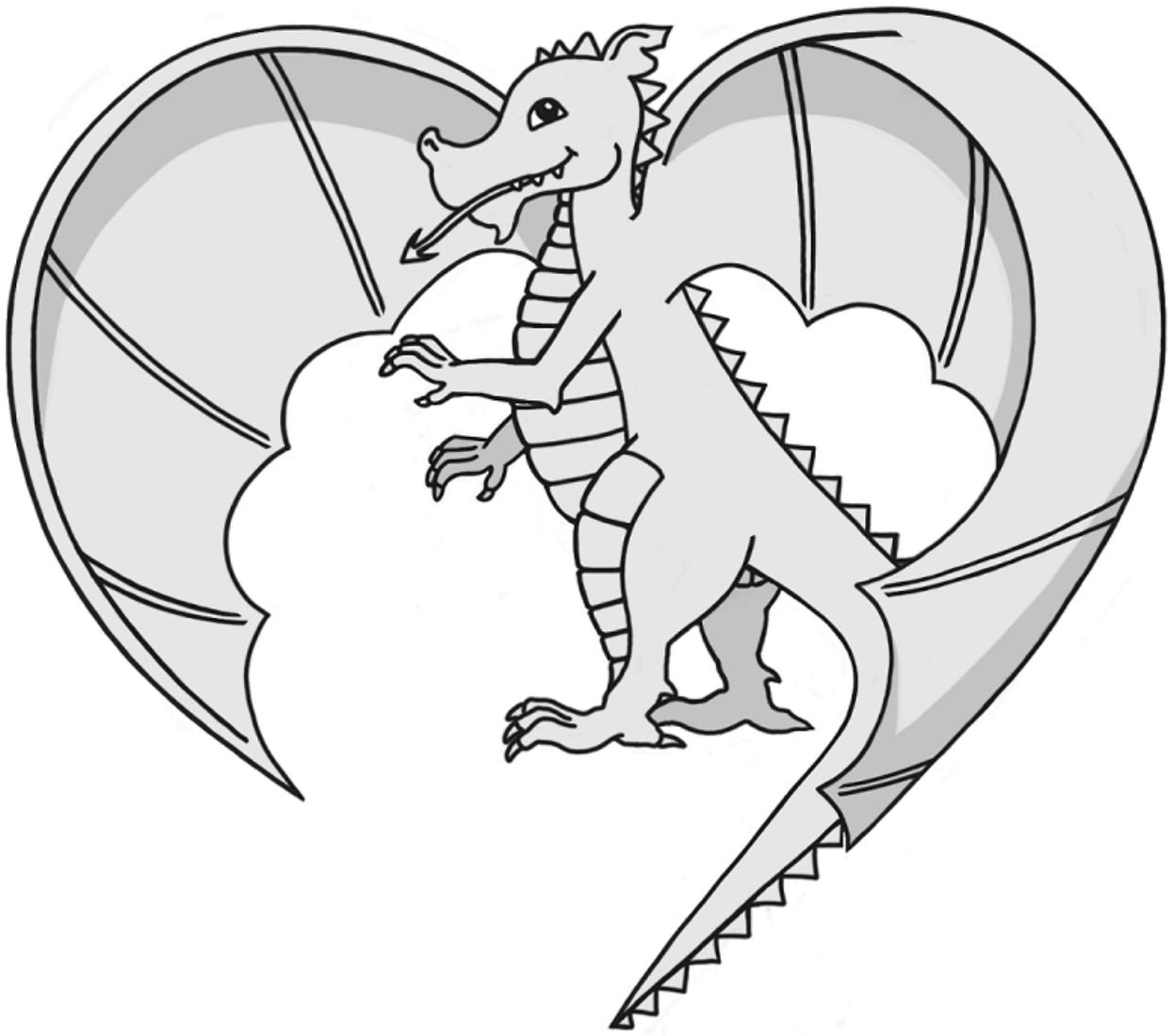


# Governing Body Annual Report to Parents



Academic Year 2023/24





# Ysgol y Ddraig

YSGOL Y DDRAIG PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HAM LANE EAST  
LLANTWIT MAJOR  
VALE OF GLAMORGAN  
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Rebecca Cadman  
Headteacher/Pennaeth

November 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

I have now completed my second year as Chair of Governors at YYD. As with most schools across the Vale of Glamorgan it continues to be very challenging for the school from a financial perspective. Despite this the school continues to thrive and deliver an excellent learning facility to enable all pupils to grow to their full potential.

This year saw the Schools PTA, Cymuned y Ddraig, go from strength to strength. It is great to see so many enjoyable events being put on for both the pupils and parents. I would like to thank everyone involved and the parents and carers for supporting the events. These events continue to raise funds to support the school in providing extra resources for pupils.

The school was able to celebrate the renewal of our Eco Platinum Award in July 2024. A big thank you to all on our Eco-Committee who continued the good work which is going on across the school.

The school was also awarded the Bronze Armed Forces Friendly School Cymru award, in July 2024, which recognises the support that we offer for service children and for being engaged with our Armed Forces community. Well done to all involved.

We saw the completion of our outdoor Community space, Cynefin y Ddraig, in the school grounds. Cynefin y Ddraig has now been approved as a registered charity which will enable us to apply for additional funds for external sources to further develop the area. Work is continuing to develop the community space further. This will enable the community space to be used independently from the school. Keep a look out for the plans to use the facility over the coming months.

It has been great to see the senior leadership team lead by our Head, Miss Cadman, and Deputy, Mrs Brooks go from strength to strength. The excellent working relationships of all the staff has enabled the school to continue to build on the previous successes and go from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely

David Thomas, Chair of Governors

# Ysgol y Ddraig

## Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2023-24 Membership

As governors, we are responsible for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement and we have a legal responsibility to exercise our functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the school's pupils. This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of these functions in the last academic year. The report covers the year 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

### Members' details

The Governing Body comprises members of the local community, parents, staff and representatives of the Local Authority. This helps to ensure that the Governing Body has a sufficient diversity of views and experience, but does not mean that governors of a particular category "represent" that group on the Governing Body. All governors are voluntary and are elected for a 4-year term of office. Information on Parent Governor Elections will be sent to parents at the appropriate time.

#### Chairperson

David Thomas (Local Authority Governor)

#### Headteacher

Rebecca Cadman

#### Parent Governors

Dave Berrey (Vice-Chairperson)  
Katie Hearne  
Caroline Robson-Glen  
Rachel Qaimuri  
Gary Shaw

#### Local Authority Governors

Rebecca Lloyd-James  
John Durrant  
David Powell

#### Community Governors

Rev. Phil Hibbert  
Father Edwin Counsell

#### Teacher Representatives

Karen Bale  
Nicole Cogbill

#### Local Authority Representative

Cllr John Deakin

#### Staff Representative

Julie Roberts

#### Clerk

Abigail Rees

### **Pupil Figures as at September 2023**

<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Number of Children</b>
Nursery	26
Reception	17
Year 1	29
Year 2	45
Year 3	37
Year 4	47
Year 5	37
Year 6	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>280</b> (264 + 14 x SRB + 2 x subsidiary)

\*Centre of Excellence for Speech, Language and Communication Needs / Specialist Resource Base

### **Attendance**

Attendance figures for the academic year 23/24 were **93.2%**

We want to remind all parents/carers of the importance of school attendance and our commitment to our pupils. We would like to ask you to set the highest of expectations for your child's attendance. A parent/carer has a huge impact on their child's view of school and the importance of good attendance.

### **Transfer to Secondary School**

Year 6 pupils transferred to the following secondary schools in September 2023:

Llantwit Major Comprehensive	47
Other	3

### **Budget/Financial Statement**

The out-turn statement for the school for the year April 2023 to March 2024 can be found in Appendix A at the end of this Report.

The governors noted the formula allocation to the school and were involved in drawing up a proposed budget for the coming year along with the Headteacher, School Business Manager and School Finance Support officer from the Local Authority (LA).

The Personnel and Finance Sub Committee of the Governing Body meet at least once every term in order to monitor the school's budget and make recommendations to the full Governing Body for spending and allocating funds. Governors approved the purchase of the various service level agreements from the LA and outside bodies.

### **Information for Parents/Carers and the School Prospectus**

We seek to keep parents and the community informed of the school's activities. Parents receive a Newsflash once a week which provides relevant information, including: important dates, details of special events, trips and visits. In addition, weekly class news is shared via a letter.

**We also communicate with many of our parents by email. If you are not receiving information in this way, please provide us with your email address as soon as possible and give consent for us to contact you with school news via email.**

The website [www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk](http://www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk) is also a useful tool for communicating information about the school.

In addition to this Annual Report, there is a School Prospectus full of useful information which is updated every year and is available to all new or prospective parents considering sending their child to Ysgol y Ddraig, and to existing parents who request it. The Prospectus is also available to view on our school website.

### **Estyn Inspection**

The school was inspected by Estyn in May 2022. The recommendations are reflected in the current version of the School Improvement Plan and there are specific action plans linked.

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/system/files/2022-06/Inspection%20report%20Ysgol%20y%20Ddraig%202022.pdf>

### **Curriculum Statement**

The purposes of learning and the new Curriculum for Wales are to create:

1. Ambitious, capable learners.
2. Healthy, confident individuals.
3. Ethical informed citizens.
4. Enterprising and creative contributors.

Learning experiences at Ysgol y Ddraig are planned to ensure that children can 'Achieve, Challenge, Enjoy' and aim to ensure children reach their full potential.

We keep abreast of all National Curriculum reform and developments, implementing any change as appropriate for our children and the school.

All children are taught a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding through areas of learning and subjects delivered in a cross-curricular way through topics.

Termly progress reporting to parents and carers continued this academic year. The reports aim to further include and improve dialogue between learners, and their parents, and teachers.

Staff have focussed reading and research relating to the 'Cultures of Learning' which inform policy and practice in our Ysgol y Ddraig approach alongside Curriculum delivery and design.

Ysgol y Ddraig staff continued to develop pedagogical approaches to support all learners in line with Curriculum Reform throughout the academic year.

The school published its ACE (Achieve, Challenge, Enjoy) curriculum summary on the school website in July 2022. This continues to be developed and reviewed.

### **The Welsh Language & Cynefin**

Welsh is taught throughout the school providing progression for children developing Welsh as a Second Language. The scheme of work for Welsh is structured to allow children to speak Welsh as much as possible to reinforce the idea that Welsh is a living language. Welsh is also taught as part of school life on an incidental basis, in the format of greetings and instructions etc.

We actively promote an awareness and pride in our Welsh culture and our heritage in order to establish a genuine sense of Cynefin, through our curriculum and community experiences.

Welsh is taught within lessons, through daily Welsh sessions and through incidental use. The Welsh language is promoted and taught in the school in line with Welsh Government requirements, we are fortunate enough to have some members of staff who are fluent in Welsh. Staff who wish to further improve their Welsh fluency are actively encouraged and supported by the governors to do so.

In July 2023, we were successful in achieving the Bronze Standard 'Siarter Iaith' in recognition of our work with the Welsh language. The school is currently working towards the Silver Standard 'Siarter Iaith.'

### **Policies**

All school management policies are reviewed regularly by staff and governors. Children (through the Senedd or other pupil action groups) and parents are consulted where appropriate. Review dates are recorded in the policies. Changes are brought to the full Governing Body for information and agreement. All policies are available for parents to view on request.

### **School Improvement Plan**

The two year School Improvement Plan focusing on 2022/24 contains action plans for:

- Leadership
- Curriculum
- Learning and Teaching
- Equity and Wellbeing

Every term the Headteacher provides all governors with a detailed analysis of steps taken, progress made and the way forward.

### **Community Links**

We have strong links with the community. Children have been involved in visits to the local churches and library. Use of the local environment in projects are an important part of the curriculum. Visits by members of the local community are regular aspects of school life.

The school provides work experience for pupils from nearby comprehensive schools and colleges. Ysgol y Ddraig has formed an alliance with Cardiff Metropolitan University and contributes to Initial Teacher Education by providing placements for student teachers.

### **Support for Charities**

The children, parents, staff and governors of the school enjoy supporting a range of charities every year in a variety of ways. It is an important part of the pupils' development in citizenship and, wherever possible, pupils are involved in the organisation of the event.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Charity supported</b>	<b>Donation</b>
Whole School Fundraising	BBC Children in Need	£175.35
Poppy Appeal	Royal British Legion	£305.96

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Extra-Curricular clubs included - Netball, Spanish, Football, Dance, Glee, Lego and Games.

Our Year 6 leavers were able to enjoy an end of year trip to the Cardiff International pool and a residential trip to Llangrannog in February.

Our Year 5 classes visited Tregoyd House for 3 days, for many this was their first experience of a residential trip.

### **Healthy School & Achievements**

Ysgol y Ddraig is a Healthy School and holds the National Quality Award as part of the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes. The school was recognised for its work by completing our 2nd renewal of this status during the Spring term 2024.

We celebrated the renewal of our Eco Platinum Award in July 2024.

The school was also awarded the Bronze Armed Forces Friendly School Cymru award, in July 2024, which recognises the support that we offer for service children and for being engaged with our Armed Forces community.

During the summer term, Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in a programme of swimming lessons at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre.

Inter-schools tournaments throughout the year included cross country and tag rugby.

Big Fresh Catering Company are the providers of school meals. Drinking water is provided throughout the school day. Children are able to bring to school pieces of fruit as healthy snacks.

### **Learner Achievements**

Please keep us informed of your children's interests outside school as we strive to celebrate all sorts of ability, talent and success.

### **Additional Learning Needs**

The Welsh Government has passed new legislation, called the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act, and Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Code, which will replace all of the legislation and guidance about special educational needs. As part of the Act the Welsh Government has replaced the term 'special educational needs' (SEN) with 'additional learning needs' (ALN).

ALN will cover those who:



- have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age
- have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream maintained school or Further Education Institution.

There are four main areas of ALN:

- Cognition and Learning
- Sensory and Physical
- Communication Interaction
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health

Miss Karen Bale is the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) and Mr John Durrant is the Governor Representative for Additional Learning Needs.

All children are provided with learning that is appropriate to their stage and ability. Children are identified for Additional Learning Needs support by a variety of independent and on-going teacher assessment. If necessary, and in consultation with parents, children are included on an Additional Learning Needs Register to track their progress. This is updated regularly and is audited. Where possible and appropriate, children are supported by their class teachers and learning support assistants within the classroom as this provides the most effective support. There are specific interventions, where children are supported on a one to one or small group basis. Regular contact is maintained with other schools and agencies through regular meetings attended by the ALNCo.

The school procedures are constantly reviewed in line with the ALN Code of Practice, working with outside agencies such as the educational psychologist, behaviour support staff, specialist teachers and other external agencies when required. Parents are always part of any decision making to involve outside bodies and are kept informed of progress and changes.

### **Centre of Excellence for Speech, Language and Communication Needs**

Ysgol y Ddraig hosts a Specialist Resource Base for primary age children across the Vale of Glamorgan. Children receive appropriate specialist support from educational and health service staff in both the Centre of Excellence and through Outreach in the home schools.

### **Toilets**

There are adequate numbers of toilets including access to disabled toilets in our school. The toilets are monitored through the school day by staff and cleaned daily to a high standard by our cleaning team.

### **Session Times**

School sessions are as follows:

9.00am – 11.30am	Morning Nursery Session
8.50am – 11.50am	Morning Session for Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3
8.50am – 12.20pm	Morning Session for Years 4 - 6
12.40pm – 3.05pm	Afternoon Session for Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3
1.10pm - 3.15pm	Afternoon Session for Years 4 - 6

# YSGOL Y DDRAIG



## School Holiday Dates 2024/2025

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2024	Monday 2 Sept 2024	Monday 28 Oct 2024	Friday 1 Nov 2024	Friday 20 Dec 2024	75
Spring 2025	Monday 6 Jan 2025	Monday 24 Feb 2025	Friday 28 Feb 2025	Friday 11 April 2025	65
Summer 2025	Monday 28 April 2025	Monday 26 May 2025	Friday 30 May 2025	*Monday 21 July 2025	55
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>195</b>

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2024 and \*Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025 will be designated INSET days for all LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff.

\*It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.

All schools will be closed on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates:	Christmas	Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
	Easter	Good Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 Easter Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025
	May Bank Holidays	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2025

APPENDIX A

Vale of Glamorgan Council Ysgol Y Ddraig Outturn Report 2023-24 Revenue Summary

COST CENTRE CODE	COST CENTRE DESCRIPTION	DETAIL	ANNUAL BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	EMPLOYEES	1,555,464.00	1,471,609.97
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	TEACHING EMPLOYEES	840,390.00	812,170.21
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	NON TEACHING EMPLOYEES	336,938.00	347,597.72
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	GRANT EMPLOYEES	378,136.00	311,787.84
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	OTHER DIRECT EMPLOYEES	0.00	30.20
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INDIRECT EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	0.00	24.00
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INTERNAL RECHARGES EXPEND	119,045.00	123,749.95
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INTERNAL RECHARGES EXPEND	119,045.00	123,749.95
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	PREMISES	128,378.00	155,223.55
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	CLEANING AND DOMESTIC SUPPLIES	47,720.00	51,496.45
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	ENERGY	15,600.00	38,209.92
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	2,000.00	1,651.92
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	RATES	46,278.00	46,278.00
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	REPAIRS & MAINT OF BUILDING	12,700.00	12,157.06
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	WATER SERVICES	4,080.00	5,430.20
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	-20,296.00	132,263.65
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	COMMS AND COMPUTING	15,850.00	14,518.11
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	EQUIP, FURNITURE & MATERIALS	30,100.00	41,697.30
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	EXPENSES	1,000.00	122.27
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	GRANTS & SUBSCRIPTIONS	0.00	67,436.66
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	MISC EXPENSES	-79,246.00	1,652.24
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	PRINTING STATIONERY & OFFICE EXPS	7,000.00	5,766.29
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	SERVICES	5,000.00	1,070.78
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	TRANSPORT	2,000.00	1,349.70
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	CAR ALLOWANCES	2,000.00	1,349.70
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	CUSTOMER RECEIPTS	-5,100.00	-35,186.62
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	CHARGE FOR SERVICE	-5,100.00	-31,438.39
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	DONATIONS	0.00	-354.10
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	SALE OF PRODUCTS	0.00	-3,394.13
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	SECONDMENT INCOME	0.00	0.00
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	GOVERNMENT GRANT	-393,372.00	-430,025.09
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS	-7,987.00	-7,987.00
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	WG GRANTS	-385,385.00	-422,038.09
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INTERNAL RECHARGES INCOME	-114,466.00	-173,189.73
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INTERNAL RECHARGES INCOME	-114,466.00	-173,189.73
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	OTHER GRANTS	0.00	-50.00
101005	Ysgol Y Ddraig	INCOME FROM OTHER LAs/HAs	0.00	-50.00
		<b>Total 101005</b>	<b>1,271,653.00</b>	<b>1,245,745.38</b>

Vale of Glamorgan Ysgol Y Ddraig Outturn Report 2023/24 Balance Sheet Summary

COST CENTRE	BSLEVEL3	OPENING BALANCE	MOVEMENT	CLOSING BALANCE
910050 - Ysgol Y Ddraig	Schools Employees and misc balances	87,699.66	-61,792.38	25,907.28

