YSGOL CYNFRAN

ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

2025-2026

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, 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 2025-2026.

Priority 1: Strengthen Independent Learning through Consistent, High-Quality Teaching and Learning
Good progress has been made in developing pupils' independence. Learning environments have been improved to encourage pupils to make choices, access resources independently, and develop problem-solving skills. Pupils are showing increased confidence in mathematics and are making greater use of digital technology to support their learning. The school has also strengthened phonics and spelling provision. Reading remains a key area for further development and will continue to be a priority.

Priority 2: Embed Pupil Voice to Enhance Engagement, Belonging, and Attendance
Pupils have had more opportunities to influence school life through pupil leadership groups and classroom activities. Survey feedback was very positive, with most pupils saying they enjoy school, feel safe, and feel supported. Pupils have also begun leading projects that help strengthen links between school and home. The school will continue to build on this work by increasing pupil involvement in school improvement and attendance initiatives.

Priority 3: Build Professional Learning Culture that Drives Improvement in Teaching and Learning
Staff have engaged positively in professional learning, training, and collaboration. This has supported improvements in areas such as phonics, spelling, mathematics, and independent learning. Opportunities for staff to share effective practice and learn from one another have helped strengthen teaching across the school. The next step is to further evaluate the impact of professional learning, particularly in improving reading outcomes.

Overall Summary
The school has made good progress across all three priorities this year. Pupils are becoming more independent learners, opportunities for pupil voice have increased, and staff continue to develop their practice through professional learning. These improvements provide a strong foundation for

future development, with reading, attendance, and the use of Welsh in everyday school life remaining important priorities for the year ahead.

Estyn Recommendations

Ysgol Cynfran was inspected in May 2025. The recommendations from this inspection will continue to be addressed through the priorities set out in the 2026-27 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

Progress:

R1. Learning environments have been adapted to promote independence and choice. Many pupils are selecting resources independently and discussing their learning. However, approaches remain inconsistent between classes and pupils do not always evaluate their own learning effectively.

R2. Professional learning is increasingly aligned to school priorities including phonics, independent learning and wellbeing. Collaborative professional learning and peer observations have strengthened practice, although evaluation of impact on pupil outcomes requires further development.

R3. Attendance remains a priority. Pupil voice initiatives, wellbeing surveys and attendance rewards have strengthened engagement. However, attendance remains below desired levels and a sharper focus on targeted attendance strategies is required. Attendance is now an LA priority and the school have joined their Inclusive Attendance Training.

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 haven 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 2026:

Total Budget - £871,080

Total expenditure - £846,825

Income received - £105,960

Carryover - £24,225

% as carryover - 3%

Pupil Information For 2025-26

Pupils on roll (July 2026) – Total 142

Free school Meal entitlement – Calculated weekly average 46

Additional Learning Needs:

Pupils with LA maintained IDP – 14

Pupils with school IDP - 12

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

Number of fixed term exclusions in the 2024-2025 school year = 10

Attendance Data 2024/25

(up to 23/5/25)– 87.49%

Authorised absence – 5.17%

Unauthorised absence – 3.65%

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 6 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 3 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 funds 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 2026 / 2027

School term time overview:

Autumn term 2025
Staff training day: 1 September 2026
Term starts: 2 September 2026
Half term closes: 22 October 2026
Staff training day: 23 October 2026
Half term opens: 2 November 2026
Staff training day: 13 November 2026
End of term: 18 December 2026
Spring term 2026
Term starts: 4 January 2027
Half term closes: 5 February 2027
Half term opens: 15 February 2027
End of term: 19 March 2027

Summer term 2026
Term starts: 5 April 2027
Staff training day: 30 April 2027
May Day: 3 May 2027
Half term closes: 28 May 2027
Half term opens: 7 June 2027
End of term: 16 July 2027
Staff training day: 19 July 2027
Staff training day: 20 July 2027

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 Headteacher	c/o Ysgol Cynfran Llysfaen		01492 517326
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 have an important role in helping to shape the direction of the school, working alongside the headteacher and staff to support the school's vision and ambitions. Acting as a critical friend, we offer both challenge and support, providing oversight, asking constructive questions and helping to ensure that the school has the resources needed to meet its goals.

This year, our school community was deeply saddened by the tragic and untimely loss of two much-loved governors, Mr Rod Taylor and Mr Gareth Heap. Both men dedicated countless hours to supporting the school and played an important role in helping us overcome challenges and celebrate successes. Their kindness, commitment and friendship meant a great deal to pupils, staff and governors alike. We remain devastated by their loss and extend our sincere condolences to their families and loved ones, who remain in our thoughts.

Despite this difficult loss, the school has continued to make good progress in delivering its School Development Plan priorities. Staff have worked collaboratively to strengthen teaching and learning, with a particular focus on developing pupils' independent learning skills, mathematical reasoning and reading. Targeted interventions and improved classroom practice have helped to support pupils' progress, while continued work on inclusive provision has ensured that learners receive appropriate support to succeed. These developments have contributed to higher levels of engagement, confidence and independence across the school.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank Mrs Beth Hughes, all staff at Ysgol Cynfran, and our parents and carers for their continued support throughout the year. By working together, we continue to provide the best possible opportunities for our pupils, and we look forward to building on this year's successes in the future.

Mr G Davies,

Chair of Governors, Ysgol Cynfran