

YSGOL CYNFRAN



ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2024-2025

Work of the Governing Body

The Governors have continued to meet regularly to oversee the work of the school. There are a combination of full governing body meetings and subcommittee meetings. Reports have been received on Additional Educational Needs Reform, Curriculum for Wales, curriculum developments, attendance, financial matters, as well as proposed developments in the school.

School Policies

School policies are constantly being reviewed and updated in line with Welsh Government, the local authority and the Consortium. All policies are reviewed and approved annually or every three years depending on the nature of the policy.

Governors regularly review school policies and procedures.

School Development Plan

The School Development Plan (SDP) is an essential part of our School Improvement Cycle, setting out the priorities for school improvement. The Headteacher and staff in conjunction with the governing body are responsible for drawing up the School Development Plan. The plan identifies the direction the school will take in delivering the curriculum and raising standards across the school. The plan is regularly monitored and revised to take account of progress made and any changes to curriculum requirements. The following shows each target and a summary of progress from 2024-2025.

Priority 1: To design a curriculum driven by the What Matters Statements that ensures progression through the school in terms of knowledge and skills.

The school has made good progress in developing progression maps for Humanities, Science & Technology, Health & Wellbeing, grammar and sentence-level work, alongside introducing a new planning grid to ensure cross-curricular skills are addressed. Improvements in spelling have been seen, and writing in the 8-11 age range shows clearer progression and quality. However, further work is needed to ensure consistency across classes, particularly in differentiation, phonics teaching, and developing reasoning skills in numeracy. Embedding cross-curricular skills more widely and consistently remains a focus moving forward.

Priority 2: To ensure that assessment arrangements support the Ysgol Cynfran curriculum in terms of Assessment For Learning (AFL)

Assessment systems are now more purposeful, with a whole-school tracker in place to capture pupil progress, inform Additional Learning Needs (ALN) reviews, and prompt discussions about supporting and challenging pupils. Marking has become more consistent following policy updates and staff training, and most pupils understand the feedback process. Self and peer assessment are developing but still require strengthening to increase pupil independence. Next steps include refining approaches for More Able and Talented (MAT) pupils, embedding stronger self/peer assessment, and launching a Senedd to strengthen pupil voice across the school.

Priority 3: To develop purposeful learning environments and outdoor learning opportunities across the learning continuum

Provision for younger pupils has been enhanced, with the Jabadao area supporting sensory regulation and engagement in Dosbarth Dulas, though its impact was less effective in Dosbarth Betws. Outdoor learning has improved with new fencing installed and enhanced provision now planned collaboratively across the 3–8 age ranges. Staff confidence in planning themes around the What Matters Statements has grown and enabling environments are becoming more purposeful. Moving forward, the focus will be on developing a whole-school outdoor learning plan and embedding enabling learning guidance to strengthen provision across all age ranges.

Estyn Recommendations

Ysgol Cynfran was inspected in May 2025. The recommendations from this inspection will be addressed through the priorities set out in the 2025-26 School Development Plan.

R1. Ensure that all pupils develop as effective independent learners able to make choices about how they learn

R2. Strengthen professional learning opportunities to ensure that they are linked appropriately to the aspects of teaching and learning in need of improvement

R3. Improve pupils' attendance

Prospectus Changes

The prospectus is changed every year if necessary to reflect any alterations in staff. It also reflects any other significant changes to the school that may affect pupils. A supplement is published with the prospectus, giving details of important dates and other information as needed.

The prospectus has been updated in line with statutory guidelines. Copies are available on the school's website and paper copies are available on request.

Curriculum

The school follows the statutory Curriculum for Wales.

We will be supporting our pupils to be:

- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their life
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens, ready to take part in Wales and the world, and
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead a fulfilling life as a valued member of society.

These are the 'four purposes' of the curriculum

Areas of Learning and Experience

As well as literacy, numeracy, digital skills and sex and relationship education, there are six areas of learning and experience. Everything our pupils learn will be connected to these areas.

- Humanities
- Health and well-being
- Expressive Arts
- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Science and technology
- Mathematics and Numeracy

Further information regarding the Curriculum for Wales is available at the school office and on the school website.

The curriculum is delivered making use of a full range of pedagogical principles, and making use of the indoor and outdoor space wherever it is determined to be most beneficial to children and their ways of learning. It includes making use of the outdoor space in school, in the local area, and at settings such as Nant BH, local museums, Bodnant Gardens and local beaches. Learning is pupil

led where possible, taking into account the interests of the children. It is also delivered in topics and through the use of role play and drama.

Welsh

Ysgol Cynfran is an English Medium Primary School and is committed to the promotion of Welsh language and culture. Pupils have regular and frequent instruction in Welsh as a second language and incidental Welsh is encouraged at all times. The school is working towards the bronze Cymraeg Campus award.

Whilst children are taught through the medium of English, every effort is made to deliver as much possible through the medium of Welsh, including incidental use, and focussed use in lessons. This begins with colours, weather, age, name at Nursery and Reception. By Year 6, we expect children to speak with confidence in the present and past tense and occasional use of the future tense.

International Languages

As part of the Curriculum for Wales, progression in international language(s) is shown in descriptions of learning for Progression step 3, 4 and 5. In addition to Welsh and English, all pupils should have the opportunity to learn at least one international language at school and to use other home languages and community languages they may speak. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 have experience of French language and culture.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

We have an Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator who works with staff and pupils from all year groups, principally by withdrawal, using a range of appropriate resources. We also have the benefit of teaching assistants (TAs) who are able to provide support within school.

Consultation is made whenever appropriate with agencies such as the Educational Psychology Service, Speech and Language Therapy etc.

Children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) are fully catered for. This takes place in small group sessions with Teaching Assistants, and in mainstream lessons where work is differentiated according to ability. The school is accredited for its approach to meeting the needs of children with Autism. There is also a focus on more able and talented children who are undertaking activities during the week to match their abilities, in lessons, undertaking specific activities.

The school makes use of specialist external providers to support children with ALN, including education psychologist, school nurse, CAMHS, school-based counselling, Speech & Language, Learning Support, Sensory Support, Autism Outreach Support, Outreach Support, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Childhood Development Support. In consultation with these agencies, resources, appropriate strategies and intervention are provided to children who qualify.

Accessibility

The school site is fully accessible. It is on one level, with wide, easy-access doors and a designated accessible toilet large enough to accommodate a wheelchair. Entrances and pathways are suitable for wheelchair users, ensuring that pupils, staff, and visitors with mobility needs can move safely and comfortably throughout the school.

Annual Meeting With Parents

Until 2012, the governing body held or offered to hold an annual meeting for parents with governors. There is no longer a requirement for us to do this, and due to the very small number of parents who have attended these meetings in the past, we do not intend to hold one this year. However, parents are entitled to request up to three meetings per year with the governing body via petition, as summarised here:

The governing body must hold a meeting within 25 days of receiving the petition, providing that:

1. The petition contains the signatures of the required minimum number of parents of registered pupils at the school, which is the lower of the following:
 - i. the parents of 10% of registered pupils, or
 - ii. the parents of 30 registered pupils;
2. The meeting requested by parents must be to discuss a matter relating to the school;
3. There will be no more than three meetings held during the year in which the first petition is received;
4. There are sufficient school days left in the school year for the meeting to be held.

(School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013)

No meetings have been called this year.

Financial position April 2025:

Total Budget -	£922,667
Total expenditure -	£923,761
Income received -	£105,274
Carryover -	-£1,095
% as carryover -	-0.12%

Pupil Information For 2024-25

Pupils on roll – Total 155

Free school Meal entitlement – Calculated weekly average 58

Additional Learning Needs:

Pupils with LA maintained IDP – 15

Pupils with school IDP - 6

Number of permanent exclusions in the 2024-2025 school year = 0

Number of fixed term exclusions in the 2024-2025 school year = 0

Attendance Data 2024/25

(up to 23/5/25)– 91.6%

Authorised absence – 6%

Unauthorised absence – 2.4%

Interventions:

- Family liaison
- Work with the Family Centre and the Carers' Trust
- Referrals to the ESW and Social Services
- Engagement events such as Easter Fair and Coffee and Craft
- ELSA and TIS intervention.

Pupils who moved on in Year went to Ysgol Bryn Elian, Ysgol John Brights, Ysgol Eirias and Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan.

General Information

All year groups are based in bright and functional classrooms within the main school building. Outdoor learning areas continue to be developed in line with our desire to provide all children with exciting, interesting and innovative opportunities to learn outside as well as indoors.

The school prides itself on promoting an active lifestyle for all learners. Physical Education is provided to all children through the year. Children in all year groups visit the Leisure Centre each year for a programme of swimming lessons. The school now has a 'pump track' used during lesson times to develop physical skills. We work with Ffit Conwy to look at ways to develop pupils' bike skills as they progress through the school. Year 5 and 6 took part in Swim Safe sessions in the sea at Porth Eirias and many classes used the local MUGA facilities and play park to deliver Physical education. Pupils in KS2 took part in Cricket lessons and the school competed in a local Cricket competition. In addition to this, PM7 sports run frequent sessions after school throughout the year.

The gardens across the school are being developed. The school was awarded a level 4 in Wales in Bloom for the developing garden.

All children take part in the Christmas performances if they wish to and Year 6 performed a leavers' assembly for their parents.

Attendance is monitored by the headteacher. All absences are expected to be reported to school. These are recorded and where holidays are requested, authorised for the first ten sessions (5 days) of absence. It is expected that requests for holiday absence are minimal.

Ysgol Cynfran is a healthy school and we encourage children to drink water throughout the school day and to eat healthy snacks at breaktimes. The school is also nut free to ensure children with allergies are kept safe. Breakfast and hot dinners conform to the requirements as set out by the County catering team for a balanced, nutritious meal. School meals are free for all children in primary school.

As a statutory requirement in this report, we confirm the school has various toilet facilities through the school for Playgroup and for children in each progression step. All are cleaned on a daily basis, and additionally where appropriate.

The school is very proud of its links with the community. It works with the secondary High School, and cluster primary schools across a number of initiatives. It also works with the Police and Environmental Services. We work closely with the family team. Additionally, all year groups aim to host a celebration open afternoon / parent evening every term. We are also keen to encourage volunteer readers to work with year groups, and have a volunteer working with most year groups.

Term dates, staff training days and school holidays are attached together with a list of Governors.

Parents, Teachers and Friends association (PTFA)

The Governing Body would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the PTFA over the past year. Through a wide range of successful fundraising events and generous community support, they have raised nearly £3,500 to enhance pupils' experiences at Ysgol Cynfran, including contributing to the garden project, swimming lessons, new balance bikes, and the school minibus fund. We are extremely grateful for their continued dedication and for the support shown by families, staff, and local partners. The PTFA is always looking for additional volunteers, and anyone who is able to offer time or support would be warmly welcomed.

Complaints

We pride ourselves on our open-door policy and aim to resolve concerns informally and amicably through parent - teacher communication. Any unresolved issues should be brought to the head teacher or the deputy head teacher in the first instance. Parents who remain dissatisfied may then contact the chair of governors via the school asking for their complaint to be considered by the Governors' Complaints Committee. Our complaints policy is available from the school office, or via the website.

Term Dates 2025 / 2026

School term time overview:

Autumn term 2025

Staff training day: 1 September 2025

Term starts: 2 September 2025

Half term closes: 23 October 2025

Staff training day: 24 October 2025

Half term opens: 3 November 2025

End of term: 19 December 2025

Spring term 2026

Staff training day: 5 January 2026

Term starts: 6 January 2026

Half term closes: 13 February 2026

Half term opens: 23 February 2026

End of term: 27 March 2026

Summer term 2026

Staff training day: 13 April 2026

Term starts: 14 April 2026

May Day: 4 May 2026

Half term closes: 22 May 2026

Half term opens: 1 June 2026

End of term: 16 July 2026

Staff training day: 17 July 2026

Staff training day: 20 July 2026

Hours of Attendance

Nursery:	09.00 – 11.00
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2:	08.55 – 15.00
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6:	08.55 – 15.15

The Board of Governors

YSGOL CYNFRAN LLYSFAEN - BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2024- 2025			
	Address	Term of Office Ends	Tel. No.
LA Appointed			
Mr. G. W. Heap	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	10/05/28	01492 517326
Cllr G W Stewart	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	10/05/26	01492 517326
Mr R. Taylor	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	10/05/28	01492 517326
Minor Authority Representative (Community Council)			
Mrs S Davies	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	10/05/26	01492 517326
Parent Governors			
Mrs. S. Stafford	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	02/02/28	01492 517326
Mr. R. McIntyre	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	24/11/28	01492 517326
Mrs S Evans	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	27/10/27	01492 517326
Mrs R Davies	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	27/10/27	01492 517326
Teacher Governor			
Mr. M Emberton	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	06/05/29	01492 517326
Staff Governor			
Mrs. L. Heap	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	17/07/27	01492 517326
Community Governors			
Mrs. K. Guise	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	13/09/27	01492 517326
Mr. G.Davies	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	07/07/28	01492 517326
Ms. B. Jones	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen	05/04/26	01492 517326
Headteacher			
Mrs B Hughes	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen		01492 517326
Headteacher			
Mrs. C. Peter	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen		01492 517326
Chairman 2024-25	Mr. G. Davies		
Vice Chairman:	Mr. G. Heap		
Committees			
Finance and Staffing	G. Davies, G. Heap, Cllr Stewart, B. Hughes, Mr M Emberton		
Buildings	G.Davies, B.Hughes		
A L N Governor	Mrs. L Heap		
Safeguarding Governor	Mr G Heap		

All Governors may be contacted c/o Ysgol Cynfran

As a Governing Body, we play a strategic role in shaping the school's vision, aims and policies, working closely with the headteacher and staff to ensure these are brought to life in meaningful ways. Acting as a critical friend, we both challenge and support the school by asking thoughtful questions, providing guidance and ensuring the resources are in place to help achieve the school's goals.

This year, the school has made significant progress in further developing its curriculum in line with the Curriculum for Wales. Staff have worked diligently to ensure that programmes of learning are progressive, enabling children to build their skills and knowledge as they move through the school. Assessment methods have also been refined to ensure they are purposeful, consistent and support pupils' ongoing progress.

We were very pleased with the outcome of the recent Estyn inspection, which recognised the school's many strengths and the dedication of the whole team.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Beth Hughes, the staff of Ysgol Cynfran and to you, the parents and carers, for your continued trust, commitment and support.

Mr G Davies,

Chair of Governors, Ysgol Cynfran