# ABERCYNON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Annual Report to Parents 2017 – 2018



Dear Parent/Carer,

Another year has passed and the Governing Body continues to work closely with the school to ensure that it is a happy and safe place for your children to learn.

Each year the Governing Body are required by Welsh Government regulations to compile a report on the activities the school has completed each year. The report includes information on the work of the governors and the school, how to become a parent governor and key information such as academic success and attendance rates.

The governors work very closely with the school in supporting and challenging the school on its process of continuous improvement. Each term the Head teacher provides the Governing Body with a report on the school's progress towards meeting its targets. Committees meet regularly throughout the year and Governors are invited into school for learning walks to ensure Abercynon continues to be a successful school.

As a long serving Governor, I have total admiration for the effort and hard work that goes into making a successful school. If you are interested in becoming a Governor I would encourage you to apply when the next vacancy arises.

As a Pioneer school, we have led the way and supported many schools across Wales in implementing the new curriculum for Wales.

I would like to say that none of this would be possible without the support of you, our parents, grand-parents and carers. It is you who help with homework, read with your child, provide uniforms and support us during concerts, fund raising events, fetes and all the other parental engagements that you make a success with us.

The governors and I would like to thank the team of staff led by Mr Jewitt for their dedication and commitment again over the past year. I would also like to thank my fellow governors for their contributions to the school and the 'Friends of ACP' for their support and financial contributions to the extras that enhance the life of the school and contribute to the community feel of the school.

I look forward to another year of support as we help our fantastic, friendly and hardworking pupils through our vision of 'Always Creating Potential.'

Best wishes.

Mrs. S Martin Chair of the Governing Body

Always Creating Potential

#### **Staffing at Abercynon Community Primary School – 2018/2019**

At Abercynon Community Primary School, we have a dedicated team of staff who are committed to providing our pupils with the best education possible. Please find below our staff structure for September 2018:

Head Teacher	Mr. D. Jewitt
Deputy Head Teacher	Mrs S Smith

School Clerk	Mrs Corns
School Clerk	Mrs T Williams
Site Manager	Mr Harris

#### **Teaching Staff**

	Mrs Dennett	Nursery (Blossom)
Early Years/	Mrs Smith	Reception (Acorn)
Foundation Phase	Mr Meredith	Reception/Year I (Willow)
	Miss Roberts	Year I (Elm)
	Miss Sage	Year 2 (Maple)
	Mrs Caruana	Year 2 (Holly)
	Mrs Scannell	Year 3 (Cedar)
Key Stage 2	Mrs Edmunds/Mr Griffiths	Year 3/4 (Redwood)
	Mrs Smith	Year 4 (Sycamore)
	Mrs McKay/Mrs Knight	Year 5 (Rowan)
	Miss Parfitt	Year 5 (Beech)
	Mr Owen	Year 6 (Oak)
	Mrs Pritchard	ASD Unit (Hazel)

#### Teaching Support Staff/Aditional Practictioners and Intervention Staff

	Mrs L Jones	Mrs S Williams
Early Years/	Mrs C Jones	Mrs Hurt
Foundation Phase	Mrs Byard	Miss A Thomas
	Miss A Jones	Mrs Middlemiss
	Miss Jeans	Mrs Dunning
	Mrs CThomas	Mrs Davies
Key Stage 2	Mrs Fear	Mrs M Williams
	Mrs Rigby	Mrs Bance
	Mrs Taylor	Mrs A Williams

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#### **Our Governing Body**

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Retirement Date
Mr. A. Caffery	LEA	Council Members	16-10-2022
Mrs Marcia Morris			22-02-2020
Mrs E George			10-07-2021
Mrs S Morgan	Parent	Parents	23-07-2021
Mr K Myers-Sleight			02.05.2021
Mrs H Hearse			27-09-2022
Vacancy			
Mrs S Martin (Chair)	Community	Governors	27-02-2020
Mrs S. Moses	Governors		0604-2022
Vacancy			
Maria Campbell	Staff	NonTeaching Staff	30-09-2022
Mrs. T. Caruana	Teacher	Teaching Staff	05-04-2020
Mr. D. Jewitt	Head Teacher		

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows

LEA Representatives	3	Community Governors	3
Parent Governors	4	Teacher Governor(s)	1
Staff Representative	1	Minor Authority (if applicable )	0
Headteacher	1	Total	13

#### **Resolutions**

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

#### **Election of Parent Governors**

The next election of parent governors is due to take place November 2018. If, however, any Parent Governor(s) resign before this date arrangements will be made for an election to be undertaken at the appropriate time.





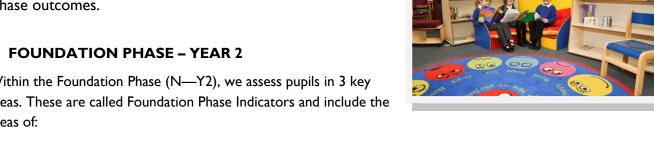
#### **Excellent Results!**

Once again, we have achieved a very impressive set of results for our end of key stage assessments. The results in both Foundation Phase and Key Stage Two show that we are performing really well against LEA, Consortium and Wales averages. We are really pleased with the progress that we are making as a school. Staff have worked extremely hard during 2017-18 and will continue to do so in the forthcoming year to ensure that every pupil reaches their potential.

#### **Foundation Phase Data**

Below is a table showing the results for end of Foundation Phase outcomes.

Within the Foundation Phase (N—Y2), we assess pupils in 3 key areas. These are called Foundation Phase Indicators and include the areas of:



☐ Personal and Social Development

☐ Language, Literacy and Communication

☐ Mathematical Development

A child leaving Year 2 should leave with at least an Outcome 5. If a child attains Outcome 5 in all 3 areas then this is classed as 'attaining FPI'.

Our attainment of FPI for 2017/2018 is 88.1%. The National Welsh Average is 82.6%



Foundation Phase Data Outcome 5+							
Outcome 5+		2017	2018	Wales			
PSD	96	95.45	97.62	93.4			
LLC	92	95.45	90.48	84			
MDT	92	93.18	92.86	86.6			
FPI	90	90.91	88.37	82.6			

#### Foundation Phase Data Outcome 6+

Outcome 6+	2016	2017	2018	Wales
PSD	61	59.09	76.19	59.4
LLC	45	31.82	38.10	33.5
MDT	31	31.82	30.95	33.9

#### **End of Key Stage Assessment**

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#### **KEY STAGE 2 - YEAR 6**

Within Key Stage 2 (Y3 - Y6), we assess pupils in 3 key areas.

These are called Core Subject Indicators and include the areas of:

- ⇒ English
- $\Rightarrow$  Maths
- ⇒ Science

A child leaving Year 6 should leave with at least a Level 4 in each area. If a child attains Level 4 in all 3 areas then this is classed as 'attaining CSI'.



## Our attainment of CSI for 2017/2018 is 90.3%. The National Welsh Average is 89.5%

Below is a table showing the results achieved during the academic year 2017-18 for our Year 6 cohort.

There was one pupil in our ASD class, so results are shown as whole school and mainstream. These results are excellent, and are above Local Authority and Consortium averages.

#### Key Stage Two Data - Level 4+

	1	2016 Main- stream	2017 Whole School	2017 Main- stream	2018 Whole School	2018 Main- stream	Wales
English	89.2	94.3	88.24	90.91	93.55	96.67	91.1
Maths	91.89	97.14	91.18	93.94	93.55	96.67	91.8
Sci- ence	89.19	94.29	91.18	93.94	93.55	96.67	92.1
<b>€5</b> \$tage T	w891a	Leve <b>94</b> .29	88.24	90.91	90.32	93.33	89.5

We are extremely proud to report that our level 5 results are the highest our school has ever achieved.

	2016 Whole School	2016 Main- stream	2017 Whole School	2017 Main- stream	2018 Whole School	2018 Main- stream	Wales
English	37.84	40.00	32.35	33.33	38.71	40.0	45.9
Maths	40.54	42.86	38.24	39.39	48.39	50.0	47.8
Sci- ence	37.84	40.00	35.29	36.36	45.16	46.67	46.5





The National School Categorisation System aims to give a clear and fair picture of a school's **progress** and provide information on how well a school is performing compared with others across Wales. There is a three step process to categorisation.

The **first step** looks at the performance of the school This is measured taking into account the end of Foundation Phase and end of Key Stage 2 results over the last three year and overall progress the school has made. It also considers the attendance rate at the school and the level of pupils 'eligible for free school meals' (over a three year average).

The **second step** is where the Consortia Challenge Adviser evaluates the school's capacity to improve further, taking account of evidence about the standards achieved and the quality of leadership and teaching and learning.

The **third step** looks at the outcomes in step one and step two and these are combined to decide on the school's support category. The final categorisation is a colour code that shows the level of support a school needs – green, yellow, amber or red.

The school has been categorised as follows:



In 2017-2018 we were categorised as being a YELLOW school, now in 2018-2019, we have been categorised as a GREEN school (this is a provisional categorisation until National Categorisation has been completed).

Support Category
2017-2018
Yellow School

Support Category
2018-2019
Green School





Two elected year group representatives (4 in Year 6) from Y2-6 serve for the whole year to allow consistency and continuity. Meetings are held regularly. The children take part in activities such as setting targets, visiting the council chambers and representing the school on interview/visits etc. The council was involved in leading discussions about the new playground equipment and updating reading resources. They were also responsible for setting up playground buddies and spending money of their own allocated budget.

#### **Target Setting**



Governors have worked with the Headteacher to set targets for the forthcoming years. The process of agreeing targets is based on the following principles:

- ★ Targets should be challenging, realistic and manageable;
- ★ They should be school specific, reflecting an informed evaluation of each year group of children;
- ★ In order to be meaningful, targets should be considered over a time span of more than one year;
- ★ Class teachers have a crucial role to play in the setting of targets and are fully involved in the process.

In line with these principles, teachers use the wide range of information they have about each child in their class to set an individual target level in national curriculum tasks and tests. This is a whole school initiative and teachers work hard to ensure that each individual target is challenging, but realistic. These individual targets are collated to form aggregate targets for each year group. The targets were set in the Autumn term, and subsequently agreed by the Consortium. These targets are agreed annually.

#### **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. Please find below our percentage attendance for each term and the year totals.

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 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.



Autumn	Term	2017	
Overall Attendance	Auth	Unauth	Possible
94.1%	5.2%	0.7%	100%
Spring	Term	2018	
Overall Attendance	Auth	Unauth	Possible
94.6%	4.8%	0.6%	100%
Summer	Term	2018	
Overall Attendance	Auth	Unauth	Possible
93.8%	4.9%	1.3%	100%

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.

#### **SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-18**

Governors are responsible for drawing up (in conjunction with the staff) the School Improvement Plan. The plan identifies the direction the school will take over a 3 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 SIP for the 2017/18 academic year is currently being considered and approved by Governors and implemented by the staff. The targets set include short, medium and long-term aims. Progress against the targets is reviewed regularly by the Governing Body.





#### Progress made on the School Improvement Priorities 2017/2018

**Literacy** - continues to be a priority. Oracy was the focus and strategies were introduced to encourage collaboration and discussion. These have been successful. A lead creative schools project focued on further developing oracy skills and Year 5 produced an impressive movie about the river. The handwriting focus is having impact. Pupil's presentation has improved. Read, Write, Inc Spelling has impacted is starting to be seen in test results and in pupils' independent writing.

**Maths and Numeracy** – Mathsletics has proved very successful as a home and school link and has raised standards and challenged learners. We took part in a successful able learners project with our Comprehensive schoolPupils enjoy the engaging lessons more through effective teaching strategies that promote collaboration and group discussion.

**Pioneer Work:** A member of staff worked directly with the Welsh Government in devising parts of the new curriculum for Wales. We successfully planned and performed a summer concert which focused on developing the 4 purposes of the new curriculum for Wales. Our digital leaders supported other schools and coding club meant that pupils have had the opportunity to further enhance their ICT skills. We revised our teaching and learning policy and supported 10 schools across the counties helping them with their new curriculum journey.

**Distributed Leadership** – Staff are aware of their responsibilities within the school organisation. We have develop areas of learning teams in line with the new curriculum and these have met and planned regularly. We introduced videoing teaching lessons which led to reflective feedback and many staff members carried out action research projects that impacted on improving standards in the classroom.

#### **School Improvement Priorities 2018/2019**

**Priority 1: Literacy:** to raise standards, attainment and progress in Literacy, Language and Communication as Pioneer School. Trialing new ideas, teaching styles and assessment in preparation for the new curriculum.

**Priority 2: Maths and Numeracy:** To improve standards in numeracy through focus on Big Maths clic groups, new online programme and early intervention and support

**Priority 3:** Wellbeing: To develop pupil's self esteem and social and emotional wellbeing through health and wellbeing analysis, Thrive and through family engagement.

**Priority 3: Pioneers:** To continue to lead as a Pioneer School in preparation for the new curriculum for Wales

**Priority 5: Digital Learning:** To create an evolving digital learning culture, promoting collaboration, innovation and connection, and opportunities to take action in the wider community

#### Healthy, Safe pupils

As in previous years, we continue to support and promote our pupils' health and wellbeing. The development of healthy lifestyles is of high priority in our school. Children take part in a range of activities to ensure that they feel safe and staff and Governors receive the necessarychild protection training. We have a good PSHE curriculum addressed through class sessions, assemblies and circle time. In surveys children highlight very positive attitudes to school life and report that they feel safe and happy at Abercynon Community Primary School. The school continues to have a robust safeguarding and child protection procedure in place, including safer recruit-



#### **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.



#### **School Lunches**

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 eat 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



#### **Policies**

All statutory policies have been reviewed and copies of these are available on the school website and upon request. Please contact the school with any other queries that you may have.

#### **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.

#### **HEALTHY EATING**

The school is part of the Heatlhy Schools Initiative and has achieved the first three 'Healthy School Leafawards and is working on the fourth phase. The school follows guidance from the Appetite for Life Plan.

The Catering school meals service and Breakfast Club provision meets the WG Appetite for Life agenda. Pupils who do not have school meals are encouraged to think about the contents of their packed lunch through a range of class based activities and assemblies.

The school promotes healthy eating and lifestyle through assemblies, special events and through the work of the School Council and Eco Council

Pupils have access to water fountains throughout the day and all Foundation Phase pupils have milk daily And a piece of fruit is available each day (£6 per term). At KS2 a healthy snack is available from our Year 6 run tuck shop (30p per item)or alternatively, children are encouraged to bring in a healthy fruit snack for mid-morning break.

The school takes part in the Healthy Board's tooth brushing scheme with Nursery & Reception pupils.





#### **ESTYN Spring 2015....**

'There is a good working relationship between all staff and pupils at the school, which leads to a positive learning environment in all classes.'

'The school is a very caring community.'

The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that stimulates and engages

all pupils effectively. Teachers provide good opportunities for pupils to develop their literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum.'

#### **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.



#### Post Inspection Action Plan.

The school was inspected in April 2015 and received 2 GOOD grades. There were 4 recommendations following the inspection and

#### **School Policies**

The school has a large number of Policy documents covering both curriculum and non-subject areas. These documents are constantly being reviewed and revised by staff/ governors to incorporate changing trends and legislation. Copies of

#### **Assessment**

The school operates a structured assessment and record keeping system enabling teachers to be aware of levels of attainment of all children in line with the National Curriculum 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 sat the national tests in literacy and numerical reasoning and numeracy procedural tests in May.





#### Nursery Dept.

Our nursery varies from a 46 place unit in the Autumn term 2018.

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  $4^{th}$  birthday. The Foundation Phase department is organised into 5 classes. The Junior department (Key Stage 2) is organised into 6 classes

#### **OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

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 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 major 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.





Employee Costs	Total Spent
Teachers (including Headteacher/Deputy Head/Teachers)	£621,229
Manual Workers (Site Manager/Supervisory Assistants/Cleaners)	£ 48,395
A.P.T+C (School Clerks/Teaching Assistants/Relief Teachers)	£ 401,043
Premises Related	
Repairs to Building (including ground maintenance /security	£ 27,506
Energy	£ 27,511
Rates	£ 35,803
Water	£ 3,332
Cleaning Materials & Cleaning Contract	£ 23,012
Supplies and Services/Other Expenses	
School Equipment and Furniture (Capitation)	£ 26,715
Postage	£ 225
Telephones	£ 1,053
Insurance	£ 2,375
Clerking Governing Body/Financial Administration/Personnel	£ 7,744
Use of District Facilities	£ 3,666
Miscellaneous	£ 157,014
<u>Total</u>	£ 1,386,623
INCOME	£ 242,057
Miscellaneous	£ 0
<u>Total</u>	£ 1,144,566



#### **Equalities statement**

At Abercynon Community Primary School we aim to provide a happy, caring environment in which all children can feel confident and able to learn. We seek to foster an environment of mutual respect and support between all staff, pupils, parents and carers and the wider community.

Our school is committed to eliminating any unlawful discrimination on grounds of Race, Gender, Transgender, Religion or Belief, Disability or Sexual Orientation, Pregnancy or Maternity Marriage or Civil Partnership by creating an environment where every individual, regardless of ability or background, is able to participate and is valued fully as a member of the school community. Being opposed to all forms of discrimination and prejudice we promote a positive attitude towards differences and expect respect for people of all backgrounds. This is highlighted in our school rules.

Stereotyped ways of thinking are the result of ignorance and may result in low self-esteem and limited aspirations. The school values and encourages involvement of people from all sections of the local community and through this involvement aims to provide positive images, which challenge stereotyped thinking.

#### 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 Improvement Plan and the day to day operation of the school 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 and sporting activities and educational visits. All aspects of accessibility, including access to written information are included in the planning process.

We are an inclusive school and the Governing Body ensures access for pupils and adults with disabilities. Action will be



#### **School Sport and Extra-Curricular Activities**

Pupils enjoy a variety of sports as part of the school curriculum. Pupils have participated in Indoor Athletics, Indoor 5-a-league, rugby festivals, basketball sessions, Urdd gymnastics, hockey sessions to name but a few. In addition the school runs after school sports clubs and a variety of extra-curricula activities each term for pupils of the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. We run a netball, football and a rugby team that have competed well this year. Our football team were joint winners of the Roffi Cup and was runners up in the Glasbrook.

#### Academic Year 2018/2019



Term	Start	Half term		Finish
Autumn	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	Fri 1st	Fri 21 <sup>s†</sup>
	Sept '18	Oct '18	Nov '18	Dec '18
Spring	Monday7 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>
	Jan '19	Feb '19	Mar '19	April '19
Summer	Monday29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Friday31 <sup>st</sup>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>
	April '19	May '19	May '19	July '19



INSET Days for the Year		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2018		
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2018		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2018		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2019		
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019		



	Infant Department	Junior Department
School starts:	9.00am	9.00am
Registration:	9.05am	9.05am
Break:	10.40 - 11.00am	10.45-11am
Lunchtime:	12- 1.pm	12 1.pm
School finishes:	3.15pm	3.30pm

Nursery
sessions:
The morning session
runs from
9.00 12pm
The afternoon ses-



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

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