



# **Governing Body Annual Report to Parents**

December 2025



**Sue Walker**  
Cyfarwyddwr Addysg/Director of Education

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Croesawn alwadau yn y Gymraeg  
We welcome calls in Welsh



To: Parents / Carers of pupils  
attending Ysgol y Graig

Ein Cyf./Our Ref.:

Eich Cyf./Your Ref.:

Gofynnwch am/Please ask for:

Laura Griffiths

Llinell Uniongyrchol/Direct

Line: *0)1685 725141*

e-bost/email:

[Laura.Griffiths@merthyr.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Griffiths@merthyr.gov.uk)

Dear Parent / Carer

Please find attached the Governing Body of Annual Report for 2024/2025. The report contains important information relating to the school including school performance; a financial statement; activities which have been undertaken and a list of members of the Governing Body.

There is no longer a requirement for the governing body to hold a meeting with parents to discuss this report, however, parents / carers are able to request that a meeting be held and full details on how this can happen are given overleaf,

Yours sincerely

**Laura Griffiths**  
Clerk to the Governors

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## Your right to request a meeting with the school's governing body

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.

If parents wish to use their rights under the Act to hold a meeting, 4 conditions will need to be satisfied:

### 1. Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.

The parents of at least <sup>1</sup>10% of the school's registered pupils/ 30 registered pupils will need to sign the petition. If it is a paper petition, then a written signature must be given as well as the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school. If the petition is in electronic format, the 'signature' required is the typed name of the parent plus the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school and the email address of each parent who 'signs' the electronic petition.

<sup>2</sup>There were 205 children registered as pupils with this school at the beginning of this academic year. Exact roll numbers at any time during the year may be obtained from the school office.

### 2. The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school

The meeting cannot be called to discuss such matters as the progress of individual pupils, or to make a complaint against a member of the school's staff or governing body.

The petition should contain brief details of the matter(s) to be discussed, and the reasons for calling the meeting. This information should be clearly displayed at the top of the petition, with parents' signatures appearing below.

### 3. A maximum of 3 meetings can be held during the school year

The law allows parents to use their rights to request up to 3 meetings with a school governing body during the school year.



#### **4. There must be at least 25 school days left in the school year**

The law makes it a condition that at least 25 school days are left in the school year when the petition is received so that the meeting can be held.

A “school day” means a day when the school is open to pupils: it does not include weekends, public holidays, school holidays or INSET days.

The address for service of a petition requesting a meeting with this school’s governing body is:

Ysgol y Graig Primary School, Pontycapel Rd, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 2ND ·

Further advice on how parents may go about requesting a meeting with a governing body is available on the Welsh Government’s website at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/parents-meetings-statutory-guidance/?lang=en>



## A Message from the Chair of Governors

This year has been another positive and purposeful chapter in the life of Ysgol y Graig Primary School. Our school has continued to grow and evolve, with further developments to our learning environments, curriculum offer and enrichment opportunities that support pupils to thrive both academically and personally.

We have seen continued investment in high-quality resources and provision, particularly within our outdoor learning, Forest School and STEM approaches. These opportunities provide engaging and meaningful learning experiences we strive to provide for all learners.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank Mr Anstee for his leadership and commitment to Ysgol y Graig. His dedication has played an important role in shaping the school's recent development and ensuring strong foundations for the future. We are equally delighted to support Ms Kaya as she takes the lead into the next phase of the school's journey. Her ambition, clarity of vision and determination to strive for the very best for our pupils, staff and wider community is already evident, and we look forward with confidence to what lies ahead.

The Governing Body recognises that high standards are only achieved through the collective effort of a committed and skilled team. We extend our sincere thanks to all staff: teaching staff, support staff, office staff, kitchen and dining teams, cleaning and caretaking staff, whose professionalism and dedication ensure that Ysgol y Graig remains a safe, welcoming and inspiring place to learn.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our parents, grandparents and carers, for your continued support. Whether reading with your child, supporting learning at home, attending school events or working alongside us at concerts, fetes and community activities, your partnership is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

We look forward to another year of working together to support our fantastic, friendly and hardworking pupils as we continue to realise our shared vision:

**'Opening eyes, developing minds, changing lives.'**

Kind regards,  
Mrs Ann James  
Chair of Governors

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## A message from the Headteacher

It has been a privilege to join Ysgol y Graig Primary School as Headteacher in April 2025. I would like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to Mr David Anstee for his dedicated leadership and commitment to the school. His hard work, vision and care for the pupils, staff and wider community have laid strong foundations for continued success, and we remain grateful for his contribution to the life of Ysgol y Graig.

Since joining the school, I have been delighted by the warm welcome from pupils, staff, governors and families. Ysgol y Graig is a vibrant, ambitious and caring school community and it is clear that pupils are at the heart of everything we do.

Looking ahead, we remain firmly committed to providing high-quality learning experiences, nurturing pupil wellbeing and strengthening our culture of high expectations and ambition for all. Together, we will continue to build on the school's many strengths, celebrate our successes and work in partnership with families and the community to ensure the very best outcomes for every pupil.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to the exciting year ahead and to leading Ysgol y Graig on the next stage of its journey.

Warm regards,  
Ms Hayley Kaya

Headteacher



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## Our Governing Body

The Governing Body and the Headteacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and by policies of the Local Authority (LA). While the LA is the employer of staff, the Governing Body and Headteacher have separate and particular responsibilities for the selection and management of staff. The internal management of the school is the responsibility of the Headteacher. The full Governing Body meets at least once a term, usually more frequently. In addition, sub-committees meet regularly to discuss specific issues. The minutes of Governing Body meetings are available from the Governor Support Officer, Laura Griffiths at Merthyr Tydfil LA Governing Body Support. The Governing Body for our school is outlined below.

### Resolutions

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

Governor Type	Member	End of Office
Community Governor	Mrs Tanya Davies	20/11/2027
	Ms Roberta Halliday	13/06/2026
	Mrs Ann James	22/03/2026
	Mr Jeff Williams	08/07/2029
Headteacher	Ms Hayley Kaya	27/04/2029
Local Authority Governor	Mr Melfyn Jones	22/06/2026
	Mr Keith Maher	29/04/2027
	Cllr Lisa Mytton	08/09/2029
	Cllr Clive Tovey	08/09/2029
Parent Governor	Mrs Katie Barrett	17/10/2027
	Mrs Katherine Bush	31/01/2027
	Miss Joanna Fisher	08/04/2029
	Mr Marc Jenkins	28/09/2029
	Miss Sarah Richards	22/09/2026
Staff Governor	Ms Zena Harris	07/07/2027
Teacher Governor	Mr Matthew Howells	29/01/2027
	Miss Amy Sofianos	11/11/2029

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## School Context

Ysgol y Graig Primary School is a new build, 240 pupil, one form entry primary and nursery school in the North of Merthyr Tydfil. Ysgol y Graig Primary School is a vibrant primary school catering to children aged 3 to 11. The school recently moved to a state-of-the-art new building in 2021, designed to provide an optimal learning environment with modern facilities. The original school first opened its doors in 1908, serving the local community with dedication and care. The new build continues this legacy, offering a nurturing and inclusive atmosphere for all its pupils.

## Staffing

Headteacher	Deputy Headteacher
Ms H Kaya	Mrs H Pomeroy
Teaching Staff	Support Staff
Mrs J Thomas Miss A Sofianos Mr M Howells Mrs S Lynch Miss K Jones Mrs S Lewis Mrs J Thomas Mrs S Rogers Miss S Stevens	<b>HLTA</b> Ms Z Harris Ms L Duthie <b>LSA</b> Miss S Lewis Mrs M Sayce Mrs N Rees Mrs K Morgan Mrs L Toon Mrs S Davis  <b>School Clerk</b> Mrs T Palmer <b>Caretaker</b> Mr D Phillips <b>DRA/Cleaners</b> Mrs A Morgan Ms J Davenport Mrs R Driscoll Mrs D Thomas Mrs L Evans

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## Vision Statement

Ysgol y Graig Primary School recognises its place in the heart of its community. We value the rich interactions created by our relentless pursuit for excellence as each member of the community strives for success. This ambition creates challenge and we work together, using our core values to support each other to achieve. We have high expectations of each other and value the process of building our community into a safe, inclusive, fair environment which focuses on developing the unique qualities of every individual. We all believe in our community's purpose in providing an innovative, engaging environment where our young people grow into independent, resilient, thoughtful contributors.

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In order to realise our school vision, we have worked with learners, parents, governors and the wider community to define what Curriculum@YYG is and establish our curriculum intent

### **The curriculum at Ysgol y Graig is designed to:**

- Foster a love of learning by giving all learners a voice and through celebrating success in all its forms.
- Build and sustain nurturing and sincere relationships with and between all learners and their families, staff, governors and the wider community.
- Provide opportunity for all learners to become ethically informed citizens of the World through playing an active part in their local community and further afield.
- Develop ambitious, capable and independent learners through an inquiry based approach to learning, where they are encouraged to think about and respond to big questions.
- Inspire aspirational learners through life enhancing and work related experiences that broaden the horizons of all learners, enabling learners to become enterprising and creative contributors.
- Ensure that the physical and mental wellbeing of our learners is at the heart of our curriculum, both within the class and beyond, enabling learners to become healthy and confident individuals.
- Create a sense of Cynefin (place) through developing a love of the local area, its culture and environment; past, present and future.
- Provide opportunities for learners to explore their own curiosity and interest through authentic and purposeful learning experiences that takes into account the holistic needs of all learners.
- Celebrate the wonderful diversity of Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydfil and Wales and promote inclusivity through a range of creative and expressive experiences.

To further develop this we have worked collaboratively to secure visions for each of our areas of learning and experience (AOLEs) that will enable us to fulfil our curriculum promise to every learner.

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## Our vision for each Area of Learning and Experience (AOLE)

<b>Expressive arts</b>	Our pupils will explore, create and perform confidently across a range of art forms. They will develop imagination, originality and emotional expression, using the arts to communicate ideas and reflect on their own and others' work. Pupils will value culture and creativity, taking pride in sharing their talents with the school and wider community.
<b>Health and well-being</b>	Our pupils will develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to lead healthy, safe and fulfilled lives. They will build positive relationships, manage emotions, make responsible choices and demonstrate resilience. Pupils will understand the importance of physical activity, emotional wellbeing and personal safety, supporting one another to thrive.
<b>Humanities</b>	Our pupils will become curious, respectful and informed citizens with a strong sense of identity and belonging. They will explore history, geography, culture, religion and society to understand their place in Wales and the wider world. Pupils will think critically, show empathy and take responsible action for their community and environment.
<b>Languages, literacy and communication</b>	Our pupils will communicate confidently and effectively through speaking, listening, reading and writing. They will develop a love of language, including Welsh as a living and everyday language. Pupils will express themselves clearly, respond thoughtfully to others and use literacy skills to engage with the world and share their ideas.
<b>Mathematics, numeracy and computing</b>	Our pupils will think logically, solve problems and reason with confidence in real-life and abstract situations. They will develop strong numeracy skills that support them across the curriculum and everyday life. Pupils will learn to persevere, explore patterns and use mathematical thinking to make informed decisions.
<b>Science and technology</b>	Our pupils will develop curiosity, scientific understanding and digital skills to explore and shape the world around them. They will ask questions, investigate ideas and use technology safely and responsibly. Pupils will build creativity, critical thinking and innovation as they design, test and evaluate solutions for an ever-changing world.

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## Term Dates

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term End
<b>Autumn 2025</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Spring 2026</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Summer 2026</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July

<b>Inset Days – School closed to children</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

## School Session Times

### *Foundation Learning*

9:00 - 9:10 (Registration)  
9:15 - 09.30 (Collective Worship)  
10:30 - 10.45 (Break)  
10:45 - 11:45 (Lessons)  
11:45 - 12.45 (Lunch)  
12:45 - 12:50 (Registration)  
12:50 - 3:15 (Lessons)  
3:15 (Home time)

### *Years 3-6*

9:00 - 9:10 (Registration)  
9:15 - 09.30 (Collective Worship)  
10:30 - 10.45 (Break)  
10:45 - 12:15 (Lessons)  
12:15 - 1:00 (Lunch)  
1:00 - 1:05 (Registration)  
1:05 - 3.20 (Lessons)  
3:20 (Home-time)

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## Attendance

Our attendance figures for 2023-2024 can be seen below.

	Authorised Attendance %	Unauthorised Attendance %
93.16%	5.83%	4.78%



The Governors have agreed that holiday requests will only be authorised if a pupil's attendance is above 90% and this is for a maximum of 10 days in one academic year. If parents/carers request a holiday then a holiday request form must be completed and sent for approval to the Headteacher.

### How do we secure school improvement at Ysgol y Graig Primary School for every pupil?

At Ysgol y Graig Primary School, leaders place pupils' safety, wellbeing and learning at the heart of all strategic and operational decisions. A strong culture of collaboration ensures that all staff, alongside governors, actively contribute to school improvement, driving high expectations and continuous development.

Pupil voice is a central feature of our improvement journey, with pupils participating through a range of leadership groups and committees. Increasing opportunities for parent engagement, including scheduled consultations, workshops and surveys, further support an inclusive approach to change and improvement.

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team work in partnership with staff, pupils and families to identify priorities, plan improvement actions and monitor progress robustly. A structured approach to evaluation, including regular learning walks, book scrutiny, data analysis and pupil voice activities, ensures that improvements are purposeful and have measurable impact.

Governors play a proactive role in holding leaders to account. Through planned monitoring visits, participation in learning walks and scrutiny of evidence, they provide constructive challenge and support to secure high standards and strong outcomes for all pupils.

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## Ysgol y Graig Primary School School Improvement Priorities 2024-2025

### **Priority Area 1: To ensure that assessment procedures are effective in delivering sustained pupil progress.**

- An initial MER calendar formed the foundation for developing Ysgol y Graig's Assessment, Recording and Reporting (ARR) and Monitoring, Evaluation and Review (MER) calendar, supporting a more strategic and coherent approach to school self-evaluation.
- A Vulnerable Learner Tracker has been developed and is actively used by staff to monitor pupil progress.
- Pupil progress meetings were conducted by H Kaya and teaching staff during the week beginning 30.06.25 to review and monitor pupil progress.
- Data has been analysed using Salford reading data and personalised assessment data. A spreadsheet to capture data effectively has been developed. This will allow staff to effectively analyse data and take ownership from September 2025.

### **Priority Area 2: To develop a deeper culture of distributed leadership within the school with a specific focus on Middle Leaders and GB self-evaluation.**

- Staff understand their roles and responsibilities well. Leaders have updated staff responsibilities for the academic year 2025/26 to ensure that these align with the school's strategic priorities. The school is beginning to strengthen its leadership capacity effectively. For example, one teacher has been awarded a teaching and learning responsibility (TLR) to lead on curriculum development. This is contributing positively to the school's focus on building leadership across all levels. The recent recruitment process for the interim deputy headteacher post attracted three internal candidates. This reflects the school's commitment to developing leadership from within and the growing confidence of staff to take on additional responsibilities.
- 3 members of staff applied for the interim DHT post.
- H. Kaya has involved the interim Deputy Headteacher in lesson observations and included members of the SLT in observation processes for temporary teaching roles at Ysgol y Graig, strengthening shared leadership and consistency in evaluation.
- All staff have received developmental feedback following lesson observations marking the first formal feedback cycle in two years and have been allocated professional learning and development (PLD) time to reflect and plan next steps.

### **Priority Area 3: To improve the effective use of pupil, community and stakeholder voice in strategic planning.**

- The school has achieved the Community Focused Schools Bronze Award, which reflects its strengthened partnerships and increasing engagement with the wider community. The previous headteacher has visited schools in the United States to learn from international practice in community engagement, and this is beginning to inform the school's developing work in collaboration with the local authority and the north cluster of schools. Staff have participated in a range of practice-sharing events, and the school is contributing to the wider development of community focused approaches across the local authority. This work continues with the cluster driving the new way of working.
- The Estyn parent/carer questionnaire was distributed during the summer term. Key findings informed school improvement work, particularly around communication and behaviour, which remain a strategic focus.

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- Pupil leadership opportunities have been expanded, with applications for Lead Learners and Pupil Voice Groups launched in the summer term. This marks a shift towards a more structured Pupil Leadership Team model that will influence teaching, learning, and curriculum development.

**Priority Area 4: To begin to develop a bilingual approach to learning.**

- Achieving the Siarter Iaith Aur demonstrates a strong, embedded Welsh ethos and commitment to bilingualism. Observations confirm that the Welsh language is used naturally and confidently across the school by both staff and pupils, strengthening cultural identity and aligning with Cymraeg 2050.

## **Standards & Progress Overview**

Due to changes in national assessment arrangements and the ongoing development of the Curriculum for Wales, primary schools no longer assess or report pupils' attainment using levels or outcomes. Instead, the school focuses on measuring pupil progress over time and the value added throughout each learner's journey.

At Ysgol y Graig Primary School, pupil progress is tracked using a range of robust internal assessment tools, including assessments for reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. These are complemented by teachers' ongoing formative assessment, which takes place continuously throughout the year and informs planning, support and next steps in learning.

In reading and spelling, pupils complete a standardised assessment at the end of each term, generating a reading, comprehension age and spelling age. This information is used alongside professional judgement to monitor progress, identify strengths and areas for development, and target support where required.

## **Personalised Assessments**

All pupils in Years 2 to 6 participated in the national personalised assessments during the summer term. Each pupil completed assessments in Reading, Numeracy - Procedural, and Numeracy - Reasoning.

Following completion, pupils received an age-standardised score for each assessment. These scores are calculated by comparing a pupil's performance with that of other learners nationally who were born in the same month and year. Scores range from 70 to 130, with 100 representing the national average. Pupils demonstrating particularly high attainment may receive a score of 130+, while those whose skills are developing more slowly may receive a score of below 70 (<70).

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It is important to note that outcomes from personalised assessments represent one source of evidence and are used alongside teachers' professional judgement, ongoing classroom assessment and internal tracking systems to build a holistic picture of each pupil's progress and development.

All individual assessment outcomes have been shared with parents, along with guidance to support understanding of the results.

### **Use of the Welsh Language**

This school is an English medium school. Lessons and other school activities are communicated through the medium of English. Welsh is taught as a second language and the school is currently involved in the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg, obtaining a bronze award in July 2022. The charter consists of three awards - bronze, silver and gold. Each award comprises of ten targets and these targets become more challenging as pupils progress through the awards.

In Foundation Learning Bilingualism incorporates the teaching of Welsh. Through "Welsh Language Development" we aim to provide pupils with a basic vocabulary, enabling them to converse in Welsh. Initially the lessons are entirely of an oral nature and will also involve learning simple songs and rhymes to reinforce the vocabulary. As the children mature and their understanding of the language grows, they are introduced to Welsh in its written form, where they will be encouraged to read and write Welsh as well as improving their oral proficiency. At Year 3 to Year 6 formal teaching of Welsh as a 2nd Language takes place, however bilingualism and incidental Welsh is common practice during all lessons. At the end of the key stage, pupils are assessed by their teacher, and their Level of competency is reported to parents in line with Welsh Government



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assessment procedures. Pupils for whom English is a second language are catered for according to their needs.

### **Additional Learning Needs & Inclusion**

The ALN Act transforms the leadership and development of ALN across schools and the wider community. The updated procedures and changes can be found on our school website, and any further information can be sought from our ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator, Mrs Helen Pomeroy. Where pupils join the school who have English as an additional language, additional support is provided by our cluster EAL worker. The School's Policy for the Assessment of and Provision for pupils with additional learning needs is summarised as follows:

The school's policy for the identification, assessment and provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs is consistent with the requirements of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales issued by the Welsh Assembly Government in January 2002 and has been updated to meet the requirements of the ALN act 2021 which began its roll out in January 2022. The School's Additional Learning Needs co-ordinator (ALNCO) works closely with all other members of staff to ensure that individual educational plans are developed and implemented to meet the needs of pupils, appropriate to those who require them.

### **Healthy, Confident Individuals**

Pupil wellbeing remains a key priority at Ysgol y Graig. We foster positive relationships and healthy lifestyles through our PSHE curriculum, assemblies and regular wellbeing check-ins. Safeguarding procedures are robust, and all staff and governors receive annual child-protection and safer-recruitment training.

Pupil voice confirms that pupils feel safe, happy and well supported in school. We actively promote healthy eating, with balanced school meals and guidance for healthy packed lunches. Pupils are encouraged to bring fruit for break, access water throughout the day and, in Foundation Phase, receive milk at morning break. Fizzy drinks, chocolate and high-fat/sugar snacks are discouraged in line with healthy-schools guidance.

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## **Friends of Ysgol y Graig (PTA)**

Friends of Ysgol y Graig continue to be a highly active and valued partner of the school, working closely with staff to plan and deliver a range of events that enrich pupils' experiences and strengthen our school community.

During the year, the PTA organised highly successful events for the pupils which were well attended by families and members of the wider community. These events not only provided enjoyable experiences for pupils but also raised valuable funds to support school priorities.

The Friends of Ysgol y Graig also have ambitious plans for the Autumn term, including a Halloween Disco, Christmas shopping trip, and a Christmas Fete, all of which further enhance pupils' enjoyment of school life and community engagement.

Financially, Friends of Ysgol y Graig have made a significant contribution to the school by funding experiences for our pupils and Year 6 leavers' hoodies. This generous support has had a positive impact on pupils' wellbeing, sense of belonging and learning opportunities.

## **Pupil Voice & Community Engagement**

Our pupil voice committees have been organised for this year.

These include

- School/ Eco Council
- Wellbeing Team
- Criw Cymraeg
- Digital Leaders
- Playground Leaders

Pupil voice groups play a vital role within our school, providing learners with meaningful opportunities to share their views and contribute to the development of their learning environment. These groups encourage open dialogue between pupils and staff, helping to foster a culture of mutual respect, collaboration, and shared responsibility. The key aims of our pupil voice groups are to enhance student engagement, promote inclusivity, and advocate for positive changes that benefit the whole school community. By actively listening to pupils' perspectives, we can shape policies and practices that more closely reflect their needs and aspirations. This approach enriches school life and supports

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improved educational outcomes, while also contributing to pupils' personal development, confidence, and sense of belonging.

From September 2025, representatives from the wider pupil voice groups will come together to form a Pupil Leadership Team, strengthening pupil voice and ensuring learners' views help shape school improvement.

Pupils across the school have benefited from a wide range of enriching learning experiences beyond the classroom, including educational visits, workshops, sporting events and activities that promote resilience and teamwork.

Older pupils enhanced their learning through visits to the Tower of London, the Merthyr Literacy Festival, and Year 6 transition days, supporting both curriculum understanding and readiness for the next stage of education. Cardiff City Football Club staff delivered sessions in school, promoting healthy lifestyles and teamwork.

Whole school events such as the fun run and sports day strengthened pupils' wellbeing and community engagement, while Techniquest workshops and a visit to the University of South Wales provided hands-on STEM experiences.

Younger pupils took part in educational visits to Colliers Farm and Raglan Farm, and the school choir proudly represented the school at the Cyfarthfa Park Bicentennial celebrations. Further planned activities, including visits for Years 1 and 2 and the Year 6 leavers' events, will conclude the year.

Overall, these experiences have made a positive contribution to pupils' wellbeing, curiosity and engagement in learning.



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## **Extracurricular Opportunities & Enrichment**

The school offers a range of extra-curricular sporting and cultural opportunities. Football clubs are delivered by external agencies, while netball sessions are led by Coach Kath and Coach Jo, providing high-quality coaching and continuity for pupils. Pupils have taken part in several competitive tournaments, developing teamwork, resilience and sporting confidence.

Pupils have also represented the school in a range of cultural and musical events, including participation in the Urdd, Dwrnod Shwmae, and other choir performances, further supporting pupils' wellbeing, confidence and sense of belonging.

## **Policies and strategies adopted by the Governing Body**

The school has all statutory policies in place. These are updated regularly and any important updates shared with Governors during meetings. All policies follow statutory guidance as well as considering the school's context and needs. Pupil safeguarding, health and wellbeing is at the heart of all policies. Further information is available by contacting the LA GB Clerk, Laura Griffiths.

## **Summary of Changes to the School Prospectus**

Updates to the school prospectus are made on an annual basis, as and when relevant. Important changes are shared with the Governors. Changes this year have included staffing changes. Any important changes are shared with parents through Class Dojo, newsletters and information that is shared via our social media platforms.

The prospectus has been redesigned for the 2025/26 academic year and is available on our school website.

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## **Premises, Health & Safety**

The school site remains in generally good condition and continues to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for pupils, staff and visitors. Regular checks and maintenance ensure the building remains functional and fit for purpose. However, there are several areas requiring attention. It is noted that we have a potential overspend linked to unforeseen repairs due to electrical boards on fire shutters requiring repair.

During our recent planned lockdown drill, it was identified that several external door windows require tinted or colored overlays to improve pupil and staff safety during a lockdown scenario.

Looking ahead, the school plans to undertake phased internal redecoration over the next three years to maintain the appearance of the building and ensure a welcoming, well-kept environment for all.

## **Provision of Toilet Facilities**

The school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. These toilets are cleaned on a daily basis, with extra checks carried out at lunchtime. Toilets are unisex and designated to each class, however individual toilets are available should these be requested/required. A sufficient number of sanitary bins are provided, and these toilets are clearly marked.





## Finance Summary

Ysgol y Graig Primary School has a designated budget allocated by the Local Authority. This is allocated using a specific formula which is applied across all schools so that there is fair funding of all Schools in Merthyr Tydfil. Below is the final budget spent from financial Year 2024/25 (budgets run from April to March).

Expenditure	Actual Spend 2024/25
Staff	£979,103.89
Grant Funding Salaries	£253,398.24
Premises	£87,488.46
Supplies and Services	£176,823.82
Transport and Expenses	£510.53
<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,554,611.04</b>
Miscellaneous Income	£109,260.82
Net Expenditure	£1,445,350.22
School's Balance 23-24 - carry forward	£2,834.49
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>£1,434,442.12</b>
Schools Balance at end of financial year	<b>£13,908.10</b>



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## School Improvement Priorities 2025/2026

Inspection Area	2025-2026	
	MAJOR PRIORITY	
IA1 Teaching, Learning and Standards	1	To improve the consistency and quality of teaching and learning across the school.
	2	To refine assessment processes, including assessment for learning, to effectively support pupil progress, independence, and informed next steps in learning.
	3	To strengthen curriculum planning and progression across all Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs).
MINOR PRIORITY		
A2 Wellbeing, Care, Support & Guidance	4	To enhance pupil wellbeing and independence by strengthening pupil voice and stakeholder voice in what and how they learn, and through a review of the school's behaviour and reward policy.
IA3 Leading and Improving	5	To strengthen distributed leadership by developing the self-evaluation skills of middle leaders and governors, with a clear focus on pupil progress and AoLE leadership.

The Governing Body would like to thank and congratulate pupils and the staff for all their many efforts and successes throughout a challenging year, who have been led by the previous Headteacher Mr D Anstee & our current Headteacher Ms H Kaya and the strategic leadership team

We also wish to thank all parents and carers for their support and assistance during the year. We will be pleased to discuss this report or any aspect of the school's activities with you, if you require. In the event that a meeting is held, should you wish to raise any relevant business at the meeting, I would be grateful if you would advise me in advance by telephoning the Head Teacher on 01685 351806 or e-mail [office@ysgol-y-graig.merthyr.sch.uk](mailto:office@ysgol-y-graig.merthyr.sch.uk) in order that a reply may be given. However, I must point out that this will not preclude you from discussing any other relevant matters raised at the meeting.

**Ann James**  
(Chairperson of the Governing Body of Ysgol y Graig Primary School).

*Opening eyes, developing minds, changing lives*