

YSGOL RHIWABON

~ SINCE 1575 ~



GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

2022 – 2023

Message from our Chair of Governors

We hope that you will find the Governors' Annual Report to Parents both interesting and useful in demonstrating the activities, achievements and successes of Ysgol Rhiwabon and its students. Schools operate today in an increasingly challenging environment but all of us associated with Rhiwabon, staff and governors, remain committed to ensuring the welfare of each and every student, maximising individual potential and ensuring that each learner is fully prepared to enter the world of continuing education or the workplace.

The school works with a wide range of partners in order to achieve the best outcomes for its students. Parents are a key partnership asset in our endeavour and we thank you for your support in making Ysgol Rhiwabon a school to be proud of.

Annual Parents' Meeting

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.

No meetings were held with parents under Section 94 of the Act during the academic year 2022/2023.

Members of the Governing Body as at 1st September 2022

Chairperson of Governors: Mrs J Lowe
c/o Ysgol Rhiwabon
Ruabon
Wrexham

Clerk to the Governors: Mrs E Williams
Ysgol Rhiwabon
Ruabon
Wrexham

		<u>Term of Office</u>
<u>Appointed by LA:</u>	Councillor J Lowe	01/10/2020 – 30/09/2024
	Mrs A Swarbrick	01/08/2019 – 31/07/2023
	Mr K Jones	01/09/2020 – 31/08/2024
<u>Elected by Parents:</u>	Mrs A Green	03/07/2019 – 02/07/2023
	Mrs E Matthews	26/09/2018 – 25/09/2022
	Mr K Morris	26/09/2018 – 25/09/2022
	Mr A Owen	18/10/2021 – 17/10/2025
	Mrs S Meadow	18/10/2021 – 17/10/2025
	Mrs P Hardy	18/10/2021 – 17/10/2025
<u>Elected by Teachers:</u>	Mrs V Wright-Davies	01/09/2020 – 31/08/2024
	Mr M Jones	23/09/2019 – 22/09/2023
<u>Elected by Staff:</u>	Mr N Money Penny	21/10/2019 – 20/10/2023
<u>Community Members:</u>	Mr G Edwards	23/09/2020 – 22/09/2024
	Mr D Thompson	22/09/2021 – 21/09/2025
	Mr M Davies	06/12/2021 – 05/12/2025
	Ms C Davies	22/09/2021 – 21/09/2025
	Mr J Roberts	22/09/2021 – 21/09/2025

Headteacher Mrs M Ferron-Evans

Election of Parent Governors

No new Parent Governors have been elected this year to date.

Governor Committees

There are five main committees of the governing body: Standards and Curriculum; Finance, Marketing, Health, Safety and Premises; Student Well-Being and Personnel and Staffing. These committees meet at least once per term and report back to the full governing body.

The Standards and Curriculum Committee

The main aim of the Committee is to ensure that the school meets the legal requirements in relation to the curriculum. The Committee also analyses performance indicators of the school and monitors curriculum developments.

At our meetings over the past year, amongst other topics, we have specifically considered:

- Planning for the New Curriculum in Wales
- ALN Reform
- Work Scrutiny
- The Year 9 Options Process
- Peer to peer working
- Lyn Sharratt 'Clarity' Project

In particular, the Committee reviewed and updated the following policies: Examinations and Contingency Policy, Guidance on Examination Procedures for Invigilators, Malpractice Policy and Non-Examination Assessment Policy.

The Finance, Marketing, Health, Safety and Premises Committee

The committee met regularly throughout the year to consider and discuss the Income and Expenditure Statements and other matters of financial interest, Health, Safety and Premises.

The Committee is satisfied that the funds have been kept in accordance with local instructions and that the balances are in accordance with the projected school income and expenditure for this year.

The Committee reviewed and updated the following policies: Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy, Accessibility Plan, Charging and Remissions Policy, Equality Accessibility Plan, GDPR policy, Gifts and Hospitality Policy, Toilet Policy and Use of Private Vehicles Policy.

The Personnel and Staffing Committee

The Personnel and Staffing Committee worked with the Headteacher on the recruitment and retention of staff. This Committee is also responsible for reviewing the potential redundancy and redeployment of staff. It checks the systems for performance management of staff in the school.

The Committee reviewed and updated the following policies: Performance Management Policy, Pay Policy and Managing Redundancy and Redeployment Policy.

The Student Well-Being Committee

The Student Well-Being Committee met to discuss all aspects relating to the wellbeing and guidance of students at Ysgol Rhiwabon. Members of the School Council attend the Student Committee to discuss issues as necessary.

The committee also monitors attendance and exclusions.

The Committee reviewed and updated the following policies: Additional Learning Needs Policy, Food and Fitness Policy, Home Tuition for Children & Young People with Medical Needs Policy, Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, Sex and Relationships Education Policy and Word Processor Policy.

Link Governor 2022/2023 as at 1st September 2022

Each department is allocated a 'Link' governor.

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Link Subject</u>	<u>Curriculum Leaders</u>
Mrs Swarbrick	English	Mrs J Ellison
	Mathematics	Mrs E Beveridge
Cllr G Edwards	Science	Mr M Robinson

The aims of the link governor programme of visits are as follows:

- to enable governors to develop a greater understanding of the way the school operates
- to enable governors to become better informed about the school
- to build up good relationships between governors and staff and pupils to contribute to the Governing Body's monitoring role.

A summary of the School's Financial Statement 2022/2023

2022 – 2023 Financial Year Outturn Statement (as at 31/05/2023)		
Category	2022-23 £ Total Expenditure	Final £ Budget Total
EMPLOYEES	2,626,281	2,564,134
PREMISES	241,885	245,159
TRANSPORT	3,104	3,000
SUPPLIES	266,846	290,530
EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	227,509	204,800
INCOME	-416,453	-357,781
DEFICIT PLAN	-	-185,571
TOTAL	2,949,172	2,888,774

The school has three separate accounts which it administers:

- Ysgol Rhiwabon General Account
- Talking Newspaper Charity – Business Money Manager - CLOSED
- Talking Newspaper Charity – Community Account - CLOSED

The funds are separate from the main Delegated Budget and are independently audited by Mr N Evans.

See Appendix 1 for copies of the certificates.

School Improvement Plan

Key Targets 2022 / 2023

Priority 1

To secure high quality teaching, learning and assessment to ensure the progress of all students with a focus on The New Curriculum for Wales and the Key Stage 4 Examination Specifications.

Priority 2

To strengthen the systematic and progressive whole school approach to the planning, provision and monitoring of students' progress in skills across the curriculum.

Priority 3

To develop the whole school approach to student wellbeing with a focus on inclusion, positive behaviour management, attendance and a new PHSE Programme.

Priority 4

To manage the new ALN Reform Agenda.

Priority 5

To ensure appropriate progress and outcomes in Key Stage 4 for all students with an appropriate focus on groups of learners, in particular: FSM, Boys, 5 A* - As, Literacy and Numeracy scores.

Priority 6

To manage the School Budget, encompassing student numbers, transition and marketing.

Policies 2022 / 2023

Policies are reviewed on a rolling programme. The following policies were reviewed by the Governors' Committees and ratified at the Full Governing Body meetings:-

- Examinations and Contingency Policy
- Guidance on Examination Procedures for Invigilators
- Malpractice Policy
- Non-Examination Assessment Policy.
- Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Charging and Remissions Policy
- Equality Accessibility Plan
- GDPR Policy
- Gifts and Hospitality Policy
- Toilet Policy
- Use of Private Vehicles Policy
- Performance Management Policy
- Pay Policy and Managing Redundancy
- Redeployment Policy.
- Additional Learning Needs Policy
- Food and Fitness Policy
- Home Tuition for Children & Young People with Medical Needs Policy
- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Sex and Relationships Education Policy
- Word Processor Policy.

Students on roll 2022/2023 as at 15th September 2022

Year 7	=	126
Year 8	=	108
Year 9	=	112
Year 10	=	108
Year 11	=	98
Main school total	=	552

Our Curriculum

Our working week consists of twenty-five one hour lessons. These are organised within a ten-day, two-week timetable to enable us to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum and to ensure that the students have the appropriate number of hours for each subject. This plan will be reviewed as we move towards the introduction of the New Curriculum in Wales.

Our school curriculum could conveniently be considered in linked stages as follows:

Key Stage 3	Years 7 - 9	11 – 14 years old
Key Stage 4	Years 10 - 11	14 – 16 years old

Years Seven, Eight and Nine (Key Stage Three)

Students study a broad range of National Curriculum courses at Key Stage Three. The aim during this Key Stage is to prepare students thoroughly to take up the challenge of examination courses at Key Stage Four. The following subjects are taught:

English, Mathematics, Science, Art, French, Geography, History, Information Technology, Music, Physical Education, PSE, Religious Studies, Technology and Welsh.

Years Ten and Eleven (Key Stage Four)

In Year 10, students are able to exercise a significant degree of choice over the courses which they opt to study. We believe, however, that it was important for our learners to follow a balanced curriculum. All students study English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education, Personal and Social Education, Welsh and Religious Education and the Skills Challenge Certificate. Students choose their options from the following list of subjects:

Art, History, Information Technology, Child Development, Design & Technology, Music, Drama, Religious Studies, Engineering, Sociology, French, Sports Studies, Geography and Health and Social Care.

Students are also able to choose an option from the range of vocational courses on offer. These courses are delivered via the Wrexham 14-19 Network and are studied at another school in the Wrexham area or at Coleg Cambria.

Vocational Courses Level 1 and 2 – GCSE

Animal Care	Engineering	Performing Arts
Computing	Hair and Beauty	Salon Services
Construction	Horticulture	Travel and Tourism
Customer Service	Hospitality and Catering	

This provision allows students the flexibility to study both academic and vocational qualifications.

We also provide an Enrichment Option for students who find some of the demands of GCSE difficult. The compulsory core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science are followed alongside vocational courses, college and community placements.

Before embarking on any courses, we offer extensive advice and support on the suitability of option choices.

Additional Learning Needs Provision

The Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator liaises with the various curriculum areas and outside agencies. Additional Learning Needs provision embraces a wide range of short and long-term programmes and helps and supports those students who experience difficulty with aspects of learning. While there may have been some withdrawal for individuals or small groups, the main form of support is in mainstream classes and is provided by both Additional Needs staff and subject specialists. Pastoral Support Programmes are used with students whose behaviour is causing particular concern.

Personal and Social Education

The school has a comprehensive and structured programme of Personal and Social Education. This embraces the Governing Body's policy for Sex and Relationship Education in line with government and Local Authority guidelines. If parents are concerned in any way about the content of the programme they are welcome to contact the Headteacher.

Welsh Language

Ysgol Rhiwabon is an English Medium School. Welsh is a compulsory National Curriculum subject for all students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) and 4 (Years 10 & 11). Students study the WJEC GCSE Welsh (full course - second language) specification.

Students can be disapplied from studying Welsh in KS3/4 if they need additional support from the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) department or are English as an Additional Language (EAL) students. All the staff at Ysgol Rhiwabon are encouraged to promote bilingualism and the use of incidental Welsh in the classroom. The Welsh Department organise many events throughout the year to promote the language and culture. These can be found on our school website.

Additional Educational Needs

The LA has a published admissions policy for all its schools. In relation to ALN the policy states:-

Arrangements will be made to identify each child's special educational needs and to provide the appropriate educational provision.

The Authority's policy is to support, where appropriate, the inclusion of pupils with special needs within the mainstream sectors.

The Learning Support Department at Ysgol Rhiwabon continues to develop and reach out to all aspects of school life. To quote the SEN Code of Practice 'all teachers are teachers of SEN.' The staff at Ysgol Rhiwabon are excellent examples of this in the way they differentiate their units of work and consult the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator over ALN issues.

The aim of the Governors' policy is to ensure equal access to all areas of the curriculum so that the needs and potential of all students are met within a caring and protective environment. The school ensures a coherent policy by:

- identifying a named Governor with responsibility for ALN
- identifying a school co-ordinator for ALN
- implementing clear policies for monitoring and record-keeping
- use of external support services and agencies.

The school ensures access to all areas of the National Curriculum, offers a varied, flexible and relevant curriculum post-14 and takes note of aptitudes and interests at recruitment and when making timetable provision.

The school ensures appropriate planning and resourcing to meet the responsibilities of the SEN Code of Practice by establishing relevant group sizes following identification, assessment and continuous monitoring and review of students' needs. A special needs register is maintained and individual education plans produced as required by the Code of Practice. Close liaison with parents and all relevant external agencies are a priority in catering for pupils with special educational needs. The ALN Co-ordinator visits primary schools during the summer term to discuss Year 6 student's transition to Ysgol Rhiwabon.

The school currently employs – 13 Teaching Assistants to support students with Special Educational Needs.

The Governor with responsibility for SEN is Mrs P Hardy.

Organisation

4 mixed ability teaching groups in Year 7 with some in class support. RP Students placed in one form with TA Support.

Year 8 – 11 – banding and setting with some TA support.

Withdrawal groups – ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) 1:1, Draw and Talk Therapy.

SpLD teaching 1:1 in Succeed for identified students in KS3 and KS4.

Identified students in KS3 and KS4 disappled from Welsh for literacy intervention.

8 x Year 10 students on a curriculum enrichment courses.

A number of students on part time timetables completing work in Succeed or nurture. Currently offering reintegration for students with anxiety/health issues.

Deployment of Staff

13 TAs are deployed as follows:

1 – 30 hours in Maths and also teaches maths to targeted ALN students in KS3.

1 – In inclusion area (Succeed), teaches COPE delivers social communication and nurture groups.

1 – 30 hours 1:1 support statemented students.

1 – 30 hours. In class support and helps lead the social communication group, teaches COPE and supports RP students in mainstream lessons.

1 – 30 hours in Succeed. Delivers 1:1 SpLD teaching. Supervises and supports variety of student needs on Succeed placement. Supports KS3 mainstream.

1 – 30 hours 1:1 support across KS3 and KS4.

1 – 30 hours support for a Year 10 student (Statement) and 10 hours split between Year 7 students (JPS)

1 – 30 hours across KS3. Delivers ELSA.

1 – 30 hours Year 11 (ARSAP) medical needs, curriculum enrichment on a Thursday and Key Stage 3 classes.

1 – 30 hours Supports 1:1 in KS3 & 4. Delivers ELSA.

1 – 30 hours 1:1 support for in KS3.

1 – 30 hours 1:1 support in KS3. (Statement)

1 – 30 hours across KS3. Delivers ELSA.

Identified areas of SEN

PMED, ADHD, EAL, HI/VI, MLD, BESD, GLD, SLCD, SpLD, ASD, Irlens, LAC.

Training

Attendance at termly SENCO Forum and Secondary SENCO Forum.

Positive communication training

Managing challenging behaviour

Differentiation Training – Mike Gershwin

Outcome and Review Training

Intervention Team around School (ITaS) Training

Minecraft for Education Training

New Online ALN Training for TAs
ELSA Training for 4 TAs

Access for wheelchairs is available.

A copy of the full Special Educational Needs Policy is available from school.

Sporting Achievements

Sports News

GCSE

Year 11 students undertook their external practical moderation, which also involved moderation of their coursework. This combined being worth 50% of their overall mark. The students were a credit to the school. The moderator was very impressed with our students and commented on what a warm welcome he received.

Rugby

We have once again been working closely with Richard Caldecott from Rhos Rugby Club to develop rugby within school and develop links for our students to attend a club outside of school. This has developed well with at least 10 students being involved with Rhos Rugby club since this started.

Athletics

This was one of our most successful athletics competitions to date with the Middle Boys being crowned County Champions and the Junior Girls coming runners-up.

The following students won their events and will represent Wrexham in the North East Wales Athletics Competition:

Grace Dillion-Hughes 100m
Ocea Williams - 300m and long jump
Grace Thornley - shot and discus
Lucy Jones - 300m and triple jump
Tom Broadhurst - 800m
Jack Steven - 100m and 200m
Ethan Strange 1500m
Anthony Hodrien - shot putt
Rylan Jakovles - Javelin
Tom Savage - triple jump

In the Wrexham Schools Cross County the following students won a place on the Wrexham Team and will represent us in the North East Wales Cross Country Competition:

Jack Pumford
Ollie-Jay Binnersley
Ocea Williams
Danny Lennon
Louie Anderson

Netball

Grace Thornley and Mia Williams were selected for the North East Wales netball team, having represented Wrexham County netball team. They competed in the inter-county competition coming away as Welsh champions.

Indoor athletics

As a school we hosted the Wrexham secondary school indoor athletics competition where we finished 3rd overall.

Sports Leaders

A selection of 10 year 9 students have been designated as Sports Leaders. Through this project, they are working with us and the Wrexham Sports Development Coaching Officer to develop their leadership skills and earn qualifications. They have assisted with lots of events both within and outside school these have included:

- Ysgol Rhiwabon Cross Country
- Wrexham Secondary Schools Cross Country
- Wrexham Primary Schools Cross Country
- Silver Ambassador Training event at Collier Park where they met the Wrexham team
- Wrexham Primary Schools Football Festival at Cefn Druids

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Netball - KS3 and KS4
- Football – boys
- Football girls - run by Wrexham FC Ladies Captain
- Rugby
- Badminton
- Nurture sessions

Competitions

Netball, rugby and football fixtures against other Wrexham Schools.

Wrexham Area Athletics Competition. Wrexham Area Cross country competition – we are responsible for organising this event for the county.

Wrexham Area Cross-country competition

We are responsible for organising this event for the county. We achieved a great deal of success with Ocea Williams, Jack Pumford, Louie Anderson and Ollie Binnersley qualifying to represent the county.

The School Council

The aim of the School Council is to provide a forum for the discussion by the Student Representatives of issues raised by students during form time which will affect school life.

A new format for the School Council was developed in 2021/22 to ensure that the student body still had an opportunity to discuss school matters. The new format is made up of the Head Boy and Head Girl (Year 11), the Deputy Head Boy and Head Girl (Year 10) and one Year Representative from each Year Group (5 in total). Two individual Form Representatives were elected so that Year Councils meetings could be held and the matters discussed here could then be raised by the Year Representative at the Full School Council.

Two Associate Student Governors are elected by the Council to deliver a report to Governors every term.

Many whole school changes have been discussed with the School Council to gauge the student body's view before they are implemented.

Links with the Local Community

The school continues to develop close links between the school and the local community.

Mrs Ferron-Evans and Mr Evans attended the Remembrance Service in Ruabon. Mrs Wright-Davies attended the service in Cefn Mawr.

The Business Manager is in regular and active contact with the following groups:

- Friends of Ruabon Group e.g. supporting Ruabon's Station project
- Cefn Mawr Community Newsletter
- Ruabon Community Newsletter
- Glyndwr University
- Freedom Leisure Group
- Cefn Druids Football Club
- Business in the Community

Visitors to the school;

- Julia Williams - ESW
- Zoe Ankers-Phillips - Attendance Support Officer
- Julie Davies, Emma Jones and Mandy Townsen - Youth Workers in Education
- Christophe Lermite – English as an Additional Language Teacher
- Ryan Nantcurvis - Careers Wales
- Mike Gershon - External CPD Provider
- Local Businesses supporting Year 11 Mock Interviews
- Wrexham Music Service Teachers of Woodwind, Brass and Keyboard
- Mrs Paula Williams, GwE
- Mr Arwen Thomas, Managing Director, GwE
- PC Erin Hulley
- Milkfluencers

The Prince's Teaching Institute

Ysgol Rhiwabon remains closely linked with the Princes Teaching Institute. The following departments work closely on subject projects and have been awarded the quality mark this academic year; History, Music and Science.

The Headteacher is part of the Academic Steering Group which works with schools across the UK. Ysgol Rhiwabon has completed a three year leadership project which was verified in the Summer Term 2022.

Our school's CPD Programme has been selected for the PTIs Yearbook and publication on their website.

Buildings and Maintenance Plan – Summary of Maintenance Actions for 2022 - 2023

Below represents routine and non-routine maintenance actions that have been undertaken through 2022/23 and represent investment from the R&M Budget and staff time.

- Weekly Fire Alarm testing
- Weekly Legionella Flush.
- Fire Extinguishers – Most have been replaced with water mist.
- Barlow's Fire – Replacement & update on emergency lighting across the school
- Barlow's Security – Full test of intruder and fire alarm systems, with remedial actions undertaken to ensure both systems are functioning as required
- Barlow's Electrical – full electric wiring inspection across the whole site
- Air conditioning units serviced by ACS Ltd (twice per year)
- F Corridor refurbishment including all classrooms from lighting upgrade, painting and repairs, floors, all furniture and blinds. Old furniture and stocks removed in skips of rear of school.
- 6 plumbing jobs across the school site by D Hallam Ltd.
- New Specialist lights in the Science secure cupboard.
- Refurbishment of Careers and Lead learners Offices.
- Pathways relined.
- Sports Centre seminar and viewing area repainted.
- Main admin. Office repainted and new floor laid.
- Headteacher/PA Office new floor laid.
- Fire Call Point and Fire Action notices put up across the site.
- Fire Risk Assessment (statutory) undertaken.
- Noticeboards put up in Science corridor and F Corridor and classrooms.
- New entrance matting in 4 locations.
- Main entrance gate upgraded with secure fencing and electronic main gate with intercom/video to the main admin office.

Toilet Facilities

The school provides washroom facilities for all students and staff, which are located in the Upper School Block, Sports Centre and L Block.

The school has worked to ensure that the facilities are upgraded and maintained to meet student and staff needs.

There is a daily cleaning regime in place in partnership with Wrexham County Borough Council Cleaning Services and all maintenance issues are reported and actioned as a matter of urgency.

The school prides itself on the cleanliness and maintenance of the washroom facilities.

Summary of changes to the School Prospectus

The following amendments have been made since the last Governors' Report to Parents:

- Letter from the Headteacher – updated.
- Lead Learners – updated.
- Total Attendance – updated.
- Number on roll presently – updated.
- Exam Results Summary – updated.
- Term and Holiday dates – updated.
- Staff list – updated.
- Governing Body – updated.
- Public Information – date updated.

Term and Holiday Dates 2022 - 2023

Autumn Term

Staff Training Day	Thursday	1st September 2022
Staff Training Day	Friday	2nd September 2022
Term begins	Monday	5 th September 2022
Close for half term	Friday	28 th October 2022
Staff Training Day	Monday	7th November 2022
Open after half term	Tuesday	8 th November 2022
End of Term	Thursday	22 nd December 2022
Staff Training Day	Friday	23rd December 2022

Spring Term

Term begins	Monday	9 th January 2023
Close for half term	Friday	17 th February 2023
Open after half term	Monday	27 th February 2023
End of term	Friday	31 st March 2023

Summer Term

Term begins	Monday	17 th April 2023
May Day	Monday	1st May 2023
Close for half term	Friday	26 th May 2023
Open after half term	Monday	5 th June 2023
Staff Training Day	Friday	30th June 2023
End of term	Thursday	20 th July 2023

Summary of Transactions
YSGOL RITHWABON
GENERAL ACCOUNT Fund

Year Ended 31 March 2023.

RECEIPTS

PAYMENTS

Balances b/f

Bank Current Account

£ 79,612.86

Payments

£ 4375.91

Balances c/f

Bank Current Account

Receipts

£ 5235.59

£ 80,472.54

£ 84848.45

£ 84848.45

Certified :

M. Ferron Evans

Headteacher

M. FERRON EVANS.

[Signature]

Honorary Treasurer

I have examined the books, vouchers and documents relating to Ysgol Rithwabon General Fund School Fund Account and in my view the account above gives a true and fair view of its transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023 and of the balances in hand as of that date.

Signed

Date 12.9.2023

Name of Independent Auditor

Nigel Evans

Address

5, Addison Walk

Chirk Road, Gobowen.

CONWY SY113LG