	Ensure all learners achieve at least 9 GCSE (or equivalent) qualifications

Year 10 (Reviewed) : 2021-21

1	To increase the Capped Points score from 2020-21 and ensure it is above modelled outcomes
2	To increase the Literacy Indicator score from 2020-21 and ensure it is above modelled outcomes
3	To increase the Numeracy Indicator score from 2020-21 and ensure it is above modelled outcomes
4	To increase the Skills Challenge Indicator score from 2020-21 and ensure it is above modelled outcomes
5	To increase the 5A*/A % result from 2020-21 and ensure it is above modelled outcomes
6	To develop a curriculum that provides an increased range of qualifications for learners to choose to study and achieve qualifications

Attendance Targets

2020-21 (Final)	2021-22 (Reviewed)	2022-23 (Provisional)
95.0%	95.1%	95.2%

Music and Performing Arts

At the start of the year the school had excellent plans in place to expand the opportunities for learners within the school to use and display their skills to audiences from the community.

At the start of the year the school celebrated the excellent GCSE results that were achieved by learners during the previous year. Results showed excellent attainment with a 100% pass rate A*-C for GCSE Performing Arts with half of the passes of at grade A*.

In November, the school held its annual Remembrance Service and the Music department made a significant contribution to ensuring the school paid our respects in the correct and fitting manner.

The autumn term then finished with a hugely successful Christmas Concert. The concert was held at St.Cynoggs Church and was a tremendous evening. The event was attended by Kirsty Williams, Education Minister for Wales. In recent years the concert has been held at the school and we would like to thank St. Cynoggs Church for all of their support in hosting the event. We look forward to developing this partnership in future years.

During the Spring Term the learners and staff were busy rehearsing and preparing for the Spring Show and our annual Production in the summer term. Unfortunately due to coronavirus both of these events were cancelled.

Sport

Not only can students participate in sporting activities during PE lessons, we also offer a wide range of extra-curricular sporting activities. The clubs run during lunchtimes as well as after school allowing many more learners to participate. Examples of lunchtime clubs include, gymnastics, dance, girls football and basketball.

The Physical Education curriculum aims to enable students to become independent, capable and ambitious learners who enjoy physical activity and make significant progress towards achieving their full potential. Through a diverse program of activities, students have the opportunity to discover their personal aptitudes while developing their communication and leadership skills along with concepts of fairness and social responsibility.

Our aim is to equip our students with the skills, knowledge and confidence required to enable them to participate fully in a healthy and active lifestyle.

The GCSE PE results were very pleasing in 2020, with 100% of pupils achieving an A*-C grade result.

Our extra-curricular activities are continuing to be extremely popular, with the percentage of pupils participating in the wide range of activities on offer very encouraging. Martin Kelly, our Sports Development officer, has also successfully run a number of festivals for our feeder primary schools in a number of different sports, including hosting Urdd competitions on our school premises.

We are also very proud of the sporting successes the pupils of Ysgol Maesydderwen have had, both in school and outside school during the past year.

Notable successes of 2019-20 include:

- Mackenzie Clayton and Kyle Jones (Yr 11) representing Ospreys U16s West, with Mackenzie going on to represent the full combined Ospreys side. He was also awarded a scholarship for rugby to attend Llandovery College
- Ben Pritchard, Iestyn Jones, Cameron Thomas, Luc Martin, Ben Davies and Joshua Roberts were all selected to represent Swansea Valley U15s in rugby
- Sophie Jones (Yr 11) represented Gloucestershire in gaelic football, with the team earning the Benny Collins Trophy for exceptional contribution to Gaelic Games
- Amelia Hickey was appointed as a Platinum Sports Ambassador

- Cameron Thomas and Jacob Penhale represented Powys at the Welsh Indoor Athletics, with Jacob qualifying to represent Wales at the British finals
- Libby Davies was selected to represent DTC in U17 netball, a year young in age

School Policies

As part of its routine work, the governing body regularly reviews school policies/strategies and monitors their implementation and effectiveness. The following policies have been reviewed by the Governing Body in 2019-20.

- Admissions
- Behaviour Policy
- Bereavement in schools Policy
- Charging Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- DBS Procedures
- Disciplinary Policy for Teachers
- Fairness and Dignity at Work
- Flexible Learning Policy
- Governors Allowance
- Grievance Policy
- Performance Capability Policies
- Privacy Notice
- Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Redeployment Policies
- Retirement (non-teachers) Policy
- Redundancy Policy
- Restraint Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Safer Recruitment Guidance
- School Session Times
- Sickness Absence Policy
- Special Leave Policy
- SEN Policy
- School Keyholder Policy
- Substance Misuse Policy for Pupils
- Substance Misuse Policy for Staff
- Supporting Working Parents Policy
- Teachers Pay Policy
- Voluntary Severance Scheme

Copies of all school policies are available to parents upon a request to the Headteacher.

School Term Dates 2019-20

Term	Term starts	Half-term Dates	Term ends
Autumn Term 2020	Wednesday 2nd September 2020	Monday 19th October 2020 to Friday 30th October 2020	Friday 18th December 2020
Spring Term 2021	Tuesday 5th January 2021	Monday 15th February 2021 to Friday 19th February 2021	Friday 26th March 2021
Summer Term 2021	Tuesday 13th April 2021	Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021	Friday 16th July 2021

Non-pupil days

- Monday 21st December 2020
- Tuesday 22nd December 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021
- Friday 12th February 2021
- Monday 12th April 2021
- Monday 7th June 2021

Timings of the school day

Time	Description
8.45	Warning bell
8.50 – 9.10	Registration
9.10 – 10.10	Lesson 1
10.10 – 11.10	Lesson 2
11.10 – 11.35	Break – warning bell at 11.32
11.35 – 12.35	Lesson 3
12.35 – 1.35	Lesson 4
1.35 – 2.15	Lunch – warning bell at 2.10
2.15 – 3.15	Lesson 5

The Curriculum

Key Stage 3

During the first three years at Ysgol Maesydderwen the school offers a curriculum based on the National Curriculum. Our Year 7 curriculum is based on Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs), a pilot as we prepare for the new curriculum for Wales.

The number of lessons each fortnight for each subject is as follows:

Year 7

AoLE	Year 7
Languages, Literacy & Communication	14
Maths & Numeracy	6
Science & Technology	11
Health & Wellbeing	7
Humanities	6
Expressive Arts	6

Years 8&9

Subject	Year 8	Year 9
English	7	7
Mathematics	7	7
Science	6	6
Art	2	2
Design Technology	4	4
French	3	3
Geography	3	3
History	3	3
Humanities	-	-
Information Technology	3	3
Music	2	2
Physical Education	4	4
Religious Studies	2	2
Welsh	4	4

In Years 7, 8 and 9 most subjects are usually taught in ability groups based around English and Mathematics sets, with support provided for those with additional learning needs.

In all years where the numbers are too high, for health and safety reasons, Design Technology and Physical Education the form group may be split into smaller classes.

Key Stage 4

In Years 10 and 11 all pupils follow a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh, Religious Education, Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge, Careers / PSE, Physical Education and Games. The first six subjects listed are taken to examination level. All pupils in accordance with the 14-19 Learning Pathway chose 3 other subjects from a comprehensive range of subjects.

Key Stage 5

Students in Year 12 and 13 are offered a wide range of Advanced Supplementary within the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification and Advanced A2+ subjects.

Students are expected to follow a minimum of 3 AS subjects including the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Students are expected to pursue 3 subjects to Advanced level.

Full details of the courses available are to be found on the Powys Learning Pathways Website.

Changes to School Prospectus

The prospectus is updated annually to provide accurate information on a range of school data. This includes, amongst others, changes in staff, up to date pupil assessment information, destination of pupils and attendance. There is a copy of the prospectus on our website.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

ALN provision at Ysgol Maesydderwen is successful and effective, ensuring that all pupils with learning difficulties have access to the National Curriculum.

All pupils placed on the Code of Practice have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), which is regularly reviewed and discussed by subject staff.

Annual reviews are attended by ALN staff, parents, students and representatives of other agencies. Between September 2019 and July 2020 there were 138 students on the ALN register.

There were:

- 8 pupils with statements
- 69 pupils on School Action+
- 61 pupils on School Action

Students with specific learning difficulties follow a general multi-sensory programme as appropriate, either in one to one or small group withdrawal situations. There are four Learning Support Assistants (LSAs) who support ALN students in departments and in main

stream classes. They ensure that all students are fully motivated and encouraged to make progress in all areas of the curriculum. Our Specialist Learning Centre is now well established, and caters for pupils with a greater level of need. These pupils have both a full time teacher and six LSAs who cater further for their individual needs. These pupils are taught in the centres and in main-stream classes where appropriate.

Disabled students are welcome at Ysgol Maesydderwen. They are fully included in all aspects of school life and all efforts are made to ensure that they have access to the National Curriculum.

The school's Disability Accessibility Plan and Strategic Equality Plan aim to promote inclusion and equality of opportunity. Copies of this are available on the schools website.

Welsh Language – Welsh Language Category 4

The primary language of work and instruction throughout the school is English. However, we are proud of our Welsh culture and seek to recognise this in as many ways as possible, including during assemblies and the St. David's Day Concert. We promote the use of conversational Welsh in all lessons and the daily life of the school.

To further develop the use of Welsh it is used across the curriculum for dates, headings and praise. Welsh is also used to welcome pupils to classes and assemblies and as pupils enter the school at the start of the day. In lessons incidental Welsh may be used by teachers and learners as part of daily routines. The school is currently working towards the Bronze Siarter Iaith Award.

Healthy Eating and Drinking

At Ysgol Maesydderwen we encourage pupils to make healthy choices and be active members of our school community.

Awareness of the need to adopt healthy eating and drinking is delivered through the PSE curriculum including assemblies and other areas such as food technology and science.

A strong emphasis is placed on the importance of a healthy diet for life and how such a lifestyle will benefit their emotional wellbeing as well as physical health. The school canteen works within the statutory nutrition requirements for schools.

The school has a number of water fountains and pupils are encouraged to drink water throughout the day including during lessons.

School Premises

We have an ongoing programme of maintenance to ensure the school continues to provide an attractive and safe learning environment.

We have continued a very good working relationship with staff at Ystradgynlais Leisure Centre. This ensures that we maximise use of the excellent facilities whilst ensuring we continue to safeguard our learners.

Toilet Facilities

Toilets are available for students on the ground floor and first floor. The school's toilets are organised into separate boys' and girls' toilets with separate disabled toilets for pupils to use. The school's toilet facilities are excellent and are cleaned throughout the day. In addition students are encouraged to report any matters as required.

School Improvement Plan

Each year the staff and governors work on a School Improvement Plan (SIP), which leads school improvement for the coming year. The areas addressed over the past twelve months have been:

- SIP A - Sustainable improvement of standards
- SIP B – Implement strategies to support all groups of students to improve
- SIP C – To Improve the Quality of Learning and Teaching
- SIP D – Sustainable improvement of Skills standards
- SIP E – To Prepare Effectively for the new Curriculum for Wales
- SIP F – Develop the School to be a Learning Organisation
- SIP G – Continued Improvement of Wellbeing
- SIP H – Improve the of self-evaluation and improvement planning
- SIP I – Strengthen the role of stakeholders in school improvement
- SIP J– Develop the effectiveness of the role of Governors
- SIP K – Effective use of resources and budget

Progress has been made in all the areas and further work is planned for 2020-21. The areas to be addressed on the 2020-21 SIP are:

- SIP A – Sustainable improvement of standards
- SIP B – Teaching and Learning
- SIP C – Curriculum
- SIP D – Learner Engagement
- SIP E – Stakeholders (inc. Governors)
- SIP F – Resources and budget