



Governing Body of Abercynon Community Primary School

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of its functions since the last report was published.

1. Clerk to the Governing Body

The Clerk to the Governing Body is Jan Jenkins , Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash, CF45 4UQ.

2. Chairperson of the Governing Body

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Mrs S Martin c/o Abercynon Community Primary School, Ynysmeurig Road, Abercynon, CF45 4SU.

3. Members of the Governing Body

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Retirement Date
Mr A Caffery CBC E George Mrs M Morris	LEA	Council Members	16/10/2022 10/07/2025 22/02/2024
Mrs S Martin Mr I Mclean Mrs S Moses	Community Governors	Governing Body	18/03/2024 24/11/2024 06/04/2022
Mrs H Hearse Mr R Howell-Jones Mrs N Pardoe Mrs K Ursell	Parent	Parents	27/09/2022 24/11/2023 23/07/2025 23/07/2025
Mrs T Caruana-Davies	Teacher	Teaching Staff	09/11/2024
Mrs M Campbell	Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	30/09/2022
Mr D Jewitt	Headteacher		

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows

LEA Representatives	3
Parent Governors	4
Staff Representative	1
Headteacher	1

Community Governors	3
Teacher Governor(s)	1
Minor Authority (if applicable)	0
Total	13

Elections will be held to fill vacancies for parent governors upon the cessation of the term of office or receipt of a resignation.

4. Resolutions

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

5. Election of Parent Governors

The next election of parent governors is due to take place on September 2022. If, however, any Parent Governor(s) resign before this date arrangements will be made for an election to be undertaken at the appropriate time.

In line with Welsh Government Guidance there are currently no election of parent governors being undertaken. This will be undertaken when the situation normalises.

6. School Performance Data

This information is not available due to the pandemic restrictions.

7. Financial Statement – Period Covered 2021 - 2022

Enclosed, as appendix A is a copy of the school's financial statement for the Financial Year 2021/22.

8. School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is updated annually to include any changes required by the Welsh Assembly Government or other related bodies.

Our vision and aims are being updated in line with the new curriculum for Wales. There have been no other changes to the prospectus.

9. School Development Plan

Governors are responsible for drawing up (in conjunction with staff) the School Development Plan. The plan identifies the direction the school will take, over a three year period, in delivering the curriculum. The plan is regularly monitored and revised to take account of progress made and any changes to curriculum requirements.

The School Development Plan for the 2021/2022 academic year has been considered and approved by Governors and is currently being implemented by the staff. The targets set include short, medium and long-term aims. Targets are regularly reviewed by the Governing Body. Further information on the current targets and progress being made will be available at the meeting.

How do we secure school improvement within Abercynon Community Primary School?

Within the Abercynon Community Primary School, leaders have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making. Each member of staff and governor are all involved with at least one aspect of the school's life, working as a strong team to improve and raise standards.

Pupil voice, through the School Council Committees, and parent consultation through communication, meetings and surveys, mean that the whole school community is part of the consultation and decision making process.

The Headteacher and respective Senior Leadership Teams work with all aspects of the school community to identify priorities, plan and action developments for these and to closely monitor impact and outcomes.

The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and learning walks; it also spends time on scrutiny of documentation and ensures that the Executive Headteacher and staff are regularly and rigorously appraised.

In all, the team ethos within the school is key to the successful learning of all our children.

What we are trying to improve in 2022-2023?

Within our schools we continue to identify ways of improving our way of teaching and learning. Sometimes these priorities will be the same, other times these priorities will differ depending on the individual needs of the school. This is a result of evaluating and monitoring what is going on and what impact is being had. Along with other key headline areas, during the next academic year 2022/23 we particularly want to improve our;

- 1. To continue to raise standards in Literacy, Language and Communication**
- 2. To continue to raise standards in Mathematics and Numeracy**
- 3. To continue to develop teaching and learning and the curriculum for Wales**
- 4. Focus on supporting pupil wellbeing and engagement**

Curriculum Organisation and Teaching

We support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that both adults at school and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching we seek to equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives.

We recognise that people learn best in different ways: most lessons incorporate aspects to support pupils who learn best through visual, audio and kinaesthetic approaches. However,

we do not usually label children as specific types of learners. Rather we aim to provide a rich and varied learning environment that supports children in developing their skills and abilities in a range of ways, in order to achieve their full potential. Through our teaching we aim to develop pupils who are:

Ambitious, capable learners

Enterprising, creative contributors

Ethical, informed citizens

Healthy confident individuals.

The ALN policy incorporates the statutory code of practice for special needs and aims to provide equal access to the curriculum for all children. The ALNCO within the school is Mrs Lauren Newman, who deals with all ALN including statemented pupils, across all schools within the Federation. The majority of our pupils speak English as their first language. Our school is an English medium school. The school fully utilises and embeds the literacy and numeracy framework into teaching, alongside the DCF which aims to promote pupils digital competency.

Nursery Dept.

Our Nursery offers full time education and it is a 46 place unit in the Autumn term 2021. We are currently operating as a Nursery/Reception Unit. Children are admitted into our Nursery department in the term following the term after their third birthday, if places are available. The class is staffed by a HLTA and Teaching Assistants. The children transfer to their chosen Primary School in the September following their fourth birthday. Applications must be made for admission into Abercynon Community Primary School as having a place in the Nursery does not give parents an automatic right to a Reception place.

Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 Departments.

The children are admitted into Reception in the September following their 4th birthday. The Foundation Phase department is organised into 3 classes. The Junior department (Key Stage 2) is organised into 6 classes. We also have an Autistic Spectrum Unit for pupils aged 7-11yrs.

All Foundation Phase classes have a teacher and a Teaching Assistant and Key Stage 2 classes are staffed by a teacher who is supported at various times during the week by Teaching Assistants. There are also 4 intervention teachers supporting the children with schemes like Speech Link, Literacy Launchpad, Read Write Inc, First Class Maths and Catch Up Reading.

Assessment

The school operates a structured assessment and record keeping system enabling teachers to be aware of progression of all children in line with the curriculum for Wales guidelines and to plan the next stages of learning. The

school also uses the Incerts program which tracks pupils' attainment and produces detailed reports for parents. The school's policy on Assessment, Recording and Reporting is updated regularly. All of the children from Year 2 to Year 6 will complete the national tests in literacy and numerical reasoning and numeracy procedural tasks twice per year.

Use of the Welsh Language - Communication

This 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 throughout the school day.

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 input from appropriate personnel.

It is important that the children are taught Welsh as a second language. It enriches their knowledge and understanding of the culture and heritage of Wales. It develops their personalities and ability to contribute to the community giving them a sense of place and identity. The aims of teaching Welsh at School are to develop pupils knowledge, understanding and skills within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing. To create a Welsh ethos within which to promote the teaching of the Welsh language. To create opportunities for children to enjoy the rich heritage of Wales. To offer children opportunities to perform and compete in Welsh during school Eisteddfods.

10. Leadership and School Improvement

At Abercynon Community Primary School leaders have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making. Each member of staff work as a strong team to improve and raise standards. Pupil voice, through the School and Eco Councils, and parent consultation through regular meetings and surveys, mean that the whole school community is part of the consultation and decision making process.

The Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team work with all aspects of the school community to identify priorities, plan and action developments for these and to closely monitor impact and outcomes. The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and observations; it also spends time on scrutiny of documentation and ensures that the Headteacher and staff are regularly and rigorously appraised. In all, the 'Team' ethos at Abercynon Community Primary School is key to the successful learning of all our children.

11. Post Inspection Action Plan

Governors are responsible for drawing up the Action Plan to address any key issues raised by Inspectors during the (external) inspection of the School. Parents are provided with a copy of the summary report produced by the inspectors.

Governors monitor progress of the plan at their termly meetings. More detailed information on the progress made will be given at the meeting if required.

12. Term Dates and Holidays 2022/2023 Academic Year

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2022	Monday 5 Sept 2022	Monday 31 Oct 2022	Friday 4 Nov 2022	Friday 23 Dec 2022	75
Spring 2023	Monday 9 Jan 2023	Monday 20 Feb 2023	Friday 24 Feb 2023	Friday 31 Mar 2023	55
Summer 2023	Monday 17 April 2023	Monday 29 May 2023	Friday 2 Jun 2023	Monday 24 July 2023	64
TOTAL					195

i) Mon 5 Sept 2022 and Monday 24 July 2023 will be designated INSET days for all LA Maintained Schools. The remaining three INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff.

All schools will be closed on Monday 1 May 2023 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates: Christmas Sunday 25 December 2022

Easter Good Friday 7 April 2023

Easter Monday 10 April 2023

May Bank Holidays Monday 1 May 2023

Monday 29 May 2023

Significant Dates:

INSET Day - 23rd December 2022

The Welsh Assembly Government may decide to allocate additional INSET days, schools will be informed of these at the appropriate time.

The School day is organised as follows;

	Infant Department	Junior Department
School starts:	9.00am	9.00am
Registration:	9.05am	9.05am
Break:	10.30 - 10.45am	10.45-11am
Lunchtime:	11.45- 12.45pm	12.15- 1.15pm
School finishes:	3.15pm (Nursery 3pm)	3.30pm

13. 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.

A community 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 school 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. Abercynon has a strong and well supported community with the school at the heart of the local area. At our school we have a Breakfast Club, family engagement clubs provided this year by Miss Ganesh and a voluntary run playgroup. We have close links with our Church, Liaison Police Officer, PC. Rogers, who visits school regularly to speak to pupils regarding, Safety, Drug Awareness etc. Year 6 pupils have received first aid training. Children have developed good links with the local care home and we were worked

closely with the community and the council to provide a Christmas tree and lights for Abercynon. The special remembrance day service is always well supported and each year the pupils make wooden crosses and plastic poppies to commemorate the soldiers and families effected by war. The PTA remains committed and provides the school with excellent financial support for projects such as new play areas and reading resources Children and parents are extremely generous and this year have raised thousands of pounds for Ty Hafan, Comic Relief, Macmillan Cancer Support, Autism Awareness, Children in Need, The Poppy Appeal and Save the Children Christmas Jumper day.

School Links with the Community, Business and Industry

We are keen to promote links with local businesses and other organisations within our community and benefits greatly from their support.

We have strong links with Mountain Ash Comprehensive School and the other cluster primary schools. We aim to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 6 pupils as they move to their retrospective high schools. Visits are planned each year giving opportunities to attend a range of lessons. Liaison meetings take place between teachers of all cluster schools in a number of areas each year including – English, Welsh, Mathematics and Science. Pupils visit the comprehensive school in the summer term to meet other children who will be attending the school. Transition activities include a mix of social sporting and educational tasks.

We have established close links with a number of local sports organisations including Play Sports Wales, Welsh Netball, Manor Adventure, Urdd, Abercynon Sports Centre, Cardiff City Foundation, Glamorgan Cricket, Cardiff Blues and Abercynon Rugby Club. Pupils have benefitted from the coaching provided by experts within these organisations and have thoroughly enjoyed being involved in sporting initiatives during the Year.

Children have many opportunities to listen to a wide range of speakers from various agencies. These include our community police liaison officer, authors, musicians, Assembly members, Member of Parliament, local clergy, the fire brigade, school dentist, school nurse and other visitors who bring with them specialist skills and knowledge.

Children are given opportunities to help contribute toward charitable causes. For example, contributions from the Harvest festival are regularly distributed to the RCT Food bank. Other charities that we regularly support include Children in Need, Comic Relief, Save the Children and Macmillan Cancer support

Once again this year, there has been tremendous support for the various school fundraising groups. There have been a number of events and fund raising activities this year. The Governors would like to thank all those who contribute so much to the school.

Pupils within the school have establish strong links with industry such as Sony and AB Electronics. Also ICE engineering have promoted hands on skills such as building a

bridge and problem solving tasks linked to engineering.

14. 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. Further information is available by contacting the Headteacher during school time.

15. Additional Learning Needs

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 Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales (approved by the Senedd on 23rd March 2021) under section 4 of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.

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.

The ALNCo also liaises with all members of staff, to ensure that the progress of all pupils is regularly monitored and assessed and to ensure that each pupil reaches his or her potential.

ALN Data for 2022

- Currently with the new ALN bill in mind our figures have changed in line with the new guidance:
- Statements – There are 10 mainstream and 8 ASD Unit Statements. The Total number of statemented pupils is 18.
- Statements including the ASD Unit are 5.6%
- Statements excluding the ASD Unit are 3.1%
- ALN pupils on the register including ASD Unit is 9.3% (30 pupils)
- ALN pupils on the register excluding ASD Unit is 6.8% (22 pupils)
- 12 ALN pupils on the register without a statement.
- Data shows that we are 27.2% of pupils are on Free School Meals (Oct 2022)

During the 2021-2022 financial year £8,179.53 was allocated to meet the requirements of pupils with Additional Learning Needs. In addition, the Local Authority provided additional support for 18 pupils at the School Action Plus stage.

There were no changes to the policy during the 2021-2022

16. Access for Disabled Pupils

The governing body is mindful of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 and The Special Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) 2005 in drawing up the School Development Plan/Post Inspection Action Plan, and the day to day operation of the whole site.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils are able to participate in the school curriculum and (where they desire) in activities such as after school clubs, leisure/sporting events and educational visits. All aspects of accessibility, including access to written information are included in the planning process.

The Authority has in place an Accessibility Strategy and in line with this strategy has had an audit of the school site undertaken, as part of an Authority wide brief, to identify any potential barriers and (ultimately) improve the access to the school.

17. Fabric of the Building & Provision of Toilet Facilities

The building is generally in a good state of repair. Over the past year the following refurbishment/repairs have been carried out.

New gas boiler

New canopy

Currently the grass area of the yard is being landscaped as an outdoor educational area.

Our schools 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.

18. Target Setting

In line with the regulations, this information is not provided due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

19. Attendance Information

Attendance is extremely important to us at Abercynon Community Primary School. We run lots of initiatives for our pupils to encourage good attendance.

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their potential. In accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines, pupils are entitled to 10 discretionary sessions a year; however holidays during term time have an adverse effect on a child's progress at school. We seek to ensure that children appreciate the importance of coming to school regularly. Our family engagement officer this year Miss Ganesh works for the school to monitor the attendance of pupils and,

where concerns arise, attendance and wellbeing are notified and home visits will be made to ensure that pupil attendance is quickly addressed.

We remind all of our Parents/Carers that family holidays should be taken during school holiday periods. Any holiday time taken during term time should be requested, using our 'Holidays in Term Time' application form available from reception.

Attendance information is not available due to the pandemic restrictions.

20. Admission/Transition Arrangements

The County Borough Council 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. 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 Mountain Ash Comprehensive School, however, pupils may apply to attend any secondary school they choose subject to compliance with the Authority's admissions policy.

21. School Leavers

There were 43 children in Year 6 this year who have now moved on to comprehensive education. 23 pupils went to Mountain Ash Comprehensive, 17 went to Ponty High, 2 went to Cardinal Newman, 1 to St John's and 3 went to Aberdare Community School.

22. Sporting Aims and Achievements

Sport plays an important part of school life. Children participate in a variety of team games as an integral part of the PE curriculum. Opportunities are provided for those in Key Stage 2 to benefit from the work of qualified sports coaches including netball, football and multi sports coaches. All children are included in PE sessions and we aim to insure that each child finds a degree of personal success and enjoyment. Sports activities and outdoor activities for Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 are enjoyed by all Pupils and providing a range of team and group activities. We are mindful too of the need to help children to keep fit and active. There are a range of after school clubs at our schools which promote this, including football, netball, rugby and multi sports clubs.

23. Healthy Eating

As in previous years, we continue to support and promote our pupils' health and wellbeing. The development of healthy lifestyles is of high priority at our schools. Children take part in a range of activities to ensure that they feel safe and staff and Governors receive annual child protection updates. We have a good PSHE curriculum addressed through class sessions, assemblies and mindfulness sessions. In surveys children highlight very positive attitudes to school life and report that they feel safe and happy at School. We continue to have robust safeguarding and child protection procedures in place, including safer recruitment. School lunches are always nutritionally balanced by our catering team and we actively encourage parents to supply pupils with a healthy packed lunch, where school dinners are not taken. Pupils are encouraged to bring with them a piece of fruit for break time and all pupils have regular access to water in their classes. Foundation pupils will also receive milk during their morning break. Fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets or foods high in fat and salt are not encouraged by the school.

24. School Communication

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher on 01443 743060 or

e-mail : admin.abercynonprimary@rctcbc.gov.uk

School Website: www.abercynonprimary.org

Please follow the latest information via dojo. Just download the app and ask the school for a password.

APPENDIX A**ABERCYNON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

PROVISIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2020/2021

<u>EMPLOYEE COSTS</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>
TEACHERS (including Headteacher/Supply/Reading support)	£918,031-00
MANUAL WORKERS (Caretaker/Supervisory Assistants/Cleaners)	£56,286-00
A.P.T. + C (School Clerks/Nursery Nurses/School Aides)	£384,572-00
.	£220-00
<u>PREMISES RELATED</u>	
REPAIRS TO BUILDING/SITE, (INCLUDING GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/SECURITY)	£66,268-00
ENERGY	£31,458-00
RATES	£38,386-00
WATER	£3,537-00
CLEANING MATERIALS	£2,696-00
<u>SUPPLIES, SERVICES AND OTHER EXPENSES</u>	
SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE	£35,324-00
POSTAGE	0.00
TELEPHONES	£1,123-00
INSURANCE	£2,330-00
	£15,832-00
CLERKING GOVERNING BODY/FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL	£62,368-00
USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES	£4,353.00
MISCELLANEOUS	£13,608-00
	£23,594-00
	£1,686-00
TOTAL:	£1,661,672-00
<u>INCOME</u>	
MISCELLANEOUS	(386,495.00)
TOTAL	£1,275,176-00