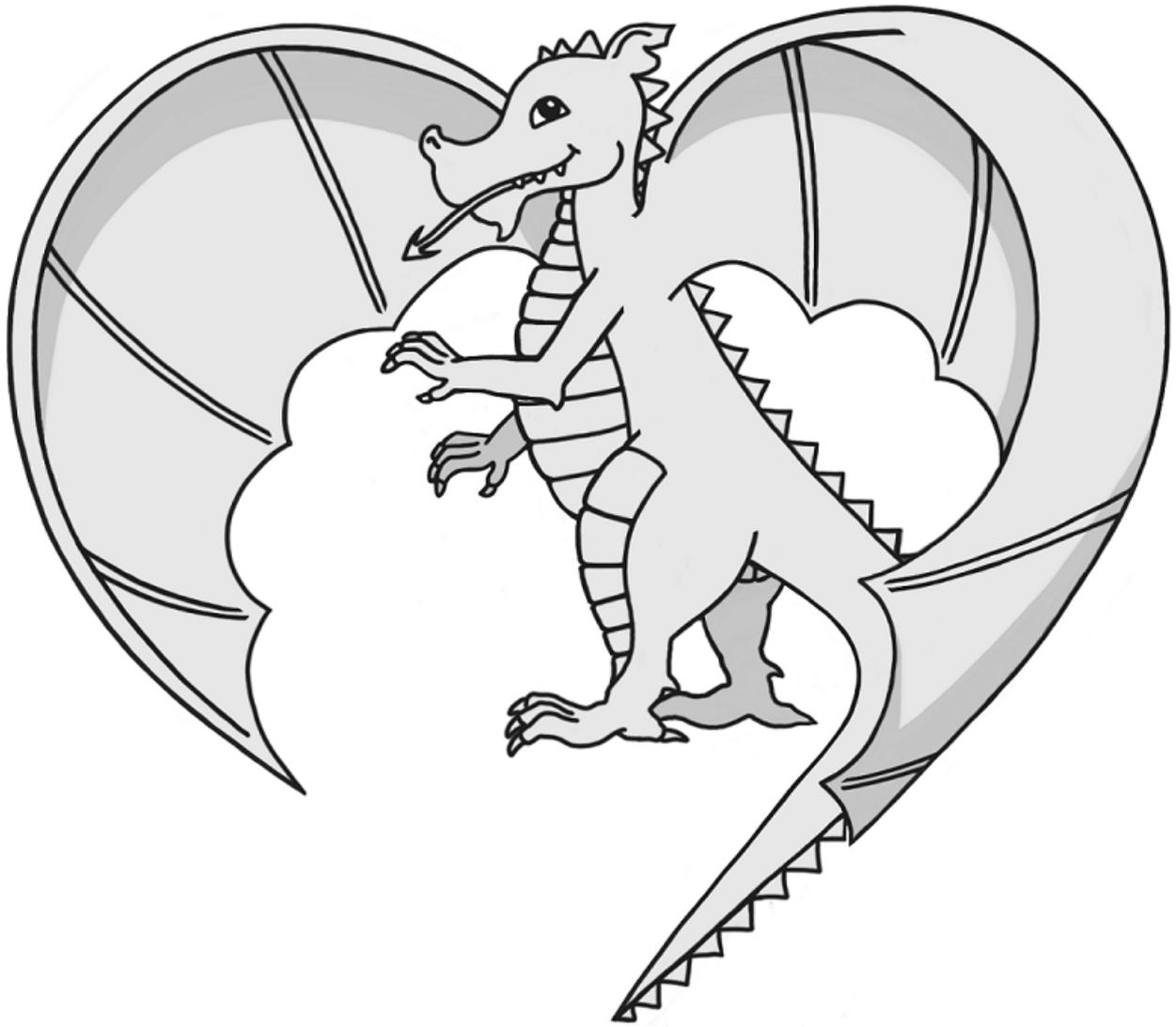


**Governing Body
Annual Report to Parents**



Academic Year 2019/20



YSGOL Y DDRAIG



YSGOL Y DDRAIG PRIMARY SCHOOL
HAM LANE EAST
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Mr Ty Golding
Headteacher/Pennaeth

November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Governors' Annual Report to Parents

This annual letter usually gives me an opportunity to celebrate the successes of our school. However, the last year has provided us with challenges (and opportunities) we had never anticipated - the term and a half that we had before Covid-19 seems a very long time ago!

Just as we were gearing up for our Estyn inspection, national lockdown meant we had to close. The school staff, pupils and families rose to the challenge of dealing with this with incredible resilience and positivity. Our learning transferred online and the staff and families worked extremely hard to make this a success. The school remained open as a Hub for our area, providing care for the children of key workers, including during the usual school holidays at Easter and half term. Efforts of staff went above and beyond anything asked of them throughout for which we are hugely grateful. Everyone came together in new ways online - giving many of us video skills we never knew we had - and we want particularly to thank our parents for working closely with staff to maintain levels of learning throughout this difficult period.

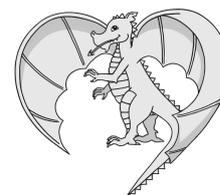
When school reopened on 29th June, it was in a new way, with many physical restrictions and systems in place. Once again, there was a great effort from everyone in our school community to make this work as well as it possibly could. It has shown real teamwork from across everyone involved in the school to keep building on the successes at Ysgol Y Ddraig. Thank you!

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Lloyd James, Chair of Governors



YSGOL Y DDRAIG



Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2019~20

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 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020.

1. 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

Mrs Rebecca Lloyd James

Headteacher

Mr Ty Golding

Parent Governors

Mrs Nicola John
Mr Shaun Chadwick
Mr Paul Fellows
Miss Sian Clint

Local Authority Governors

Mr David Thomas (Vice-Chairperson)
Mr John Durrant
Mr David Powell

Community Governors

Rev. Phil Hibbert
Father Edwin Counsell
Mrs Kathy McCollin
Mrs Rachel Hillier

Teacher Representatives

Miss Cadman (Advisory)
Miss Nicole Cogbill
Mrs Harriet Maidment

Local Authority Representative

Cllr Sally Hanks

Staff Representative

Mrs Julie Roberts

Clerk

Miss Rachel Cox c/o Vale of Glamorgan

2. Teaching and Learning During Lockdown

During lockdown, from the end of March and the phased return to school in June, we adopted 'Distance and Blended Learning' approaches. These methods combined learning in school with distance learning via online platforms. The approaches allowed us to support learning with all our children during this period. Seesaw was used for our Foundation Phase (Nursery - Year 2) and Google Classroom in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6). These platforms enabled teachers to work through both pre-set learning and work synchronously with children in their class and year group: uploading assignments, specific resources and allowing for continual communication and feedback to all. The school launched a Chromebooks loan system, for those without access to devices and established a tech helpdesk to support families. We had over 60 devices on loan, many of which were purchased for this purpose.

During the Easter holidays a mammoth effort was made by all teachers and staff to ensure every Ysgol y Ddraig child received a delivery of a special Easter Egg with a personalised message. At the end of the Summer term, all children were given a book to enjoy over the Summer holidays. All teachers made 'keep in touch' phone calls and sent postcards to all children, as a way of continuing important relationships while the school was closed.

3. Hub School & Support

The school building was chosen to be used as a Hub supporting children of keyworker families in Llantwit Major. Three schools, Llantwit Major Comprehensive, Ysgol Dewi Sant, St Illtyd Primary, came together with Ysgol y Ddraig to provide a support network ensuring our keyworker families were able to continue to work. Ysgol y Ddraig, along with members of our PTA, secured grants from local charities enabling us to assist and support our most vulnerable families by purchasing and supplying essential food during the most difficult time, creating our own 'Shop and Drop' scheme. This service continued well into the summer holidays supplying vulnerable families with food vouchers for our local shops and butchers.

4. Performance Information

The children were unable to take their end of Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 assessments this year due to lockdown.

5. Record of Attendance and Absences (%)

The Governing Body is committed to reducing absence, and particularly unauthorised absence. To this end we work closely with the Educational Welfare Officer to monitor pupils who have repeated absences or lateness. We are grateful to you for informing us when your children are ill or absent for any other reason and we would ask that you continue to do so by telephone or email on the first morning of absence.

We would like to thank parents for continuing to work with us to ensure best attendance. For holiday dates during the school year please see section 20.

Attendance Information for 2019/20

Total attendance 94.2%
Authorised* absences 5.2%
Unauthorised absences 0.6%

*All absences for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided.

Pupil Figures as at September 2019

Year Groups	Number of Children
Nursery	22
Reception	33
Year 1	36
Year 2	37
Year 3	46
Year 4	57
Year 5	58
Year 6	54
Total	343

6. Transfer to Secondary School

Year 6 pupils transferred to the following secondary schools in July 2020:

Llantwit Major Comprehensive	52
Cowbridge Comprehensive	1
Other	1

7. Budget/Financial Statement

The out-turn statement for the school for the year April 2019 to March 2020 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.

8. 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 newsletter 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 Home Learning letter.

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

The website 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.

9. 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.

There are policies and schemes of work, which are reviewed regularly by staff and governors. These are available for parents to view on request.

10. Welsh as a Second Language

Welsh is taught within lessons, through daily snappy Welsh sessions and through incidental use. The Welsh language is promoted and taught in the school in line with Welsh Government requirements, we are lucky 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. 98.5% of children are first language English/Welsh and 1.5% of children are other European first language.

11. Policies

All school management policies are reviewed regularly by staff and governors. Pupils (through the Senedd or other pupil voice group) 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.

12. School Improvement Plan

Parents and children were asked to complete questionnaires in the Spring Term. We continue to involve staff, governors, children and past pupils in this year's self-evaluation process. It was during an INSET day involving all of these stakeholders that we drafted our School Improvement Plan (SIP). Teachers who are Area of Learning Leaders consult learners, link governors and parents and colleagues before drafting a curriculum review and plan for priorities for the development of their subject for the year. Each subject area is allocated a budget for that year depending on the identified priorities.

The School Improvement Plan for 2019/20 contained action plans for:

- Curriculum development and reform
- High-quality professionals
- Equality and wellbeing
- Inspirational leaders

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

Parents were provided with an opportunity during September to hear how the curriculum is organised and discuss the year ahead with staff.

We host regular governor learning walks and have a timetable for the forthcoming year. These continue to be an excellent opportunity for both governors and Area of Learning Leaders to continue to work towards the action plans in preparation for our next School Improvement Plan and ensuring the best learning opportunities for our children.

We welcomed Mr Golding back to school as Headteacher at the start of the academic year after his secondment to Welsh Government. The governing body would like to thank Miss Cadman and Mrs Maidment for their marvellous work as Acting Headteacher and Acting Deputy Headteacher throughout his absence, during which time the school has continued to go from strength to strength.

We were very pleased to be awarded the Gold Award for the Rights Respecting School status. We also achieved the 360-degree safe award for good practice in online safety across the school community.

13. Community Links

We have strong links with the community. Prior to Covid-19 we were involved in many visits to the local churches and library. Use of the local environment in projects are an important part of the curriculum. Visits to the school by members of the local community are regular aspects of school life.

The school provides work experience for pupils from nearby comprehensive schools and students intending to pursue initial teacher training.

14. Support for Charities

The pupils, 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.

Event	Charity supported	Donation
Harvest Festival offerings	Vale Foodbank at Bethel Baptist Church	Non-perishable food items
Red, White & Blue Day	Forces Charity	£206.00
The Poppy Appeal	Royal British Legion	£267.31

Event	Charity supported	Donation
Royal British Legion Poppy Wreath	Veterans	£25.00
Pyjama Day & Pudsey Activities	Children in Need	£295.00
Christmas Concerts	Donation to St Illtyd's Church	£50.00
The Children and Staff came to school wearing the Australian colours.	WWF-UK ~ Australia Bush Fire Appeal	£174.02
Sale of Cadbury Chicks	Velindre Chick Knit Appeal	£600.00

15. Extra-Curricular Activities

Although our normal school life was interrupted this year, we began as usual with a wide range of extra-curricular clubs available to our children. Our Christmas concerts were a great success.

While physically 'closed' from March, the school remained a Hub for many children from our school and from the wider Llantwit community. Online activities were arranged by staff as much as possible to make distance learning fun for all ages. While many of our plans were forced to change, all our children received an Easter egg from the school at the end of the Spring term and, at the end of the Summer term, every child received the gift of a book to keep.

16. Sporting Achievements

In a year of two halves, our football, netball and rugby teams practised and played in local league or school competitions until the Covid restrictions came into force.

If any parents or friends of the school are able to help with sports coaching in any way, we would be delighted to hear from you.

17. Pupil Achievements

Please keep us informed of your children's interests outside school as we strive to celebrate all sorts of ability, talent and success in our weekly star of the week assemblies and as part of classroom practice.

18. Additional Learning Needs

Mrs Maidment was the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCO) and Mr John Durrant is the Governor Representative for Additional Learning Needs.

All children are provided with work that is appropriate to their stage and ability. Children are identified for Additional 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 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.

19. 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.

20. Healthy School

At Ysgol y Ddraig, we have a firm commitment to being a 'Healthy School' and we are proud to have achieved the National Quality Award for Healthy Schools.

We encourage children to drink water through the day and allow the children to buy fruit as a snack.

21. Session Times (Under normal operations)

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
12.40pm - 3.15pm	Afternoon Session for Year 3
1.10pm - 3.15pm	Afternoon Session for Years 4 - 6

22. Term and Holiday Dates 2020-2021

School Holiday Dates

2020/2021

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2020	Tuesday 1 Sept 2020	Monday 26 Oct 2020	Friday 30 Oct 2020	Friday 18 Dec 2020	74
Spring 2021	Monday 4 Jan 2021	Monday 15 Feb 2021	Friday 19 Feb 2021	Friday 26 Mar 2021	55
Summer 2021	Monday 12 April 2021	Monday 31 May 2021	Friday 4 Jun 2021	*Tuesday 20 July 2021	66
				TOTAL	195

Tuesday 1st Sept 2020, *Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th July 2021 will be designated INSET days for **all** LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining two INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school. ***It is intended that these INSET days will either be taken on Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th July 2021 or at alternative times to be decided by individual schools following appropriate consultation with staff i.e. for example in the form of twilight sessions.**

All schools will be closed on **Monday, 3rd May 2021** for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates: Christmas

Friday 25 December 2020

Easter

Good Friday 2 April 2021
Easter Monday 5 April 2021

May Bank Holidays

Monday 3 May 2021
Monday 31 May 2021

APPENDIX A

Vale of Glamorgan Council School Outturn Report 2019/20 Revenue Summary

Cost Centre:101005	Description:Ysgol Y Ddraig	Period Name:2019/P 12	Budget Name:VOG 19/20 RE
	Level3	Annual Budget	Total Actual
CONT. TO FUNDS	CONT TO CAPITAL OUTTURN	0.00	0.00
	CONT TO GENERAL RESERVE	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00
CUSTOMER RECEIPTS	CHARGE FOR SERVICE	0.00	-42,629.00
	DONATIONS	0.00	-811.67
	RENTAL INCOME	0.00	0.00
	SALE OF PRODUCTS	0.00	-29,231.66
	SECONDMENT INCOME	-68,864.00	-78,141.53
		-68,864.00	-150,613.86
EMPLOYEES	GRANT EMPLOYEES	126,873.00	127,700.48
	INDIRECT EMPLOYEES EXPS	0.00	0.00
	NON TEACHING EMPLOYEES	226,104.00	273,202.08
	OTHER DIRECT EMPLOYEES	0.00	-469.16
	SEG WEG EIG EMPLOYEES	0.00	0.00
	TEACHING EMPLOYEES	893,548.00	898,848.20
		1,246,525.00	1,299,281.60
GOVERNMENT GRANT	OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS	0.00	0.00
	WG GRANTS	-173,967.00	-179,414.01
		-173,967.00	-179,414.01
INTERNAL RECHARGES EXPEND	INTERNAL RECHARGES EXPEND	113,950.00	149,980.40
		113,950.00	149,980.40
INTERNAL RECHARGES INCOME	INTERNAL RECHARGES INCOME	-20,995.00	-36,136.31
		-20,995.00	-36,136.31
OTHER GRANTS	INCOME FROM OTHER LAs/HAs	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00
PREMISES	CLEANING AND DOMESTIC SUPPLIES	37,990.00	23,357.31
	ENERGY	13,440.00	14,280.63
	GROUND MAINTENANCE	2,448.00	1,809.64
	RATES	37,119.00	37,119.00
	REPAIRS & MAINT OF BUILDING	10,755.00	11,356.26
	WATER SERVICES	4,080.00	3,219.25
		105,832.00	91,142.09
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	CATERING	0.00	0.00
	COMMS AND COMPUTING	14,914.00	15,877.66
	EQUIP, FURNITURE & MATERIALS	24,408.00	37,457.07
	EXPENSES	0.00	0.00
	GRANTS & SUBSCRIPTIONS	766.00	770.98
	MISC EXPENSES	29.00	5.00
	PRINTING STATIONERY & OFFICE EXPS	7,000.00	4,899.22
	SEG WEG EIG SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	0.00	0.00
	SERVICES	9,406.00	9,096.12
		56,523.00	68,106.05
TRANSPORT	CAR ALLOWANCES	1,020.00	3,222.59
	DIRECT TRANSPORT COSTS	0.00	0.00
		1,020.00	3,222.59
		1,280,024.00	1,245,548.55

