



Governing Body of
Ysgol Gynradd Rhosyn Gwyn
White Rose Primary School

Full Report

This report is produced in accordance with National Assembly for Wales (NAFW) Circular 15/01.

1. Clerk

The school uses the Local Authority's 'Governor Support Service'. This support includes the provision of a clerk for many of the meetings. The Clerk to the Governing Body provided by the LA of Caerphilly County Borough Council.

2. Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Miss Coral Williams who is contactable via the school address.

3. Membership

The following people are currently members of the Governing Body.

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Date due for re-election
Cllr Eluned Stenner	LA	Council Members	
Mr Martin Williams Mrs Davina Parfitt	Minor Authority	Caerphilly Council	
Miss Coral Williams Dr J M Woodhouse Mrs Sharon Coleman	Community Governors	Governing Body	27/09/2025 16/10/2024 27/09/2025
Mr Luke Chard Mrs Alison Smith Mrs Dee Williams Miss Jodie Beynon	Parent	Parents	19/09/2025 05/10/2024 23/01/2026 29/11/2024
Miss Stacy Hancock	Teacher	Teaching Staff	20/11/2024
Mrs Paula Simpkins	Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	17/12/2023
Mrs Kathryn Thompson	Headteacher	n/a	



1 vacancy	LA	Council Members	--

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows

LEA Representatives	2	Community Governors	3
Parent Governors	4	Teacher Governor(s)	1
Staff Representative	1	Minor Authority (if applicable)	2
Headteacher	1	Total	14

The governing body is working to fill the vacancies for the community governor.

4. Resolutions

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

5. Election of Parent Governors

There are currently no vacancies for parent governors, with all other governors appointed within the last 3 years.

6. Curriculum for Wales

The new Curriculum for Wales came into effect from September 2022, during the last year we have been transitioning to the new curriculum and a lot of work has been done by teaching staff and governors around the aims of the new Curriculum.

There are 4 main aims of the new Curriculum

- Ambitious and Capable learners
- Enterprising and Creative
- Ethical and Informed Citizens
- Healthy and confident

All pupils in White Rose Primary School will meet the aims of the new Curriculum through Literacy Skills, Numeracy Skills, and digital Skills, this will be done under 6 areas of learning experience Expressive Arts

- Expressive Arts
- Health and Well-being
- Humanities
- Language, literacy, and communication
- Maths and Numeracy
- Science & Technology



White Rose Primary have introduced the aims of the new curriculum through 4 characters: - Healthy Harry, Ambitious Anwen, Creative Carys, Resilient Rhys. All pupils have been receptive to the characters and the school has been holding character Fridays for all pupils.

7. School Performance Data

The school continues to monitor the progress of all pupils throughout the whole school. Where necessary, the school identifies children who are achieving above, or below, expected levels. To support these children, the school ensures that learning sessions are 'differentiated', where the stage of development of each child is taken into consideration, instead of concentrating on the child's age. If this differentiation does not secure progress in learning, individual education plans are developed, with specific targets for small steps of progress to be achieved. Parents are included in this process.

This year as part of a Cluster project, White Rose were invited to select four year 6 pupils who were classed as being more able and talented to take part in the Brilliant Club project. Pupils met with a PhD tutor and worked through a challenging project pitched at a key stage above. Pupils attended virtual and in person teaching sessions, where they studied the impact of cardiovascular disease on the heart. Pupils all completed a final assignment which was scored on the university scale. Pupils will be attending a leading university for a graduation event after receiving their grades in the summer term.

8. Attendance Information

Listed below are the pupils' attendance figures from September 2022 – to July 2023.

	Attendance	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Overall (Up to 20 th July 2023)
Autumn 2022	88.35%	2371	846	88.89%
Spring 2023	90.08%	1485	498	
Summer 2023	88.81%	1243	1291	

Absence from school is a contributing factor in low pupil achievement, so, as you are aware, the Welsh Government and the Local Authority are targeting improved attendance. Parents can help this situation by informing the school if they feel that there are any problems that are preventing pupils from attending or causing the pupil to feel that they do not want to attend school.

During academic year 2022/2023 the school is below the target set by the Local Authority. However, we have been working through an unprecedented time throughout the Covid 19 pandemic and we appreciate the difficult times that families have worked through. The school has appointed a family liaison officer, who is working with families to overcome the pandemic concerns and help all our pupils and families return to a normal and improved school attendance. Parents are reminded of the importance of attending school, and that your support in this is always requested. The school will continue to follow local authority guidelines for the monitoring of pupil attendance. In line with local schools the governing body agreed to pilot the fixed penalty notice from September 2022 for a period of one year, this also includes a firm approach to holidays in term time where Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued by the Local Authority. Parents are advised to refer to the Attendance Policy which is available via the school website. Records are kept in school of pupils who arrive at school



late and registers are kept as an accurate record of pupil attendance. Parents are reminded of the requirement to inform school of any absence. Text messages, letters and support meetings are arranged to request reasons for non-attendance at school. Parents/carers are contacted if their child's attendance becomes a cause for concern.

Excellent attendance is continually rewarded to encourage pupils and families with class attendance bear, and class golden time.

9. **School Prospectus**

The school prospectus has been updated to provide an informative and user friendly document to inform parents and prospective parents of the work of the school. This prospectus is updated annually to include any changes required by the Welsh Assembly Government or other related bodies. A copy of the prospectus is available on the school website.

Parents are informed if any amendments are made to the existing prospectus. This can be viewed on the school website or request a copy from the school office.

10. **School Improvement Plan**

The School Improvement Plan for the 2022/23 academic year was approved by Governors.

As part of its regular meetings, the Governing Body regularly reviews targets. The school is in the process of finalising the School Improvement Plan for 2023/24 – details of this will be shared with parents/carers when it has been approved. A focus of the plan will be the continued development of Outstanding Teaching and Learning, Literacy, Numeracy, Science, Welsh and Digital Competency.

At White Rose Primary, we continue to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum is offered to all pupils at the school. This includes the “core” subjects of English, Mathematics, Welsh as well as Science in Key Stage 2 and Personal and Social Education, Wellbeing and Cultural Diversity in Foundation Phase. In line with current Welsh Government priorities, the school is focussing on the development of literacy and numeracy skills through a ‘thematic’ approach to learning. This will help the children learn how to transfer their skills more effectively once they have been learnt in specific Maths and English lessons. All lessons are differentiated to allow children to access their learning at their own levels.

Learning in the Foundation Phase includes a mix of structured activity and more traditional methods – which increase as they children prepare for Key Stage 2. Throughout Key Stage 2 the children are encouraged to participate actively in their learning, discussing topics with adults and peers, developing thinking skills, and increasing their independence in their own learning.

11. **Post Inspection Action Plan**

From Estyn 2019 the school has successfully completed recommendations and work will continue in the School Improvement plan.

12 **Use of the Welsh Language - Communication**

White Rose Primary School is an English medium school; lessons and other school activities are communicated through the medium of English. The use of the Welsh language is



promoted by the use of incidental Welsh with all pupils and adults throughout the school day. The school also works well to develop higher levels of Welsh Language acquisition in speaking, listening, reading and writing. The school has achieved the Campus Cymraeg Bronze award last year and are now working towards the silver award.

Should parents request that their child is taught at this school in a language other than English this request will be given due consideration.

Pupils for whom English is a second language are catered for according to their needs with support and input from appropriate personnel as required.

At Foundation Phase, Welsh is developed through incidental Welsh, as well as developing pupils' use of a range of sentence patterns. They are introduced to reading simple Welsh texts and written sentences with support and word banks. At Key Stage 2, the skills developed at Foundation Phase continue to be improved, with an increasingly complex range of sentence patterns and higher expectations in pupils' independent use of oral Welsh, reading with meaning and expression and writing some more extended pieces of work more independently.

At school, we have staff with a range of abilities in the delivery of Welsh as a second language. A number of our teaching and support staff are able to converse in Welsh with many staff continuing a professional learning programme in Welsh – and these skills are used to support the development of individual pupils' skills. The school also works closely with the Welsh Advisory Team at EAS, and this has continued to improve provision of teaching in Welsh and has had a positive impact on standards of achievement.

13 Term Dates and Holidays 2023/2024 Academic Year

It is a legal requirement that staff receive continuing professional development which ensures that they are fully aware of curriculum updates, legislation and national initiatives etc. Schools provide 5 INSET days throughout the year for this purpose. Parents will be given as much advance notice of these days as possible.

Autumn Term 2023		Half Term		Autumn Term 2023	
Friday 1 September 2023	Friday 27 th October 2023	Monday 30 October 2023	Friday 3 November 2023	Monday 6 th November 2023	Friday 22 December 2023
Spring Term 2024		Half Term		Spring Term 2024	
Monday 8 January 2024	Friday 9 th February 2024	Monday 12 February 2024	Friday 16 February 2024	Monday 19 th February 2024	Friday 22 March 2024
Summer Term 2024		Half Term		Summer Term 2024	
Monday 8 April 2024	Friday 24 th May 2024	Monday 27 May 2024	Friday 31 May 2024	Monday 3 rd June 2024	Friday 19 July 2024

The School day is organised as follows;

Morning	9am	to	12.00 noon
Wellbeing time	Juniors 12pm – 12.30pm	Infants	12.30pm – 1pm
Lunch break	Juniors 12.30pm – 1pm	Infants	12pm – 12.30pm
Afternoon	1.00pm	to	2.55pm



14 **Community Focused Schools**

A community-focused school is one that: 'provides a range of services and activities', often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community. Across Wales many schools already provide some community services including adult education, study support, ICT facilities and community sports programmes'.

The development of community-focused schools is not just a short-term project or initiative, but a real opportunity for schools and communities to work together in new ways for the future benefit of children, young people and adults.

At White Rose Primary, we have established successful after school clubs run by staff members throughout previous academic years which include Rugby, Football, Netball, Scrabble, Film, Choir, Design & Technology, IPad, welsh, stem and Science Clubs.

The Local Authority Breakfast Club is very well attended and ensures pupils start the day with a good breakfast. Links with the local churches have also been re-established following the many changes the school has undergone.

There is also an active 'Eco Group' which is run by Mrs N Lewis for parents and pupils of the school. Their focus is to develop an active community of people who are keen to develop the school grounds and ensure pupils have a good understanding of the importance of the environment around them, which has been highlighted by their 2nd Green Flag Award.

If there are areas where you believe we can develop this further, please contact a member of the Governing Body or school leadership where suggestions can be given due consideration.

15 **Review of School Policies**

The school has a large number of Policy documents covering both curriculum and non-subject areas. These documents are constantly reviewed/revised by staff/governors to incorporate changing trends and legislation. All approved policies are uploaded to the school website for easy access.

The Safeguarding Children Policy is due to be updated for September and will be approved by Governors in September 2024. Parents are reminded that a number of policies are available via the school website.

16 **Additional Learning Needs**

5 Children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

The curriculum in our school is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school. A child that has additional learning needs is when they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for Additional Learning Provision (ALP). If we think it necessary to adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of individual children who require an ALP then we do so only after the parents of the child have been consulted.

If a child has an additional need, our school does all it can to meet these individual needs. We comply with the requirements set out in the ALN Code of Practice in providing for children with



20 **Admission/Transition Arrangements**

The Local Authority is the Admissions Authority for all schools (other than Church schools where the schools governing body is the admissions authority) within the Authority's boundary and the school or Governing Body has no influence in admissions. The schools admission arrangements are, therefore, operated in line with the Authority's policy on school admissions which is contained in the publication Starting School book. The book is made available to parents at the point of their application for their child's admission to school. The contents of this book can also be accessed online on the Authority's website.

Pupils will usually remain in the school until they complete year six and then transfer to secondary school. This school is a feeder school for both Idris Davies Comprehensive School and Heolddu Comprehensive School, however, pupils may apply to attend any secondary school they choose subject to compliance with the Authority's admissions policy.

The school works closely with both Idris Davies Comprehensive School and Heolddu Comprehensive School where most of our pupils have transferred to over recent years. Children are encouraged to take part in a variety of transition events termly throughout year 6 at school to ease the change to their new school.

21 **Sporting Aims and Achievements**

The school aims to take part in numerous sporting activities throughout the year including football, rugby, and netball. Older children have taken part in football and netball matches and have shown true sportsmanship through academics. School funded Year 4 to attend a 3 week block of intensive swimming lessons in the summer term. Parents are reminded that if they have skills they are able to share with the school, and are able to support with after-school activities on a regular basis, to contact school staff where this can be investigated further.

22 **Healthy Eating**

The school encourages pupils to have healthy snacks during break times. Catering Services (for those children who take school meals) follow strict guidelines to ensure the nutritional value of the meals. The school has achieved the 'Healthy Schools' Award scheme and gained National Quality status in 2019 which has been recredited in June 2022. Parents are requested to provide healthy options for children's packed lunches to support this work.

23. **School Projects**

The staff and pupils have worked with various outside organisations throughout the year completing various projects throughout the school. Some of these include the following

Stori Dori- pupils in Nursery were involved in completing Stori Dori activities during the summer term.

Young Ambassador Vision For Wales – Two children were selected to be young person's voice for PE and School Sport for our school and community. They developed ideas and created a sporting action plan so that more young people have the chance to experience the benefits of an active lifestyle

