



Ysgol Heulfan

The Governors' Gazette



9

The Annual Report to Parents

Working together to be the best we can be!

Spring Term 2024 (for Academic Year September 2022 to July 2023)

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

During 2022-2023, we continued to work on the Curriculum for Wales, trying new approaches and sharing progress with parents. We continued to focus on well-being which remains at the heart of the Ysgol Heulfan Curriculum. Our School Improvement Portfolio shows our journey since the introduction of the new Curriculum and it is available for parents to see in school. As members of the Governing Body, we have thoroughly enjoyed visiting school and speaking to the children about their learning ... they have blown us away! I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone - our dedicated staff, delightful children and loyal parents for their support. I am very proud of Ysgol Heulfan and I look forward to more exciting initiatives in the future. Let's continue to work together to be the best we can be!

Mr Charles Rigby

Chair of the Governing Body
c/o Ysgol Heulfan, Sunny View, Gwersyllt

★ Meeting ★

A meeting was not held last year (2021-2022) to discuss the Annual Report as no parents requested one. We will arrange a virtual meeting this year if at least 10% of our parents request one. Please telephone school (by Friday 12th April 2024) if you would like to request a meeting with Governors to discuss this Annual Report.

We continue to have regular visitors to school to discuss our approaches and to share good ideas. We spent a lot of time during 22-23 building our Curriculum and trying new ideas.

We are proud holders of the
Eco Schools Platinum Award.
The highlight of our year was the
three day Coronation Celebration.

Who's who on the Governing Body?

The Chair of Governors
Headteacher

Mr Charles Rigby
Mrs Julia Thomas Haigh

Parent Governors; These are elected by parental vote and serve for a 4 year term.

Mrs Elaine Eyke	Oct. 2025
Mrs Rachel Harman	Dec. 2026
Mr Allan Longshadow	Oct. 2025
Miss Emily Fennah	Oct. 2025

***NEXT PARENTAL ELECTIONS:**
Summer Term 2024

Teacher Governors; These are elected from the teachers by the teachers.

Ms Kathy Jones	Oct. 2025
Mrs Lesley Morris	Oct. 2025

Staff Governors; These are elected from members of staff.

Ms Karen Jones	Oct. 2026
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Wrexham LA Governors; These are appointed by the Local Authority.

Cllr Tina Mannering	Sept. 2025
Mrs Avril Lloyd	Dec. 2024
Mr Phillip Vaughan Rees	July 2024
Cllr Annette Davies	Dec 2026

Community Governors; Invited to join the Governing Body by other members due to their specialist skills which are felt to add to the expertise of the body as a whole.

Mrs Sharon Cooke	Dec. 2024
Mr Charles Rigby	April 2026
Mr Dennis Wynne	Feb. 2025

Governors did not receive any funds for travel expenses or any other expenses for 2022-2023.

Clerk; Mrs Emma Thomas c/o Ysgol Heulfan, Sunny View, Gwersyllt, Wrexham. LL11 4HS

Inside ... What did we achieve? A look back: 2022 - 2023

Our School Prospectus

The Ysgol Heulfan Prospectus is updated on an annual basis. If you require a copy, please contact the Headteacher. Towards the end of the school year (July 2023), we updated our Curriculum Rationale on the school website. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Please contact school if you would like a paper copy of the Prospectus/Curriculum Rationale.

Telephone:

01978 722040

www.ysgolheulfan.co.uk



School Improvement



During 2022-2023 we continued to work on our school improvement agenda and introduced many exciting ideas such as:

Relationships & Sexuality Curriculum	Intensive Interaction
Practical & outdoor Maths & Numeracy	PASS (Pupil Survey)
Pupil Conferencing, Assessment & Feedback	Transition
Triad Projects (across the school)	A revised approach to self-evaluation

We work tirelessly to ensure a whole school approach in all we do but we are well aware that not all aspects are appropriate for our resourced provision. We have different approaches to ensure we meet the needs of all our children and therefore adapt some whole school approaches.

During 2022-2023 we continued to make very good use of our School Improvement Portfolio and recorded our plans and successes. The Portfolio shows our journey since the introduction of the New Curriculum for Wales and it continues to enable us to involve the whole school community. We look forward to continuing with our Portfolio during 2023-2024.

2022-2023: What did our parents share with us?

"An amazing school! Always doing fun things with the children. The work is amazing."

"School always keeps us updated and informed about progress."

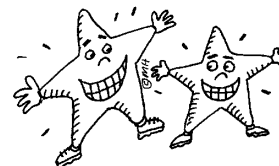
"My daughter struggles with social skills. I am very pleased that school/teachers understand this and go above and beyond to help her with this struggle on a daily basis."

"My daughter's reading has improved so much. She loves reading and has already read 40 books this year!"

Thank you for emailing any well-being concerns, I really appreciate it."

"Nothing is too much trouble and Mrs Thomas is always available to speak to if needed."

"I want to thank all staff for this year. Teachers went above and beyond with everything. Thank you."



Sporting News 2022 - 2023:

We started to play netball and football matches against other schools and look forward to more competitions during 2023-2024. The children enjoyed a range of activities during P.E. lessons and playtimes. Our new gym equipment arrived and Year 6 pupils continue to make very good use of it!

Healthy Eating

As a 'Healthy School' we are committed to encouraging all our pupils to lead a healthy lifestyle. We have regular 'Health Weeks,' make use of the school grounds for playtimes & lunchtimes and encourage children to bring an item of fruit in their lunch boxes. We provide a healthy snack for break times (fruit) and the children have access to drinking water during the day. Energy drinks/other drinks with a high level of sugar are not permitted in school.

School Council

We had regular meetings during 2022-2023. One of the highlights was the School Council Learning Walk, with members visiting every class across school. The focus for the year was improving the planting areas and gardens around school.

**Our Strategic Equality Plan is up to date:
2020 – 2024.**

**All actions planned in our previous
Action Plan have been achieved.**

**Our Playgroup Plus (for Nursery
children) and After School Club
continue to be popular.
Our Breakfast Club continues to thrive.
Open from 7:55 a.m.**

Policy/Document Update



All of our policies are up to date. We have a cycle of review and update all documentation on a regular basis.

We have updated our School Prospectus and School Improvement Plan. All of our Curriculum Plans are written on a termly basis and we have detailed annual plans. Staff work closely together to ensure continuity and progression.

Please contact school if you would like a copy of any of our Policy Documents or if you require any additional information.

Updates

In our Annual Report to Parents (2022-2023) we are not required to publish information relating to School Performance.

Attendance (22-23): 91.3%

Authorised Absences: 8.3%

Target for 2023-2024: 92%

Our school building is in good repair. Over the past few years, all classes have been decorated and almost all have had new carpets. We have good toilet facilities which are cleaned on a regular basis by our Cleaning Staff (after school) and Caretaker (during the school day). The Year 3/4 toilets in the Junior Department have been renovated and are of a very good standard and we look forward to the Years 5/6 toilets being upgraded next.



We have an active School Council and Eco Committee. The groups meet on a regular basis to discuss important school issues. The Headteacher worked alongside the School Council during 2022-2023.



Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

We continue to work in accordance with the Additional Learning Needs regulations. A child with ALN will have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of other children of the same age or they will have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the education facilities normally provided. Previous categories of Special Educational Need are now replaced with Universal Provision, Targeted Universal Provision and Additional Learning Provision.

Universal Provision: our school has differentiated, high quality teaching and learning which is supplemented with targeted support for individuals or small groups. At this phase, there may be short or long term targets for children and these are regularly tracked and monitored.

Additional Learning Provision: a small number of children may require ALP. This will involve the needs of the pupil being identified in a person centred way and could lead to enhanced and alternative provision being provided to support the pupil in making progress. The children who access ALP are classed as having additional learning needs and will require an Individual Development Plan.

The named Governor for Additional Learning Needs is Mrs R. Harman. The school's Additional Learning Needs Coordinator is Mrs L. Morris.

Teaching & Learning

We have Resourced Provision for 36 pupils (across 4 classes). There is collaborative working and award winning levels of inclusion across the school. Pupils are taught in single or mixed age classes and we use a variety of teaching methods. All teachers have received training on 'Effective Learning' and we have a whole school approach which includes sharing the learning intentions, negotiating success criteria, evaluating learning, effective questioning, self/peer evaluation and talking partners. We have visitors on a regular basis to view our lessons and the strategies used. Across our Resourced Provision classes, teaching and learning is on an individual basis and prioritises key, individual targets.

The Admission of pupils with disability

We aim to reduce/eliminate all barriers of access to the curriculum and work towards full participation in the school community for pupils and prospective pupils with a disability. We will comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and will:

- Not discriminate against disabled pupils in admissions, exclusions or in the provision of education.
- Not treat disabled pupils less favourably.
- Take reasonable steps to avoid putting pupils with disabilities at a disadvantage.

Please contact school if you would like a copy of our Disability Equality Scheme or our Accessibility Policy.

"Inclusion occurs naturally and is ingrained in every aspect of the school due entirely to the efforts of the staff, led by the inspirational and aspirational Headteacher and her Leadership Team."

Estyn Report

Links with the Community

We work closely with the local community:

- ❖ We attend the Remembrance Service every year.
- ❖ We have excellent links with the local Church and Vicar.
- ❖ We contribute to the local Harvest project at the Church.
- ❖ We make regular use of the local library.
- ❖ We work in partnership with Ysgol Bryn Alyn.
- ❖ We have excellent links with the local PCSOs.
- ❖ We place posters/School Prospectus in local shops and in the library.
- ❖ We continue to use our website and school app.
- ❖ We have completed litter picks in the locality.
- ❖ We make substantial use of Alyn Waters Country Park and local supermarkets to link with the children's topics.
- ❖ Our children enjoyed frequent visits to the Stansty House Care Home.

Working together to be the best we can be!

Finances



Summary Statement for the financial year: Mainstream 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

BUDGET HEADING	EXPENDITURE/ ACTUAL	EXPENDITURE/ PLANNED BUDGET	BALANCE
EMPLOYEES	1,605,509	1,460,687	-144,822
PREMISES	85,790	127,826	42,036
TRANSPORT	5,022	41,000	35,978
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	57,942	147,320	89,378
EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	116,409	107,785	-8,624
CONTINGENCY FUND	0	135,414	135,414
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,870,673	2,020,032	149,359
Other Income	-404,992	-293,178	111,814
Balance As At 1 st April 2022	-347,127	-347,127	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	1,118,554	1,379,727	261,173

Summary Statement for the financial year: Y Canol 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

EMPLOYEES	745,057	674,863	-70,194
PREMISES	173	2,000	1,827
TRANSPORT	0	0	0
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	24,004	40,000	15,996
CONTINGENCY FUND	0	65,688	65,688
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	769,234	782,551	13,317
Other Income	-7,355	-32	7,323
Balance As At 1 st April 2022	-64,394	-64,394	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	697,485	718,125	20,640

YSGOL HEULFAN – SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNTS
SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 1st APRIL 2022 – 31st MARCH 2023

MAINSTREAM

BALANCE B/FWD £19,977.00

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
		Supplies & Equipment	3,986.82
Fundraising	524.05	Subscriptions & Licences	495.00
Placements	1,691.00	Services	95.00
Commission	432.19	Petty Cash	1,826.07
Donations	802.84	Capitation	55,977.73
Grants	1,760.00	Imprest	120.09
Capitation	53,718.16	Fundraising	857.05
Imprest	69.76	Banking Charges	82.01
Snack	2,763.71	Snack	3,004.07
Trips	18,401.83	Trips	14,801.00
Misc. Income	173.77		
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>£80,337.31</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>£81,244.84</u>

BALANCE AS AT 31st MARCH 2023 - £19,069.47

Y CANOL

BALANCE B/FWD £10,457.08

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Cash received	3,473.17	Books/Equipment	1,374.91
		Trips/Visits	40.00
		Cash withdrawal	2,050.00
		Other	823.88
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>£13,930.25</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>£4,288.79</u>

BALANCE AS AT 31st MARCH 2023 - £9,641.46

All Accounts are independently audited on an annual basis.

Following the 2022 – 2023 Audit, the following comment was made by the Auditors:

"We are pleased to report that, in our opinion, overall, the accounts and controls were found to be operating satisfactorily and, the records are maintained to a high standard."

Term Dates (2023 – 2024)

Timings of the School Day

Infants – 8:55 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

8:55 a.m. – 12 noon (playtimes are organised via
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ongoing Outdoor Play).

Juniors – 8:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

8:50 a.m. – 12 noon
1:00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.
(playtimes are organised from 10:20 a.m.)

The times above may change slightly as the children play in mixed year groups to allow more time on the yard. Additional playtimes may be provided during the day (e.g. for a 'brain break').

Our Playgroup Plus (for Nursery children) and After School Club are available: usual rates apply. Further information can be supplied by Mrs Cooke (Playgroup Plus) and Miss Lewis (After School Club).

AUTUMN TERM

Training Day: Friday 1st September 2023
School Opens – Monday 4th September 2023
School Closes – Thursday 26th October 2023
Training Day: Friday 27th October 2023

School Opens – Monday 6th November 2023
School Closes – Friday 22nd December 2023

SPRING TERM

Training Day: Monday 8th January 2024
School Opens – Tuesday 9th January 2024
School Closes – Friday 9th February 2024
School Opens – Monday 19th February 2024
School Closes – Thursday 21st March 2024
Training Day: Friday 22nd March 2024

SUMMER TERM

Training Day: Monday 8th April 2024
School Opens – Tuesday 9th April 2024
May Day: Monday 6th May 2024
School Closes – Friday 24th May 2024
School Opens – Monday 3rd June 2024
Training Day: Friday 5th July 2024
School Closes – Friday 19th July 2024

Additional Information:

English is the main language used in Ysgol Heulfan however we encourage all pupils and staff to be bilingual. We teach Welsh as a Second Language from Nursery to Year 6. We encourage pupils to use the Welsh language in class and around school. Our pupils enjoy singing the Welsh National Anthem in the school Assembly and they participate in the St. David's Day Parade. We work closely with feeder Secondary Schools to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils and to facilitate continuity in the Welsh language.

In July 2023, our Year 6 pupils transferred to one of the following schools: Ysgol Bryn Alyn, St Christopher's, Castell Alun and Ysgol Rhosnesni.

We are always encouraging and developing the partnership we have with parents; we hope you have enjoyed reading our Annual Report. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

