

2023 -
2024

GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT FOR PARENTS

LEARNING - RESPECT - AMBITION

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The Governors' Report to Parents (Full Report)

Issued November 2024

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to be able to present our new look Governor report to parents. The governors have collected views and opinions on previous publications and have made adaptations to bring you this report on the previous academic year. We hope that you like it and we would welcome any feedback that you have.

2023-24 was a very successful year at Croesyceiliog School. This has been a year in which we have seen extra-curricular provision make a full come back post covid with students accessing a wider variety of clubs and activities at Croesyceiliog School than ever before.

I thank the staff for their investment of time and commitment to developing our student experiences beyond the classroom.

As a governing body we have continued to work with the Headteacher and her, Senior Leadership team, alongside the staff, to ensure improvements made are effective and sustainable. We regularly visit the school to take part in collaborative evaluation as well as spending time with students and staff. The students are always a credit to the school speaking with passion and enthusiasm about their experiences and desires.

My thanks go to our governing body who volunteer their time unconditionally to ensure that Croesyceiliog School has the right amount of support and challenge to enable it to thrive. We are always pleased to welcome new governors to our team and were very pleased to have recruited four new parent governors in the last term. They have been an excellent addition to the team, already impacting decision making which will enhance wellbeing and teaching and learning provision at Croesyceiliog school. You will find a full and updated list of our current governing body on page 4.

I hope you enjoy this report and, on behalf of the full governing body, I wish you all a lovely winter break.

Phil Davies

Chair of Governors

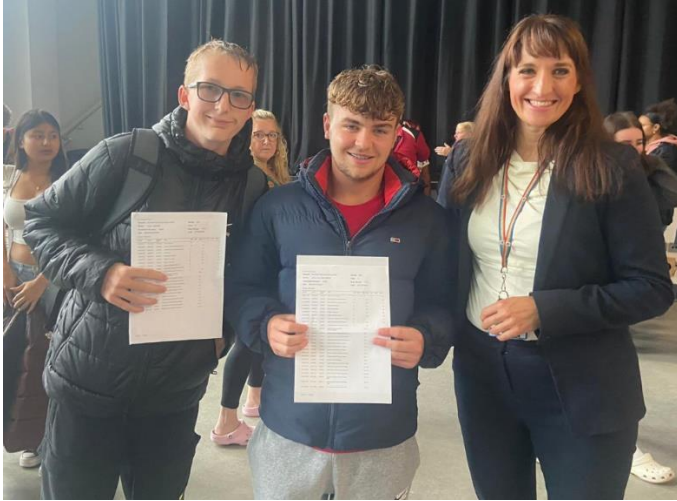
Governing Body Membership 2024-25

Name	Status
Phil Davies	Community - Chair of Governors
Colin Crick	Community
Martin Davis	Community
Rhodri Davies	Community
Natalie Richards	Headteacher
Christopher Morgan	LA
Victoria Williams	LA
Cllr Joanne Gauden	LA - Reserve Chair
Veronica Crick	LA
Nick Jones	LA
Leanne Lloyd-Tolman	Parent / Vice Chair of Governors
Hannah Jones	Parent
Dr Daniel Morse	Parent
Rebecca Thompson	Parent
John Vinall	Parent
Ben Powell	Parent
Luca Conibeer	Support staff
Ioan Thomas	Teaching Staff
Rebecca Kent	Teaching Staff

Learning at Croesyceiliog

Results - Summer 2024 – Celebrating Students' Success

As a school, our performance in Maths and English for A*-A grade performance is excellent when compared to national figures and LA. Our student results for separate sciences are also above national averages. Maths and English Literature performed well in relation to Wales and LEA figures at A*-C and English Language was close to matching national performances.



“Positively You” Sessions and Workshops

All Year 11 students have attended the “Positively You” workshops that took place in October. The aim of these workshops has been to stimulate and grow a positive student attitude towards learning and taking examinations, to reduce exam stress, to upskill students with effective memory techniques and to provide a comprehensive exam toolkit. Online resources are also available to all Year 11 students and have been shared with both students and families.

A very successful parent support and engagement session has also taken place that shared a range of techniques that parents can use to support their children at home, to alleviate anxiety surrounding exam worries and increase parental engagement with their child’s learning.



GCSEPOD

The whole school launch of GCSEPOD has been very successful. GCSEPOD encourages independent study skills, addresses gaps in learning and boosts student confidence.



All students have access to over 8000 ‘Pods’ covering all GCSE subjects and Key Stage 3 subjects including Maths, Literacy and Geography. To date, students have watched 2014 subject pods. The package also provides students with immediate wellbeing support strategies and a range of revision techniques and quizzes.



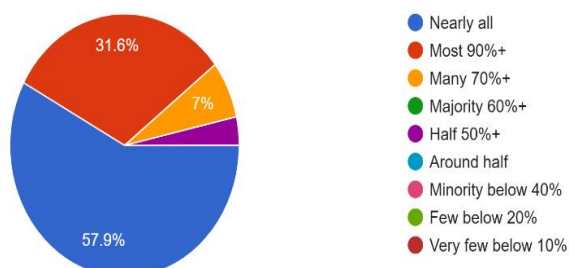
Teaching & Learning

At the end of the previous academic year, we reviewed and amended our Learning Manifesto to be more in-line with the school's vision and needs. The Learning Manifesto encapsulates what we stand for as a school and the review required feedback from all staff as well as our student body. Although amendments were made as part of this review, the mainstay of this manifesto can be seen here:

Croesyceiliog School's 'Learning Manifesto'	
We seek Learning	<p>We understand learning happens everywhere and is preparation for the future.</p> <p>Our curriculum develops the four core purposes and actively encourages, motivates and develops the talents of everyone in school.</p> <p>We expect our learners to be collaborative, curious and questioning.</p> <p>We value literacy, numeracy and digital competency and understand how they underpin our subject knowledge and skills.</p> <p>We plan experiences that delight, foster curiosity, awe and wonder.</p> <p>We understand that failure is part of the learning journey.</p> <p>We develop resilience and independence in our learning.</p>
We expect Respect	<p>Relationships are based on mutual respect, empathy and warmth.</p> <p>We value our place within our community, as Welsh citizens and as global citizens.</p> <p>Our community has a sense of belonging and pride.</p> <p>We enjoy working with others, problem solving and questioning.</p> <p>We model respectful and safe behaviours.</p>
We applaud Ambition	<p>We recognise hard work and sustained effort and understand that this leads to achievement.</p> <p>We believe in the potential of all our learners.</p> <p>We enjoy challenge and are ambitious of others and ourselves.</p> <p>We expect everyone in our community to have consistent high expectations.</p> <p>We inspire each other with our actions and words.</p> <p>We will have a distinctive and shared ethos of achievement.</p>

Recently, we have undertaken a whole school teaching and learning review whereby all staff have been observed. Initial findings indicate that nearly all of our students respond positively and are ready to learn in lessons; this is a credit to the attitude to learning of our students in addition to purposeful and high-quality lessons being delivered by our staff.

Are students responding positively and are motivated, willing and ready to learn?
57 responses



Bilingualism

One key factor in developing an effective community is ensuring we have a culture of belonging. The promotion of being in a Welsh school and an understanding of the importance of our culture and language, is core to this. As a school in Wales it is important that we aim to take every opportunity to promote the use of the Welsh language in lessons and around the school.

As a school, we celebrate Welsh culture throughout the year by celebrating key events in the Welsh calendar such as: Diwrnod Shwmae Su'mae, Dydd Miwsig Cymru, Dydd Santes Dwynwen and Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Sant. We are also very fortunate to have, an annual school Eisteddfod to celebrate the Welsh language, Welsh culture and showcase our schools talent.

Wellbeing and Equity at Croesyceiliog

ALN and Inclusion



Our ALN and Inclusion Team is made up of a dedicated team of teachers and Learning Support Assistants. They are led by Hannah Rawle-Jones, Assistant Headteacher and our Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo). She is supported by the Assistant ALNCo, Heidi Powell.

In September, the ALN Team moved to a larger venue with a range of spaces that have enabled us to offer a range of extra provisions for our students. We have utilised the space to support interventions and to allow our ALN students to meet, mingle and build friendships.

We have our spacious new ALN venue to host a range of daily break and lunch clubs for our ALN students. We offer a Film club, a quiet area, an enclosed garden, a range of board games and lego. Our clubs are very well attended with between 20-30 students accessing each session. Students use this quiet space to meet with friends and socialise.



Following on from our successful ALN transition evenings in the last academic year, we offered our year 7 ALN families the opportunity to join us for a coffee and a catch up on the 9th of October. Parents were able to meet their child's teaching assistant, the ALNCo and Assistant ALNCo and our Inclusion governor, Mrs Leanne Lloyd Tolman. The event was very well attended and feedback positive. Parents appreciated the chance to ask questions and to meet other parents. This invitation will be extended to all year groups throughout the coming year.

Our students needs are met through a tiered support system.

Universal Provision	Targeted Support	Specialised Support
Provision that is readily accessible to all learners. It will be seen in every classroom and within the day to day experiences of all learners	Provision put in place when learners are identified as needing additional support beyond the basic classroom environment in order to bridge gaps and make progress. Often short-term.	Provision that is necessary when students accessing targeted support are in need of more specialist support/advice/ higher in frequency, intensity and duration than targeted support.

We have increased our targeted and specialist provision in order to support our students' needs.

Strive is a learning focused intervention for students who may struggle to be in some lessons or who have gaps in their learning. 16 students across Years 10 and 11 currently access this provision.

In Reach is a small group provision that wraps around our most anxious students. The aim is to provide a safe space and nurturing environment for students who are struggling to access school. This provision has successfully supported 11 students back into school since September.

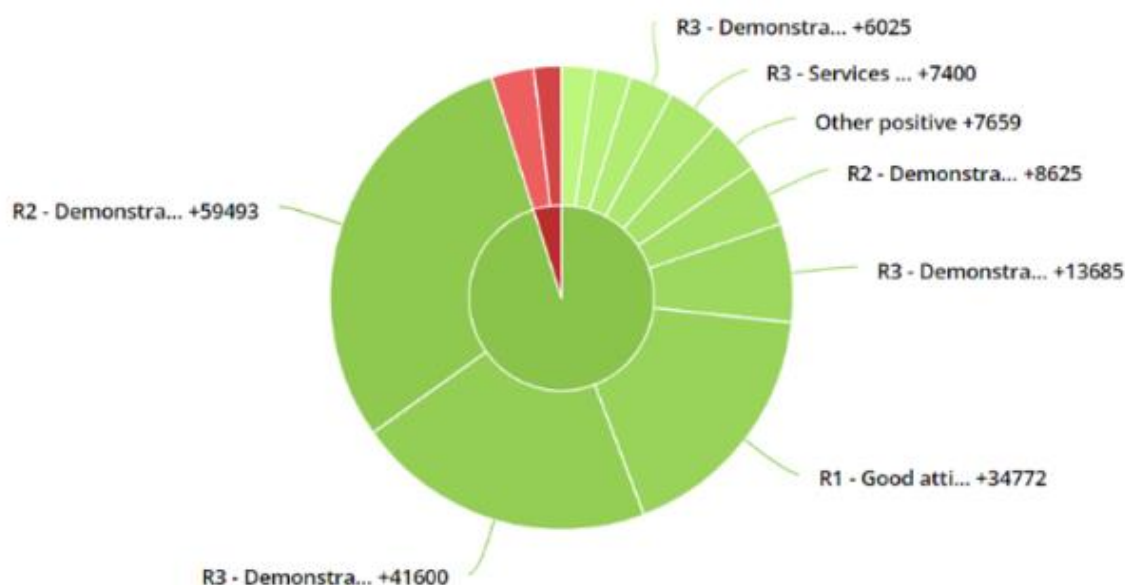
Our nurture provisions, **Thrive** and **ELSA**, are delivered by specialist practitioners with a focus on building emotional literacy. These sessions occur weekly and focus upon relationships, self-regulation and managing emotions. Over 80 students have already benefitted from nurture support this half term.



The Bridge is a bespoke provision, currently supporting a small group of Year 10 students who are finding the mainstream environment challenging. A team of specialist staff support these students to access their option choices alongside a more individually crafted curriculum.

Student Wellbeing and Behaviour

Ready to Learn expectations are established through our whole school behaviour system. All staff consistently use the system to reward and acknowledge students who exhibit behaviours in line with our school values. Once again, this year, whole school ClassCharts data demonstrates positive attitudes to learning and a strong school ethos of respect, underpinned by high expectations and high aspirations for students.



Our new mobile phone and toilet policies have been extremely successful and have contributed to a more productive learning environment where disruption is minimised, allowing students to focus fully on their studies.

Unfortunately, there are occasions when students do not meet expectations and, in these circumstances, we have a range of provisions that support students to address these concerns. This year has seen a reduction of over 60% in terms of the number of incidents that have resulted in a fixed term exclusion; the number of students accessing Internal Exclusion has also reduced. This is a really positive indication that students are engaged and ready to learn and we are really proud of the achievements in this area. This will have a positive impact on students' outcomes and progress.



Student Leadership - School Senedd

We are thrilled to introduce our school Senedd for 2024-25. Congratulations to our newly elected form representatives who will be led by our Student Leadership Team to represent student views and contribute to student voice across the year. As ambassadors for the school, all Senedd members will play a crucial role in establishing a positive school culture and strengthening our school community.

In the Autumn term, we have also conducted the student wellbeing survey where over 1000 students gave their views on a variety of school issues including behaviour, bullying, relationships and support that they receive. This information has been acted upon by both staff and the School Senedd who have identified ways to further improve the school in the areas identified within the survey.



Lockdown procedures

As reported back in the summer, we were very pleased with the participation of students and parents in our lockdown drill. As we move forward, we will be running another lockdown drill, to include our new Year 7 intake. This will take place during the Spring Term; we will keep parents informed of the plans ahead of schedule. We also observed our termly fire drill in September and our students were, once again, excellent in their behaviour and attitude to the emergency procedures.

Student feedback – Mobile phone policy and toilet procedures



Since September, our new procedures with regards to mobile phones and toilet usage during lessons have made a significant impact upon our culture for learning at Croesyceiliog. The Student Leadership Team have reported a kinder and calmer environment with more social contact and communication between students during unstructured times. Staff have been overwhelmingly positive about the different atmosphere both in the classroom and outside, especially the impact of teaching and learning with less disruption to learning.

Extra-curricular



On a daily basis, we offer a wide range of breaktime, lunchtime and after school clubs including Croesy Chosen, knit & crochet club, art club, debate club, eco club, music clubs, and a large number of sports including netball, rugby, football, hockey, badminton, dance, and use of the fitness suite.

Our thriving extra-curricular timetable can now be found on the school website [here](#).

Estates Management at Croesyceiliog

Lettings at Croesyceiliog

In October 2023, we launched our facilities hire including our MUGA, sports fields, sports hall, dance studio and drama rehearsal studio via our page on the SchoolHire website. Bookings started coming in straight away and have gradually increased over the past 12 months. We're delighted to be able to serve the community and ensure that our modern facilities are being used after school and during school holidays.



We have a range of organisations and groups regularly using our site, including Brownies and Rainbows, dance groups, football, rugby, basketball and wheelchair rugby tournaments. We have hosted musical evenings, concerts and charity sporting tournaments. We are also delighted to be working with local charity, Newport County in The Community, who are running school holiday football camps for children aged from 6 to 16.

Our facilities are available to hire Monday to Friday 5pm – 9pm and 8.30am – 1.30pm on a Saturday. If you're interested in finding out more then please follow this link where you will find information about our facilities, availability and prices. Each facility page has detailed information about what we have available, opening times and charging structure. Should you wish to clarify anything, please use the messaging feature available on the facility page [here](#).

Testimonials

“The training facilities provide an excellent opportunity for the club’s players to maintain their skills and fitness levels during the colder months. The facility is well equipped with lighting and very versatile in space”.

“Llanarth Cricket Club used Croesyceiliog School Sports Hall for our 2024 Winter Cricket Programme with both our Senior and Junior Teams. The facilities are excellent; being accessible, modern, clean and well-lit. All the equipment we used was of a good standard. What we found especially useful was their online booking system which allowed us to see the availability of the facilities, so that we could plan our usage. All the staff we encountered, either when booking or at the School, were always helpful. We will be using the School again and would recommend to other Sports Clubs”.

“On behalf of the Pontypool & District Schools RFU I would like to thank Croesyceiliog School for the use of their gymnasium throughout the dark, wet nights last season. It certainly helped considerably in the District team winning the D C Thomas cup at the Principality Stadium. The facility enabled the district to continue training when their outside field was continually waterlogged due to the heavy rainfall”.

Term Dates 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Term Starts	Monday 2 September 2024
Half-Term	Monday 28 October 2024 – Friday 1 November 2024
Term Ends	Friday 20 December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Term Starts	Monday 6 January 2025
Half-Term	Monday 24 February 2025 – Friday 28 February 2025
Term Ends	Friday 11 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts	Monday 28 April 2025
Half-Term	Monday 26 May 2025 – Friday 30 May 2025
Term Ends	Friday 21 July 2025

The key school dates for 2024/25 are below:

Date	Event
2 nd September 2024	INSET Day
2 nd October 2024	Year 6 Open Evening
4 th October 2024	INSET Day
9 th October 2024	Year 7 Tea with Tutors
23 rd October 2024	Year 11 Parents Evening
26 th October – 3 rd November	HALF TERM
20 th November 2024	Year 10 Parents Evening
29 th November 2024	INSET Day (Disaggregated)
21 st December – 5 th January 2025	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
5 th February 2025	Twilight (2 hours)
19 th February 2025	Year 9 Parents Evening
21 st February 2025	Eisteddfod
22 nd February 2025 – 2 nd March 2025	HALF TERM
5 th March 2025	Year 8 Parents Evening
7 th March 2025	INSET Day
26 th March 2005	Year 9 Options Evening
12 th April 2025 – 27 th April 2025	EASTER HOLIDAYS
5 th May 2025	BANK HOLIDAY
8 th May 2025	GCSE Exams Start
21 st May 2025	Year 7 Parents Evening
24 th May 2025 - 1 st June 2025	HALF TERM
25 th June 2025	GCSE Exams End
27 th June 2025	INSET Day
2 nd July 2025	Transition Day and Evening
4 th July 2025	Governors Development Day
9 th July 2025	Awards Evening
18 th July 2025	Last day of term
21 st July 2025	INSET Day (Disaggregated)

Contacting the School

The main office in school can be contacted via 01633 645900 if you have an urgent matter regarding your child.

Each year group now has an email address that can be used to contact your child's Head of Year, Wellbeing Achievement Officer and/or Leader of Phase for any query regarding your child.

The contact email address is the year that your child's year group started at Croesyceiliog School followed by @croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk.

2024/25 year group contact details for wellbeing / pastoral queries and information are:

Year 11: 2020@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk
Year 10: 2021@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk
Year 9: 2022@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk
Year 8: 2023@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk
Year 7: 2024@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk

General enquiries info@croesy.schoolsedu.org.uk
(queries that are not pastoral related):

School Day

Reg	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Lunch	Lesson 5
8.40am – 9.05am	9.05am – 10.05am	10.05am – 11.05am	11.05am – 11.30am	11.30am – 12.30pm	12.30pm – 1.30pm	1.30pm – 2.05pm	2.05pm – 3.05pm

Numbers on Roll

Year	Males	Females	Total
7	126	121	247
8	115	123	238
9	124	115	239
10	123	116	239
11	113	117	230
Totals	601	592	1193

School Data

Parents should be aware that personal information in respect of members of staff and students is held on the administration network of the school. Such information is subject to regulations under the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulations. A copy of our Privacy Notice is on the school website. Parents are welcome to request examination of the school's registration document. The Governors have a responsibility to adhere to the principles of the Act. Much of the data relating to students is about classes, choices of subject, marks/grades and school reports. We also hold essential personal information such as telephone numbers, addresses, names of parents and any medical conditions.

The school takes every care to ensure that the information held is treated as confidential as outlined in our Privacy Notice. This information is mainly for educational purposes and disclosed to such bodies as Careers Wales, Local Health Board and Torfaen County Council, Children and Young People's Directorate.

Financial Statement

Each May, the Governing Body agree an annual budget for the following year. The report below includes a statement of income based on student numbers, grants and Welsh Government funding against school expenditure. This statement determines the spending of a budget of around £6.7 million. Ongoing increases in fuel costs, maintenance and staffing continue to bring challenge to all school budgets in Wales.

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

FUNDING STATEMENT 2023/2024

SCHOOL :	CROESYCEILIOG
COST CENTRE :	SCHOOL DC0020

(a) AGE WEIGHTED PUPIL UNIT

Age Group	Funding Per Pupil	Pupil No's (FTE)	Funds Allocated
11-12	£3,848.19	239	£919,718
12-13	£3,848.19	242	£931,263
13-14	£3,848.19	238	£915,870
14-15	£3,962.75	238	£943,135
15-16	£4,420.98	240	£1,061,036
		<u>1,197</u>	<u>£4,771,023</u>

ALN Provision = 5% of AWPU Funding: £238,551

(b) OTHER PUPIL LED FACTORS

Headteacher & Deputy - £375,375

(c) OTHER FACTORS

Building Maintenance incl Statutory Testing	£154,747
Grounds Maintenance	£32,273
NNDR	
Rates	£312,975
Caretakers	£59,646
Cleaners	£194,178
Gas	£52,935
Electricity	£39,354
Water - Standing Charge only	£1,530
Refuse Collection	£6,424
HR Management & Employee Services	£22,883
Central Financial Services	£6,560
Financial Advice & Support	£4,330
Shared Resource Services	£20,263
Governor Support Services	£474
Clerk to Governors	£662
Legal Services	£1,007
Workload Remodelling	£146,978
School Meals Service	£71,541
Transformation of Digital Learning Revenue Contribution	£36,491
School Council	£541
Administrative Staff - Fixed Element only	£55,981
Absence Cover - Fixed Element only	£3,163
Foreign Language Assistants	£9,973
	<u>£1,234,908</u>

(d) ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

(i) Additional Learning Needs Funding £323,664 £323,664

TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET SHARE 2023/2024

£6,704,970

ESTIMATE OF THE SCHOOL BUDGET SHARE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS:

2024/2025	£6,701,050
2025/2026	£6,704,970

