

Governors' Report to Parents 2021



'Living and Learning in the
Light of Christ'

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear friends,

A Catholic School, by its very nature, is a school where children are nurtured to become responsible and caring adults. The teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ are central to this.

I wish to publicly recognise the role of the Headteacher and staff of our school. Their imaginative response to teaching our children during the testing time of the Covid pandemic has been inspiring and heroic. As Chair of Governors I cannot praise them enough. I would also like to salute you, the parents of our children. You have walked in tandem with the staff to ensure the best education possible during the pandemic. It gives me great pleasure to offer to you the annual Governors' Report to Parents.

May Almighty God bless you for what you do for our children and our school.

Mr Peter R. Allen
Chair of Governors

Governing Body

Please find the details of the governing body members below. As you can see there are a number of foundation vacancies, these are in the process of being filled at present. Mrs Priestly is now the teacher governor and we are pleased that Mr Allen remains as our Chair of Governors.

Status	Name of Governor	Term of office expires
Foundation	Mr Peter Allen	07.01.24
Foundation	Mrs A Dullaghan	08.11.24
Foundation	Mrs A Lovell	01.09.23
Foundation	Mr Nicholas Turpin	08.11.24
4 x Foundation	Vacancy	Vacancy
Local Authority	Mrs S Hughes	20.09.25
Additional Community	Vacancy	Vacancy
Parent	Mrs R Kplomedo	06.11.23
Staff	Ms T Wilks	05.11.23
Teacher	Mrs L Priestley	14.11.25
Headteacher	Miss Sarah Mansfield	-

Staffing

Mrs Faletau will be leaving us at Christmas, we thank her for everything she has done for the children as she moves on to pastures new. Miss Matthews is looking forward to teaching Dosbarth Solva from January. She has worked with this class many times, so the children are already familiar with her.

We are pleased to announce Miss Edwards will continue as Dosbarth Little Haven's class teacher for the remainder of the academic year. Mrs Priestley will continue as Acting Deputy Headteacher until August 2023 to work alongside the newly appointed headteacher, Miss Mansfield. We are delighted Mrs Priestley has agreed to stay with us, this will give leadership the stability it needs to continue to improve our school.

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 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them.

Action taken by the Governing Body/School as a result of resolutions from the last AGPM
No meetings were requested.

Please see the letter to parents and carers on this [link](#).

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School Ambassadors

This term the children elected two new First Ministers (also known as Head Girl & Head Boy and Super Ambassadors). They, along with Oliver Gosling and Illania Davies, will work on projects within school that enable all the pupils to know more about the Children's Commissioner for Wales, what she does and how to get in touch with her office; letting children, teachers and parents know about children's rights and the UNCRC, as well as undertaking projects for the Commissioner.

The Faith Ambassadors pictured below will share the half-termly virtues with the children in assemblies, introduce the Prayer of the Month and lead the classes in the parish liturgy. They have a crucial role within the leadership team to ensure the Catholic ethos permeates through every aspect of school life.

Our Faith Ambassadors for 2021 - 22



Our First Ministers for 2021 - 22



Our Cabinet



Our Cabinet - Our Pupil Leadership Team

Y Senedd is made up of eight different departments: the Department of Spiritual Life, Department of Digital Competency, Department of Welsh Language and Culture, Department of Sustainability, Department of Expressive Arts, Department of Health and Well-being, Department of Curriculum and Department of Communication. Each department has selected two members to represent them at cabinet. The cabinet meet each half term to discuss the successes of each department but crucially, the ways forward for our school. This role is a privilege and a great leadership opportunity which the children take very seriously. The departments and department members will be reviewed at the end of this academic year to ensure they are in line with our vision for Mary Immaculate Catholic School.

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The Catholic Pupil Profile - Our Virtues

The delivery of the half-termly pairs of virtues are beginning to impact positively on our pupils. The virtues are interwoven into all that the pupils do and they are able to articulate them well. Former Pope Benedict XVI once asked 'What are the qualities you see in others that you would most like to have yourselves? What kind of person would you like to be?' We all want to be the best person we can possibly be, inspired and led by the gospel values Jesus taught us. To help us achieve this we follow the Catholic Pupil Profile; known in school as 'The Virtues'. These are influenced by St Ignatius who believed education to be a time for learning and a time for formation in learning to live a good life - living and learning a good life with Christ. Oscar Romero's words, 'Aspire not to have more, but to be more', remind us of the importance of how we live our lives – how we care for others, how we behave, and what we value. The virtues, and how they help us to grow into the person we want to be, are explained below.

The Catholic Pupil Profile: Virtues

As a Catholic School we have embraced 'The Catholic Schools' Pupil Profile, which teaches the children a set of eight pairs of virtues, enabling our pupils to grow in wholeness as fully rounded individuals in the image of God.

As a school, pupils will be taught two virtues every half-term. Within these virtues, pupils will develop understanding on how to live through these to become a 'well-rounded' individual, ready for the future.



The pairs of virtues are:

- Grateful and Generous
- Attentive and Discerning
- Compassionate and Loving
- Faith-filled and Hopeful
- Eloquent and Truthful
- Learned and Wise
- Curious and Active
- Intentional and Prophetic



"Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

At Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School,
we will encourage our children to be:

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day;
and **generous** with their gifts, now and in the future.

Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by their just actions and forgiving words.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and **hopeful** for the future.

Eloquent and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Curious about everything; and **active** in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience;
and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.



"Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

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Attendance

We remain diligent in working towards the Local Authority's target of 95%, and although we sometimes reach it, when averaged out over the year we fall short. We started to monitor the attendance more closely with the children and introduced Attendance Ambassadors however we felt there was a contradiction in this and encouraging families to follow COVID restrictions, therefore we have put this on hold to keep everyone safe. Our attendance for the year 2020/21 was 93.21% which was a slight improvement on 2019/20 which was 92.52%. Pupils being taken on holiday during term time will continue to be recorded as unauthorised. We hope that you can arrange your holidays around the existing 175 days the school is closed through weekends and school holidays and help us support your child in achieving success in school. Persistent lateness has a negative impact on your child's education therefore will continue to be discussed with the Education Welfare Officer.

Results

We did not report on the end of year attainments in July last year. They were suspended by Welsh Government due to the extensive lockdown periods. We are hoping that we will be back on track for next summer. We are providing catch-up intervention programmes for pupils whose progress has been significantly affected by Covid restrictions and steady progress is now being made.

In general, we provide a range of bespoke intervention programmes to support pupils who have specific learning needs. At times, intervention programmes are offered to pupils who are working above their chronological age but we feel would benefit from a short burst of intense support in a particular area.

Visits and Visitors

- 6.9.21 - Meet the Teacher evenings took place during the week commencing 6.9.21 & 13.9.21. These meetings were held in the school hall with parents socially distancing. This was the parents' opportunity to meet their child's new teacher and discuss how the curriculum will look in their new class.
- 17.9.21 - Pupils joined CAFOD schools for their live national assembly. The assembly focused on how we can help to protect the Amazon rainforest and support communities who live there. The assembly led to informative class discussions.
- 22.9.21 - Mary Immaculate First Minister Elections 2021. Seven pupils in year six gave speeches in front of their peers: a fantastic display of talent, kindness and ambition. The pupils voted using slips and entered them into a ballot box loaned to us by Pembrokeshire County Council - it made the occasion very official!
- 1.10.21 - Year 6 trip to Pembrokeshire College science lab to meet marine biologists from the Darwin Centre. A fantastic learning opportunity for our pupils. The took part in a squid dissection and learnt all about bioluminescence and cephalopods.
- 14.10.21 - Mr Anthony Evans, a past pupil of Mary Immaculate now is one of the BSL translators for the Welsh Government. He spoke with the health minister, Eluned Morgan, about the activities in Mary Immaculate and she had this message to share:
<https://twitter.com/dukevfr/status/1448536528297369605?s=21>
- 18.10.21 - Sally Holland, The Children's Commissioner for Wales, was impressed to see the speech. "This is very impressive by the First Ministers of Mary Immaculate Primary outlining their cabinet's strategic plan for the year. Also, so good to see a #BSL translation. Great work on articles 12 and 2 of the #UNCRC. Gwaith arbennig"
<https://twitter.com/childcomwales/status/1450064608614653953?s=21>
Speech from our First Ministers: <https://www.j2e.com/mary-immaculate-catholic-primary-school/Sarah+M/2021+-+2022/First+Minister%27s+speech.mp4>
- 11.10.21 - PC Thomas came into work with many of our classes. Lots of discussion around 'friend and foe', and a safety focus surrounding Halloween and Bonfire Night.
- 11.11.21 - the First Ministers and Faith Ambassadors attended a remembrance service and laid a wreath on behalf of our school.
- 24.11.21 - The school's challenge advisor, Mr Mark Austin, and our link governor for teaching, Mrs Rhiannon Kplomede, visited each of the classes and met with Y Senedd. The efforts of the children and staff have been recognised and 'significant improvements' had been made since the last visit. This included behaviour, attitudes to learning and pupil engagement.

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New Ventures

- We will be linking with local businesses to continue to develop Voice 21 strategies. Businesses rate the ability to articulate yourself and be able to communicate well with others as the number one skill when employing staff. We would like to develop these skills in our learners, give them authentic contexts in which to use them and develop as confident, informed speakers.
- This goes hand in hand with the Talk for Writing project that we have been taking part in with all of the other Haverfordwest schools. The teachers will have another training day in January and Mrs Sims will continue to work with other project leads throughout this academic year. We have seen an improvement in writing levels over the past year and we look forward to this continuing.
- During this academic year we will be engaging with the Catholic Pupil Profile which teaches the children a set of eight pairs of virtues to be internalised and cultivated - enabling them to grow in wholeness as fully rounded individuals in the image of God. We will continue to engage with the 'Life to the Full' programme as well as RSE in the Curriculum for Wales to make sure all children and young people receive high quality opportunities to develop their understanding of relationships and sexuality. This will help empower children and young people with the understanding and skills they need to make safe, informed choices. After attending the Learning for Excellence training last year, Miss Williams and Miss Skoczek are looking forward to collaborating with other schools to share our provision and learn from others to enhance our current practices.
- Mrs Tweedie will be leading a national professional enquiry project based on authentic contexts for learning. She will ensure consistency within the school and to develop understanding throughout the year. The teachers will adapt areas of the curriculum to ensure that learning has authentic contexts as its foundation as we move towards the new Curriculum for Wales.



**YSGOL EFYDD
CYMRAEG
CAMPUS**

CYMRAEG
CAMPUS
BRONZE SCHOOL



Diolch!

- To the Friends of Mary Immaculate whose tremendous fund-raising efforts have replaced the Nursery and Reception playground area, contributed to the cost of experiences and trips for the children to name a few. They are constantly working hard in the background to ensure the best for our children. There are many plans in the pipeline, watch this space!
- To our Challenge Adviser, Mark Austin, who has both supported and challenged us over the year in terms of recruitment, staff performance and pupil outcomes.
- To the parents who have donated food, uniform, money and your time throughout the year.
- To all who continue to support concerts, Masses, school trips and all of our fund-raising events.
- To Father Paul Joseph for supporting the religious life of our school.
- To our local community and outside agencies who continue to support our pupils' learning with purposeful real life experiences.
- To all our wonderful staff who have worked very hard to ensure that all of your children receive the very best possible education, and who put in long hours both at home and school, in term time and during their holidays.
- To all of our children whose love of learning is clear and their respect for others is commendable. This was most recently displayed at the exhibition of learning, they grew in confidence as they displayed what they had learned throughout the term. We are very proud of them.

Thank you all; we're very grateful!