



Penygaer Primary School
Bryndulais Avenue, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire SA14 8RS
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www.penygaerschool.co.uk
Acting Headteacher: Mr Alun Stephens



Dear Parent/Carer,

THE ANNUAL GOVERNORS' REPORT TO PARENTS 2025

The report is about life in Penygaer Primary School in the last school year. There is a lot to read in the report, as many of the items are required by law, but it's also because a lot happens in Penygaer School! We'd be grateful if you took a few minutes to read the parts that interest you. I hope you find that our report gives you a clear picture of Penygaer School and an understanding of what we hope you will regard as a secure, enjoyable and inspiring place for your child to develop.

What is in the Report?

It tells you who is on the Governing Body. It also has information about:

- Any resolutions passed at the last AGM
- The school prospectus
- The school standard admission number
- School session times
- The school's links with the community
- School strategies
- School policies
- Special Educational Needs
- Provision for disabled pupils
- Sporting aims and successes at Penygaer
- Financial details
- School term and holiday dates.

It is no longer necessary for the Governing Body to hold a General Meeting for Parents. However, parents may request a meeting providing parents of at least 10% of the school's registered pupils sign the petition.

On behalf of the Governing Body of Penygaer School I hope that you will find the attached Annual Report of interest. Please feel welcome to contact me or the headteacher if you would like any further details.

Richard Samuel

CHAIRPERSON, GOVERNING BODY FOR PENYGAER SCHOOL

THE GOVERNING BODY

As at 1st September 2025, the members of the Governing Body are:

Chair of Governors 2024/25: Mr. Richard Samuel

Vice-Chair of Governors 2024/25: Mrs. Gaynor Price

The full Governing Body is as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Governor Status</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires</u>
Mrs J. Isaac	LEA	05.02.25
Cllr. A Bragoli	LEA	28.03.28
Cllr. P. Warlow	Additional Community	18.05.26
Mr A. Stephens	Acting Headteacher	
Mrs H. Conway	Teacher Rep. Acting DHT	03.02.27
Ms Colette Abdelkader	Staff	22.10.27
Mrs N. Prideaux Collins	Parent	20.03.29
Ms Jodie Evans	Parent	18.06.28
Ms Chloe Jones	Parent	09.03.29
Mrs G. Price	Community	06.11.27
Mr R. Samuel	Parent	20.03.29
Mr B. Hodgetts	Community	22.10.28

Clerk to the Governors: Ms Wendy Evans
Swyddog Cynnal Ysgolion / School Support Officer
Gwasanaethau Addysg a Chynhwysiad | Education and Inclusion Services

The full Governing Body met on three occasions during the 2023-24 school year; once per term as follows:-

- Autumn Term Governing Body Meeting – 24th October 2024
- Spring Term Governing Body Meeting – 18th February 2024
- Summer Term Governing Body Meeting – 21st May 2024

ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2025

GENERAL MEETING 2025

As a result of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, which came into force on 4th May 2013, a school governing body is no longer required to hold an annual parents meeting. The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 now enables parents of registered pupils at the school to request up to three meetings per year with the governing body via a petition. A brief summary is provided below.

The governing body must hold a meeting within 25 school 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:
 - (a) the parents of 10% of registered pupils, or
 - (b) 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.

The meeting is open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, the headteacher and any other persons invited by the governing body. As soon as reasonably practicable, the governing body must notify all parents of registered pupils at the school in writing, the date of the meeting and the matter to be discussed.

No meetings were held during 2024/25 as no parents petitioned for a meeting.

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

An updated School Prospectus was uploaded to the school website in Autumn 2024. Copies have been given to the parents of all children who have been admitted to the school since that date.

STANDARD ADMISSION NUMBER

The Standard Admission Number on 21.01.2025 was 29. The pre-Reception admissions number is 29. The capacity of the school is 233 pupils. There are 159 pupils on the school register on 18th May 2025

SCHOOL SESSION TIMES

	<u>Morning session</u>	<u>Afternoon session</u>
Nursery:	9.05a.m. – 11.35p.m.	1.05p.m. – 3.20p.m.
Reception:	9.05a.m. – 11.45a.m.	1.05p.m. – 3.20p.m.
Year 1 and Year 2:	9.05a.m. - 11.45a.m.	1.05p.m. - 3.25p.m.
Years 3 to 6:	9.05a.m. - 12.15p.m.	1.10p.m. - 3.30p.m.

LANGUAGE CATEGORY AND USE OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Penygaer Primary School is an English Medium school where the main language of learning is English. Welsh is taught as a second language.

The school is progressing with its Welsh in Education Plan

Linguistic provision is closely coupled with:

- the County's statutory Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP),
- contributes to the aim of nurturing a million Welsh speakers by 2050;
- incorporates proposals to teach the Languages and Communications Area of Learning and Experience of the new Curriculum for Wales as well as the promotion of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

For your information Penygaer is currently a Category 1 - English Medium School

This means that English is the main language for internal communication as well as communication with parents and carers. We recognise that creating a Welsh ethos within the school will support and encourage positive attitudes towards the use of Welsh. A learner will be able to read, write, speak and listen in English according to their age and ability, and will have some understanding of the Welsh language. The Welsh language is taught and assessed as part of the Area of Learning and Experience for languages, literacy and communication. At least 15% of learners' school activities (curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh.

TOILET FACILITIES

The provision for toilets for use by pupils is outlined below.

- Nursery – two cubicles and two sinks in the Nursery
- Intervention Class – four cubicles and four sinks
- Year 2, 3 and 4 – separate gender rooms.
 - Boys - one cubicle, an urinal and two sinks
 - Girls - two cubicles and two sinks
- Year 5 and 6 - separate gender rooms
 - Boys - two cubicles, a urinal and four sinks
 - Girls - four cubicles and four sinks
- Two Disabled - one toilet and sink in each

All of the toilet facilities are cleaned daily by the school cleaners.

INTERNAL BUILDING WORK

Building work Started on Monday 15th July 2024 work on a new intervention communication class and continued over the Summer holidays ready for the beginning of September 2024. The classroom facilitated a small group of children that have specific learning needs.

The year 1/2 class at that time was converted into the classroom. New toilet and changing facilities replaced the current toilets between the Early Years Class and the foyer.

The new class had a new door and windows to the outside quad area.

The foyer area will had an enclosed entrance with a hatch to the office. This improved security as no visitors will have access to the corridors and classrooms.

New drains were laid between Early Years and the entrance by the Kitchen.

During the Spring term new toilets, a new kitchen and a new floor were laid in the nursery/reception class that improved facilities significantly. The outside area between the class and the school had new drains and raised tarmac to improve safety.

COMMUNITY LINKS

Visitors to School, Community Links, visits, events (September 2024 onwards)

Penygaer School remains proud of its links with the community. These links include educational visits, a range of visitors to school and a whole series of other activities.

Visitors to School and Community Links (September 2024 onwards)

- Claire Jones, Education Support Advisor
- Elin Forsyth (LA Strategic Lead)
- Joe Cudd, Headteacher of Penrhos Primary School
- Wynne Thomas, Educational Psychologist
- Louise Morgan LA – Staff training on Art
- Sarah Dunne, School Nurse, Buccolam and Epi-Pen Training (all staff)
- Jason McGarrigle Senior Building Officer
- Kathy Moynihan, Behaviour Support in the Community Team
- Anthony Jones (Partneriaith)
- Ceri Bevan – Attendance officer and safeguarding training
- Governors at World Cup Presentation Day
- Fatima Kallab (Syrian Refugee Support)
- Richard Samuel (COG)
- Councilor Philip Warlow
- Gaynor Price Governor
- Collette Abdelkader Governor
- School Handyvan services
- Helen Bowen Online Training

- Roger Dutton Active Travel
- Anne -Marie Coates – CSG
- Sharon Howe (S&L)
- Area 43
- Amy Pickford – Keep tidy Wales
- St.John Lloyd transition talk with Y6 - Mrs Roberts
- Laura Cooke ALN Coordinator
- Mel Bray - Advisory Teacher for Autism
- Emma Wheeler - Advisory Teacher for Autism
- Jayne Ethrington – Literacy advisor
- Angharad Williams (HT at Parc y Tywn) visited Intervention class
- Design to smile coordinator
- Jake Webb (Morgan and Morgan)
- Colofoto
- PC Ruth Courtney
- ECO Visit - Bethan Evans Phillips
- Reading Dogs Trainer
- James Rees Fostering team
- Cathryn Tancock (S&L)
- Bible Explorer years 5 and 6
- Matthew Davies (ALN Link)
- Nicola Morris (Advisor)
- Ben Harding (Winning with Numbers)
- Arabella Davies (S&L)
- Beth Evans and team (Early Help Hub)
- Jonny Griffiths Scarlets
- Helen Thomas (LA) visit EY Observations
- Emma Davies (Threshold)
- ESTYN
- George Gardner - Poverty Proofing
- Ceri Bevan (Attendance Team)
- Laura Armstrong BSCT
- Alice Jones (Food and Fun)
- Victoria Jones (Spectrum Encompass)
- Mike Hiorns Building Contractors
- Early Help Hub Team
- Rebecca Williams and Christine Evans (ALN Department)
- Jodie Jenkins and Jason McGarigle (Building Officers)
- Leads Creative (Arts Council of Wales)
- Amy Locke - Swansea Uni Research yr 6
- Adam Barnett (LA Finance)
- Owain Lloyd (Director of Education)
- Future Visitors this term
- Lee Waters MS
- Eleanor Goldsmith - Fire Safety lessons
- School Assemblies
- Anthony Stevenson (previous HT)
- Pastor Ben Hodgetts.
- Deacon Cathy Hall Street Methodist.
- Rev Lisa Isaac Golau Baptist

Extra-curricular Activities, Visits and Community Links (September 2024 onwards)

- Bryngwyn Transition Visit – Year 6
- 2B Enterprising Workshop – Years 4&5
- Carmarthenshire Primary Schools Cross Country Championship, Pembrey
- Rugby Festival Years 3&4 – Ysgol Penrhos
- Scarlets Rugby sessions – Darcy Thomas
- Chance to Shine Cricket Sessions - Jeremy Dawe
- Flu Immunisation – Reception – Year 6
- Llanelli Primary Schools Football Festival Years 5&6
- PCSO Operation Bang Assembly – Year 5 & 6
- Sports ambassadors training day at Llanelli Leisure Centre
- Give Racism the Red Card

- Lead Creative Art Project Year 3/4 & 4/5
- Llanelli Town Council Volunteers
- Local Authority Safeguarding Team
- Elinor Williams (ALN Department)
- Abigail Steanson (Burns Foundation) and George the Reading Dog!
- Basketball Competitions (Boys and girls)
- Cook 24 Project
- URDD Netball
- Bowls Year 5
- Kerb Craft Year 1
- Safe Cycling Year 6
- Miss school, Miss out lessons years 5 &6
- Nurturing Programme
- Hockey year 1
- Abbie Ayre & the Shed of Science' Performance Year 5
- Football Tournaments
- Yr 6 Sign Language Workshop
- Yr 6 Lifesaving Skills Workshops
- Swimming Lessons year 3 to 6
- Llanelli Green Spaces
- Great Athlete Visit
- Easter Experience at St Elli's Church – Years 5&6
- Girls 5 aside Football
- Cricket Tournament
- Helping Hands - Kyle Williams Roach Assembly
- Llanelli AFC Sessions
- Pinocchio Show
- Future activities this term
- Young Market Traders
- Carmarthenshire's Young Sports Ambassadors Celebration Day

Term visits/events *September 2024 onwards*

- Victoria Hinsley attended Bryngwyn Prizegiving Evening
- Autumn Disco organised by Parents Association
- Years 3 to 6 – Parc Y Scarlets Training Session
- Christmas Concerts
- Cinema Trip
- Scholastics Book Fair
- Family Afternoon
- VE day Celebrations
- Leads creative school project – Years 1 and 2/3
- Future events this term
- Years 1 and 2/3, Burry Port Harbour
- Sports Day
- Year 6 Residential – Llain
- Year 6 Leaver's Service

All the above listed experiences are part of preparing our children for an active, healthy life and a contributory role in our community.

Home-School links

Perhaps our most important links remain those between the school and the parents of the children at Penygaer. Please remember that parents are welcome to contact the school at any time to discuss any issues or concerns.

The school website, school Facebook account, school Twitter account, texting, email, Class Dojo and ParentPay continue to support improved home-school links. Parents can access the website to view a calendar of events, download letters to parents, read various school documents and be kept informed about the activities in which their children are involved. Twitter, Facebook and Class Dojo are used to publicise the children's learning activities.

Our thematic teaching programme, continues to provide many extra opportunities to engage parents/carers in their children's learning. Increasingly, learners are expected to continue learning at home by completing tasks online at home using the Hwb platform.

The Parents Association work tirelessly helps to raise funds for the school and during the year organised the following events: Autumn Disco, Christmas Fayre, Sports Day raffle and refreshments.

Grants, Funding and other items

1. We acquired a Keep Wales Tidy Grant which amounted to approximately £4000. It was used for a new garden area to replace the tyres. A poly tunnel, raised beds, wild flowers, tools and materials have been purchased
2. We acquired an Arts Council Grant of £10,000. A musician and recording company will support the children in writing a song.

The leads creative team are working with Years 1 and 2/3 in the Summer Term 2025

SCHOOL STRATEGIES and ESTYN

During March 2023 after the school was inspected by ESTYN it was placed in Special Measures. The school then had to draw up a Post Inspection Action Plan (PIAP) that was approved in August 2023.

In September 2023 the work began on the 5 recommendations.

In December 2024 the school was removed from Special Measures thanks to the hard work of the staff, governors and pupils.

Here are the main extracts:

Senior leaders have improved performance management arrangements for teaching staff. This has allowed them to focus staff development on improving teaching and learning. Senior leaders have identified the need to introduce similar processes for support staff. Staff receive suitable professional learning to support them to address whole school priorities, for example to improve their questioning skills and the challenge they provide for pupils in lessons. Across the school, this is beginning to have a positive impact on improving teaching.

Leaders plan suitable opportunities for staff to observe and share good practice within the school and in other schools. This is helping teachers to get a better understanding of effective teaching and how they might further develop their own practice. There are suitable plans in place to further develop teachers' understanding of progression in writing, to ensure that teachers and leaders have high expectations. Governors visit school regularly and engage enthusiastically in activities that support the school to evaluate strengths and areas for development. They are beginning to use this information to help them in their role as a critical friend.

Teachers have developed purposeful learning environments and introduced strategies to support pupils to persevere and look for solutions when they face difficulties. As a result, most pupils engage in activities enthusiastically, they sustain concentration and complete tasks readily. In many lessons, teachers plan engaging and authentic learning experiences. For example, older pupils develop beneficial numeracy skills when calculating how much more teachers would earn with different percentage wage rises. Teachers ensure that most lessons are paced appropriately to allow pupils the time to complete tasks successfully.

The school has worked well with stakeholders to establish a vision for Curriculum for Wales. The leaders with overall responsibility for curriculum development are clear about their roles, have a good understanding of curriculum design and are enthusiastic about improving the quality of learning experiences of pupils. They work well with members of the school's governing body to ensure that governors have a suitable understanding of progress in developing the curriculum.

The full report can be read on the link below

<https://estyn.gov.wales/app/uploads/2024/12/Monitoring-report-Penygaer-Primary-School-2025.pdf>

School Development Plan 2025 to 2026

For the next academic year the school will have the following priorities

Overview of SDP priorities 2025-2026

Priority 1: Continue to strengthen Teaching and Assessment across the school.

Priority 2: LLC English ~ To improve pupils' writing fluency.

Priority 3: M&N - To develop fluency of number and further the application of mathematical skills in problem solving.

Priority 4: LLC Cymraeg - To further develop the pupils' use of the Welsh language in everyday conversations.

Priority 5: H&WB – To embed a whole school approach to well-being.

Priority 6: Inclusion – To plan, initiate, and successfully establish the new ASD class.

SCHOOL POLICIES

During a school year, the headteacher and teaching staff review school policies, including Health and Safety, Security, Safeguarding, Behaviour, Marking etc. Any that require significant changes are formally reviewed by the Governing Body.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN)

It is very important to us at Penygaer that all our children are able to reach their potential, and this may sometimes require some extra support for some pupils. We do keep in mind that children develop at different rates - with our Nursery and Reception cohorts, in particular, we take great care not to rush pupils into learning activities before they are ready. However, we do put great emphasis on identifying those who are experiencing difficulties of any sort, (whatever the age of the child) *and it is our policy to provide support as soon as possible* – the greater the delay before giving support, the harder it is for a child to “catch up”.

If, at any time, a child's understanding does not progress at the expected rate, a class teacher will pay closer attention to that child. If, despite this extra attention, progress remains significantly slower than that of classmates, the child may be supported in his or her learning by access to our support programmes (universal provision or additional learning provision).

We want to make sure that:-

- children and their parent's views, wishes and feelings are listened to when decisions are being made about how to help children
- the right support is put in place quickly to help children with ALN
- everyone works together to help children with ALN, including education and health services
- most children with ALN can continue to go to our school if it is right for them
- children and their families can access learning support even before they start school
- children and their parents understand the additional learning provision (ALP) being offered
- if children and their parents are not happy with decisions about ALN, there are rights in law to help them do something about it
- children with ALN get help in Welsh, wherever possible, if they need it

ALN FUNDING

The school receives funding for Additional Learning Needs from the Education Authority under a grant formula. This is supplemented by funds from the general school budget, and this money is then used to provide an Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo), teaching assistants, learning programmes, training and specialised teaching resources.

Mrs M. Williams undertakes the role of ALNCo. The school governors with responsibility for ALN are Cllr. P. Warlow and Mrs G Price. The school has regular termly support from the Educational Psychology Service.

The school is proud of ALN provision at Penygaer – we use our school budget to ensure that we provide appropriate support to those that need it. Children who are supported by teaching assistants make pleasing progress, gain in self-esteem and achieve or exceed targets set for them. Close liaison concerning ALN exists between Penygaer and partner secondary schools.

ASD PROVISION

In September 2025, we will be opening a new classroom specifically designed to support children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) with 8 pupils.

This initiative reflects our commitment to inclusivity and ensuring that every child has access to a learning environment that meets their individual needs. The classroom will provide tailored support, specialist resources, and structured learning opportunities to help pupils thrive.

The Local Authority (Carmarthenshire) will oversee admissions to the ASD classroom, and placements will be determined by their panel based on individual needs. While we as a school do not have a say in who attends, we are fully committed to making this provision a valuable and integral part of our school community.

By opening this classroom, we are strengthening our inclusive ethos and ensuring that all children benefit from a school environment that celebrates diversity, promotes understanding, and fosters respect for all. We believe that this will not only support the children within the ASD classroom but will also enhance the experiences of all pupils, helping them develop empathy, awareness, and a deeper appreciation of different learning needs.

PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

We believe in opportunities for all at Penygaer, and the school's admission policy does not differentiate between pupils with Special Needs or disabilities and children who do not experience such difficulties.

Penygaer School has an Equal Opportunities policy which aims to provide every child with the chance to achieve his or her potential. This policy requires all children to have the same curricular opportunities regardless of gender, disability, race or cultural background.

In preparing our children for life in our local and national communities, we encourage children to respect others, and in our assemblies and in our teaching of Personal and Social Education we emphasise the importance of fairness and tolerance.

The school is built on one level and the school building is accessible to disabled pupils or adults. There are no stairs in the school. There is a toilet for disabled pupils/adults. The school grounds are mostly level and all parts are accessible apart from the steeper parts of the grass bank.

SPORTING AIMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Participating in sport helps personal development, healthy living and promotes a sense of fair competition. We make every effort to try and ensure that children of all ages and abilities benefit from it. Pupils participate in an Actif Carmarthenshire and Llanelli Town Council events. As the academic year progressed pupils were able to participate in indoor P.E. lessons in addition to those held outdoors. During the year, our children participated in football, netball, hockey, cricket, basketball and cross-country events.

USE OF LEA FUNDING

The LEA funds the school according to a formula which is based on pupil numbers. This funding covers employee costs, premises costs and other budget elements such as teaching and learning materials, ALN provision and the cost of LEA support (e.g. for legal and personnel issues).

The school was in deficit of £38,201 at the end of the 2024-25 financial year.

Please refer to the summary below of the financial performance of the school at the close of the 2024-25 financial year.

Please see below a summary of your school's final outturn position for 2024/25.	
£	
878,174	Net Expenditure 2024/25
-823,527	Formula Funding Allocation 2024/25
-16,446	Surplus Brought Forward from 2023/24
38,201	Deficit Carried Forward to 2025/26

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS

School term and holiday dates for the academic year 2024-25 and 2025 to 2026

Term	Term begins	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn 2024	Tuesday 3rd September	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November	Friday 20th December
Spring 2025	Monday 6th January	Monday 24th February – Friday 28th February	Friday 11th April
Summer 2025	Monday 28th April	Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May	Monday 21st July
Autumn 2025	Tuesday 2nd September	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October	Friday 19th December
Spring 2026	Monday 5th January	Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February	Friday 27th March
Summer 2026	Monday 13th April	Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May	Monday 20th July

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS FOR TEACHERS

In addition to the listed holiday dates, the school was closed on for six INSET days including:-

- 2nd September 2024
- 3rd September 2024
- 10th January 2025
- 31st January 2025
- 11th April 2025
- 21st July 2025