

Brackla Primary School

SUMMARY of Annual Report to Parents and Carers

2023 - 2024

I am delighted to present the **summary** of the annual report to parents/carers as the Chair of Governors.

The Governing Body are very proud of our school and the learning experiences all pupils receive. We believe that all pupils are provided with learning opportunities to engage in their learning and benefit from a wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities.

Within this report you will find a summary of key information relating to the working practices and procedures at the school, which I hope you will find informative.

I would like to extend my thanks to the staff, governors, parents and carers for all they do to support the work of the school and look forward to another successful year in Brackla Primary School.

A full version of the report is available on the website or by request from the school office.

Mrs J Czajkowski

Chair of Governors



Dear parents/carers,

Brackla Primary School Governing Body SUMMARY Annual Report to Parents 2023-2024

This is the summary Governing Body annual report to parents for the academic year 2023-2024 which has been emailed to all parents/carers and is available on the website and on request to the school.

Under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) the Governing Body is no longer required to hold a meeting for the purpose of discussing the attached report. However, under this legislation, if a Governing Body receives a petition from parents of registered pupils at the school requesting that a meeting takes place this request must be acceded to if the following conditions are met;

- The petition contains the signatures of (either) ten percent of the parents of registered pupils or thirty of the parents of registered pupils at the school (whichever is the lower number).
- The meeting must be for the purpose of discussing a matter relating to the school.
- Should meetings be requested/held there will be no more than three meetings held during the school year in which the (initial) petition is received.
- There are enough school days remaining in the school year for the meeting to be held in line with the requirements of the Act.

Should a meeting be held it will be open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, the Headteacher and other persons invited by the Governing Body.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Czajkowski
Chair of the Governing Body

The Governing Body 2023-2024

Chair of Governors: Mrs J Czajkowski (c/o Brackla Primary School, Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend, CF31 2EZ)

Vice Chair of Governors: Mrs P Hayter

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. They report to the full Governing Body for formal ratification of proposals.

The minutes of Governing Body meetings are available from the clerk to governors: Mrs Simone Delaney of School Governance Solutions.

Name	Type	End date
Mrs A Morris	Local Authority	17.10.26
Mrs A Williams	Local Authority	11.06.28
Mrs J Spratling	Local Authority	16.10.27
Vacancy	Local Authority	
Mrs J Czajkowski	Community	20.12.27
Cllr C Cadogan	Community	10.12.27
Mr P Hayter	Community	16.11.26
Mrs R Kelland	Community	14.06.27
Mrs E Simmons	Community	12.06.28
Mrs S Brewer	Parent	18.05.27
Mrs E Lewis	Parent	20.10.26
Ms K Evans	Parent	19.11.25
Ms C Mowbray-Harwood	Parent	01.10.24
Mrs S Davies	Parent	21.05.28
Mrs S Whelan	Teaching staff	03.12.24
Mrs J Davis	Teaching staff	15.06.25
Mrs D Thompson	Non teaching staff	12.09.26

Clerk to the governors: Mrs S Delaney (School Governance Solutions)

School Staff for 2023/2024

Headteacher: Mrs K John

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J Davis

Senior Management Team: Mr S McNamara; Mrs A Baldrige, Mr Still

Class teachers: Mrs A Baldrige, Miss J Helm, Mrs I Delgado, Mr S McNamara, Miss S Pavitt, Mrs T Hayter, Mrs S Whelan, Mrs A Driscoll, Mrs C Martin, Miss A Bartle, Mrs A Stephens, Mr G Still.

Support staff: Mrs H Vincent, Miss L Thomas, Mrs D Thompson, Mrs N Morgan, Mrs A Robinson, Mrs J Szarlat, Mrs M Drummond, Mrs L Williams, Mrs L Richards, Mrs S Robinson, Mr C Williams, Mrs N Hunter, Miss K Davies, Miss N Steel, Mrs J Charles, Mrs L Davies, Mrs L Jones, Mrs E Apsee.

Special Needs Support Assistants (SNSA): Mrs L Davies Pyne, Mr S Bird, Mrs D Wassilew, Miss C Bowden.

Additional Learning Needs Coordinator: Mrs A Baldrige

Non-teaching staff

Administration staff: Mrs D Lewis

Site supervisor: Mr M Sobocinski

Catering Staff: Mrs Y Powell, Mrs S Dobbs

Lunchtime supervisors: Mrs B Cox, Mrs C LeBreuilly

Brackla Primary School is an English medium school.

Our Vision for Brackla Primary School

Brackla Primary School is a community with a common purpose and everything that we do relates to our vision 'Hapus.' Our children, families, staff and governors have agreed that our school should be a safe and caring environment where learning is at the heart of all that we do. Our vision was reviewed with all stakeholders during the year and a set of keywords agreed to illustrate it.

In order to implement our vision, our mission is to:

- Strive to set high standards for our children.
- Develop their confidence to achieve their full potential in all areas of learning.
- Foster potential partnerships, where parents are seen as partners in the learning process.
- Help our pupils to understand the joy of learning for life.

H **Happy and Healthy** (engagement, relationships, confidence, enthusiasm, friendship)

A **Aspirational and Active** (inspirational, independent, understanding, challenge, creative)

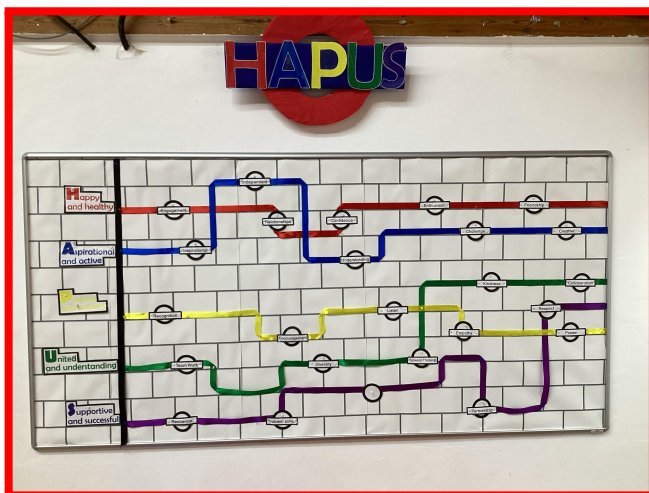
P **Positive and Patient** (recognition, encouragement, listening, empathy, praise)

U **United and Understanding** (teamwork, diversity, forward thinking, kindness, collaboration)

S **Supportive and Successful** (resilience, problem solver, partnership, respect, achievement).

Our school motto:

'Hapus ynghyd dysgu o hyd'
'Happy together learning forever'



School Aims

- To provide an inclusive and stimulating environment in which children, staff, families and visitors feel safe, welcome and valued, ensuring that wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do.
- To encourage and provide opportunities for the children to value the history, culture and language of Wales as well as learning about the diversity of the wider world.
- To empower pupils to find their voice for success in school and in life.
- To provide an inspiring, challenging and creative curriculum through purposeful experiences & opportunities to prepare children for the modern world.

Election of Parent Governors

When a vacancy arises on the Governing Body for a parent representative, the school will inform all parents/carers of the vacancy and will make the necessary arrangements for the consequent election. Every parent/carer of a registered pupil at the school will be entitled to stand as a candidate and to vote at the election, and will be given the opportunity to do so. Each parent/carer will be provided with information, which will indicate the application process, to be returned to the school by a set date. Elections will be by secret ballot.

There are currently no parent vacancies.

Previous Annual Meeting

There were no meetings held during the course of the year. Should any parent/carer wish to request such a meeting, please contact Mrs John at the school where further information will be provided.

School Development Plan

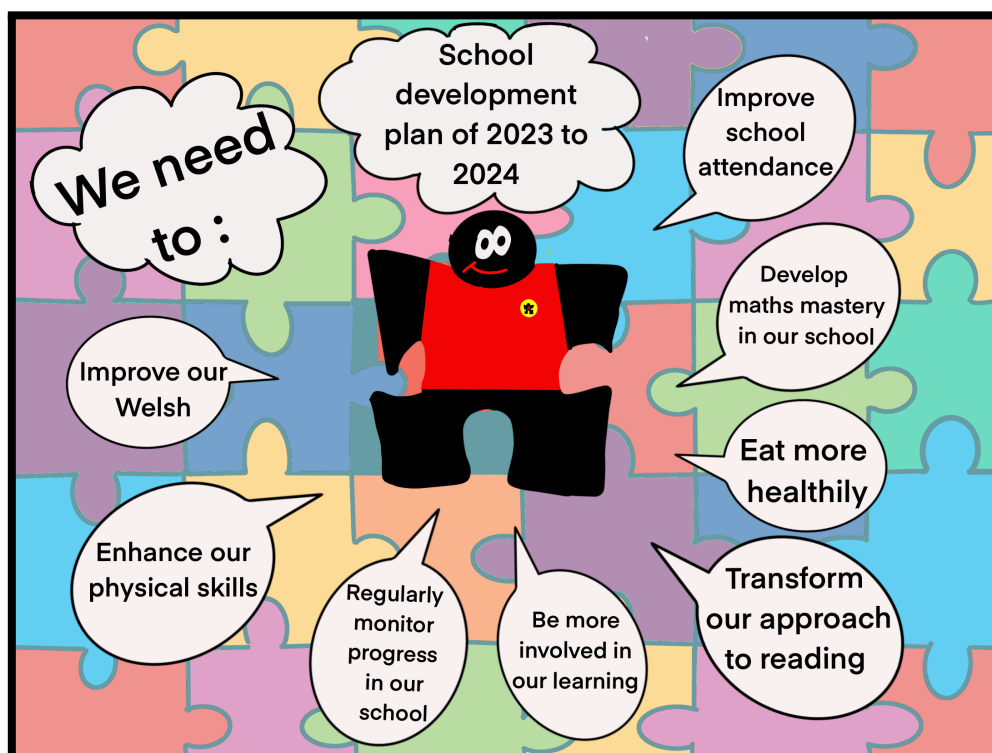
Our school development plan contains a wealth of information outlining what our long-term strategic priorities are and details of activities that we are undertaking to help improve provision during the academic year. The priorities for 2023-2024 were:

1. To further develop a range of highly effective pedagogical approaches to teaching in order to maximise progress across all Areas of Learning and Experience (AOLE).
2. To **refine** an engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all our learners, that is appropriate to our context, and focuses on high quality learning and teaching.
3. To further strengthen effective and efficient school improvement with a clear focus on governance, performance management processes, and monitoring and evaluation, ensuring high quality learning and teaching for all.

Good progress was made against all priorities.

Pupil Friendly School Development Plan

Members of the Senedd worked with Mrs John to create a pupil friendly School Development Plan for 2023-2024.



Attendance (Reception - Year 6)

	Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Whole school	93.6%	92.2%	92.9%
Authorised absence	4.9%	6.5%	5.6%
Unauthorised absence	1.5%	1.3%	1.5%
Whole year (September 2023- July 2024)	92.7%		

Number on roll

Brackla Primary School is a mainstream primary school where most of the children come from homes where English is spoken. Admissions are made in line with Bridgend County Borough Council's admission procedures. Our published admission number (PAN) is 45 per year group, which determines the number of places available. The school roll fluctuates throughout the year, however, the numbers as of July 2024 were:

	Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Full time nursery	45	44	42
Part time nursery	-	7	13
Reception - Yr 6	293	288	293
Total	338	339	348

Estyn Inspection January 2024

The school was inspected by Estyn at the end of January, and a copy of the full report along with a summary can be found on our website Estyn report on BPS website [Estyn report on website](#).

Autumn Term Achievements

- The school achieved the Bronze Cymraeg Campus award for demonstrating their commitment to developing Welsh second language and heritage;
- **33** new pupils joined the school (28 nursery, 5 reception - year 6);
- School trips included Kenfig Nature Reserve, Porthcawl, Tremains Woods
- Over **£1864** saved with the Super Savers club with Bridgend Credit Union;
- Theme weeks included anti bullying week and online safety week;
- Nessa, our reading dog has supported **11** children this term;
- Over **240** children went to Pinocchio pantomime in Port Talbot;
- **94%** of parents/carers attended progress meetings with their child's class teacher either in person or by telephone;
- Over **350** family members attended the 4 Christmas concerts held;
- Visitors to the school included: PC Macdonald, Samba workshop,
- Many children attend karate sessions, with **18** of them passing their Cobra grading and 5 passing their Shotokan grading;
- **160** parents/carers responded to a survey identifying strengths and areas for development;
- **10** Year 6 pupils have been trained as Digital Heroes and will be supporting residents in Bryn-y-Cae Care home with using technology in the new year;
- Community events included garden maintenance in the local care home, litter picking in Brackla, daunting socks and chocolates to the local homeless;
- Over **115** children participated in 2 samba workshops;
- Feedback Friday was introduced providing pupils with opportunities to reflect on their own learning and progress;
- Many family members attended an open afternoon for Progression Step 2 classes (2H; 2/3P; 3/4M and 4B);
- Extra curricular activities have included tag rugby, netball, karate, football, ProCreate, active Fun, Rangers and French;
- Fundraising activities included: Children in Need (**£405**);
- Whole school audits include General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR); safeguarding; compliance; health and safety and a fire risk assessment;
- Family engagement activities included Positive Parenting workshops, wellbeing workshops, information sessions on reading and maths and stay and play;
- BOOST activities this term have included Pitched Percussion, Park Run, Rock, Paper, Scissors (origami), Rook and Roll (chess and Garageband), Urdd, Crazy Crafts, Bricks and Pieces (LEGO), board games and meditation, ball skills, gardening, Local Heroes, BEEPS Radio, upcycling and Rockin' Resin;

- Staff professional development has included first aid, Family Thrive; safeguarding, Team Teach, mentoring, Welsh, Voice 21 (oracy) and Real Dance;
- Harvest week promoted the use of our school Panti, with donations of items to support our school Pantri;
- Our rights and values were revised by the Senedd in line with our school context and vision;
- Christmas activities included: Santa's Grotto, the Christmas fayre, visit to the panto, discos, Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch.



Spring Term Achievements

- 9 new pupils joined the school, making our current on roll number 339;
- Whole school attendance for the spring term was 92.13%;
- Highest class attendance with 96.16% is 2/3P;
- 77 pupils had 100% attendance during the spring term;
- The school was inspected by Estyn and the report will be published on 3rd April;
- The school achieved it's 6th Platinum Eco flag;
- The whole school topic was 'World of Change' and had a Humanities focus;
- 88 children went on a school trip which included St Fagans and the Big Pit;
- 110 children received a Headteacher Award this term;
- 98% of parents/carers attended a parent meeting with their child's class teacher (64% face to face appointments, 34% telephone calls);
- 20 students from Swansea University attended a professional learning event on outdoor learning facilitated by Mr Williams, Mrs Davis and a group of year 5 and 6 children;

- **£867.67** has been saved by Super Savers this term;
- A 'Think outside the lunchbox' video was created with cluster schools and shared with families;
- The Nursery looked after **10** chicks through the Living Eggs Nursery;
- All children took part in a whole school Jambori and **40** year 6 children participated in a cluster Jambori;
- Senior staff reviewed the progress of all **339** pupils;
- **19** year 5 and 6 children took part in a district football tournament;
- Fundraising for Comic Relief raised **£216.27**;
- Whole school theme weeks/days included online safety, Welsh week and World Book Day;
- Visitors to the school included Bridgend Male Choir, the fire service, PC Macdonald and Ewan Drummond (Park Ranger) and Jinx (biosecurity dog);
- Workshops included the Size of Wales and creating bird boxes;
- **500** trees were planted by the children and Groundwork Wales along the perimeter fence;
- Family engagement activities included: Maths for parents with Bridgend College; ALN with Bridgend College; Non Violence Resistance with Early Help; playing and learning at home and stay and play;



- An exhibition to showcase pupils work on 'Devastating Disasters' was well attended by families in 4/5H, 5/6S and 6S;
- Over **250** children took part in BOOST activities this term which included: rock choir; Frego (French and LEGO); paintballing (painting and ball skills); 'appy and active (apps and physical games); farm to fork; papier mache; show business; photography; sign language to name a few;

- Community work this term included: litter picking around Brackla; helping conservation projects with Tremains Woodland Rangers and offering a helping hand in Bryn-y-Cae residential home.

Summer Term Achievements

- 92.85% attendance for the summer term;
- 46 children received a 100% attendance award for the summer term;
- 9 children received a 100% attendance award for the whole year;
- 14 new children joined us this term;
- 96% of parents/carers attended meetings with their child's class teacher this term;
- Theme weeks/events included Wales Outdoor Learning Week; Coronation BOOST
- £160 raised for Bags to School. Other fundraising activities have included a film night, disco, summer raffle and summer fayre;
- 29 children attended a 4 days residential trip to Gorwelion;
- £150 raised by the Brackla Rangers bike and scooter wash and donated to the Tremains Woodland Rangers;
- 6 of the Rangers participated in an overnight summer camp in the school;
- BOOST activities this term have included: art attack, beach buddies, ukuele, cookery, dance, wildlife heroes, photography, jewellery design, basketball and first aid.
- Workshops included: Bumbles of Honeywood (entrepreneurship); Technocamps (coding); recycling; wellbeing and sports science;
- Sporting events have included 2 football tournaments and an athletics day;
- Visitors to the school have included: Welsh Government Minister Sarah Murphy; Cabinet member for Education Cllr Martyn Jones; Swansea University science department, Rachael Kelland (Brackla Tabernacle) and the Bridgend Library Service;
- Whole school events have included: an outdoor learning theme week; 'La Fete Francais'; sports day and book fayre;
- Community events have included Brackla Fun day and community litter picks;
- Over 340 children have been on a school visit, which have included: Margam Park; Trecco Bay; Rest Bay; Merthyr Mawr; Bryngarw Park and Newbridge Fields;
- Over 140 children participated in an athletics coaching session in Newbridge Fields;
- Extra curricular activities this term which included: karate; Rangers; dance; football, Spanish and netball;
- Sessions for families included: sports day and the summer festival; maths 4 parents and Family Thrive;
- Staff training has included assessment, wellbeing, Thrive, Additional Learning Needs, diabetes, design and technology, maths and digital technology;
- Transition events have included: inductions for new nursery families; nursery home visit visits to secondary school; attendance at a drama performance; Helping Hands (additional transition visits); head of year visits; wellbeing lesson; humanities lesson and a visit to the Brynteg science lab;
- The school has shared practice with other schools on outdoor learning; independent learning; diversity and Languages, Literacy and Communication.



Healthy eating and drinking

All pupils in Nursery - year 2 have milk every day and are able to bring fruit in from home for a snack. All children are encouraged to drink water (which is readily available) throughout the day. Universal free school meals were rolled out to children in Nursery - Year 5 (Year 6 from September 2024), with meals being provided by BCBC Catering Services following Welsh Government guidelines.

Term Dates

Term dates for the year 2024/25			
This table contains term dates for year 2024/25	Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Begins	Monday 2nd September 2024	Monday 6 th January 2024	Monday 28 th April 2025

Term dates for the year 2024/25			
This table contains term dates for year 2024/25	Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Half term	Monday 28th October 2024 - Friday 1st November 2024	Monday 24 th February 2024 - Friday 28 th February 2025	Monday 26 th May 2025 - Friday 30 th May 2025
Ends	Friday 20th December 2024	Friday 11th April 2025	Monday 21st July 2025

Additional information available in the FULL Annual Report to Parents and Carers 2023-2024:

- Session times; class organisation;
- How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well supported?
- What activities and options are available to pupils? What does our curriculum look like? How do we promote the Welsh language?
- How are we working with our families? How are we working with our community? Strategic Equality Plan;
- How we are working towards mitigating the impact of poverty;
- Expenditure statement;
- Health and safety/premises; Additional Learning Needs; Governors activities; Governors expenses; complaints; toilet provision in school;
- Where did our Year 6 pupils go? Staff professional development; how we are working with other schools and organisations; review of school policies; school prospectus; term dates.