

GLADESTRY CHURCH-IN-WALES PRIMARY SCHOOL
ANNUAL GOVERNORS' REPORT TO PARENTS
For the school year September 2020 – July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to present our Annual Report for 2020-21. As last year, there are no targets or assessment results to report, but all other information is included as stipulated by the Welsh Government.

This year has seen the start of a new chapter for the school as we welcomed our new executive head teacher Mrs Ros Beck and our new KS2 and assistant head teacher Mrs Kat Ingram to Gladestry in September. It cannot have been an easy time for them to embark on their new roles amidst the uncertainties and demands of the Covid 19 pandemic and the governors would like to express their appreciation for the way in which they have led the whole school team to maintain a happy and nurturing environment for learning throughout this time. We are delighted by the school's achievements over the year and are looking forward to all the opportunities that our new leadership team will bring in the future.

The governors would also like to express their appreciation to the whole school community for their response to the continued challenges presented by the Covid 19 pandemic. The flexibility and hard work of our staff in particular in response to the demands of the third lockdown and the seamless initiation of 'blended learning' were exemplary. The role of parents and carers in supporting blended learning cannot be underestimated and the governors would particularly like to express their appreciation for all the effort made at home to support pupils' distance learning. We also appreciate all the measures taken on both sides of the school gate to maintain social distancing throughout this time.

During the year we said goodbye to our music specialist of over thirty years Mrs Ann James. Mrs James shared her love of music with generations of Gladestry pupils and we wish her every happiness in her retirement. At the end of the year we also said goodbye to Mrs Kim Preece and Mrs Charlotte Guy, we wish them both well for success and happiness in the future.

We have good reason to be proud of our pupils, the school community and their accomplishments over the year. I would like to extend my thanks to the staff, governors, parents, carers and friends of Gladestry School for all they give to the life of the school.

Hattie Budd.

Chair of Governing Body

Annual Meeting

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 three meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them. 10% of parents are needed to request a meeting. Information is available in school or on the Welsh Government website. As no requests were received, the Governing Body did not hold a meeting with parents in 2020/21

Language Category

English is the first language and language of tuition. Welsh is taught as a second language in both classes. It is an important part of our school to celebrate our Welsh heritage. Welsh is taught and spoken by class teachers and support staff every day. Pupils are currently taught in specific class sessions as well as in daily practice. Incidental Welsh is integrated throughout the school day. Many signs in school are also bilingual. Criw Cymraeg continue to encourage Welsh speaking amongst pupils.

Pupils leaving the school (and arrangements to facilitate continuity of instruction in Welsh)

7 pupils transferred to 3 local High Schools in September. Pupils transferring to the John Beddoes Campus and to Gwernyfed High School will have the opportunity to extend their Welsh learning.



Links with the community

The school usually enjoys strong links with the local community. However the pandemic has prevented events such as the Community Coffee Mornings and Christmas Nativity in the church from taking place this year.

Gladestry School is a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled Primary School with a distinctive Christian ethos and character. We greatly value that status and are committed to continuing the strong links we have with both the parish of Gladestry and the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. Our new parish priest Rev'd Rachael Storer is a governor of the school and has led remote weekly Collective Worship. The Church, Churchyard and Quiet Garden provide valuable teaching resources. The Village Hall is normally used frequently for school performances, fund raising events, etc. and although this has not been possible this year we greatly appreciate that we were able to use it for some of our PE lessons.

Local walks and other visits such as those to local farms and businesses have all raised the profile of the school within the community and help to foster a sense of local 'ownership' of the school. We look forward to resuming these as soon as possible.

Class 1 had a very successful outing to Llanhaylow Wood for some Forest Schools activities in July. Class 2 ventured a little further and enjoyed a day out with Black Mountain Activities, Three Cocks. The usual visitors and helpers have not been able to come in to school but we look forward to their return as soon as it is safe for all concerned.

Opportunities to participate in Sport and Exercise

Restrictions imposed during the last year prevented visits to the swimming pool, other sporting venues and sports events but pupils enjoy regular PE and sports lessons in school and at the village hall. A very enjoyable sports day was held in 'Duggan's Field' thanks to the Jones family, only marred by the absence of parents, another consequence of Covid-19.



Curriculum and Teaching Matters

Year groups

Foundation Phase: Reception, Years 1 and 2, ages 4 - 7 (**Class 1**)

Key Stage 2: Years 3 – 6, ages 7-11 (**Class 2**)

School session times - 09.00 – 3.30pm.

Class 1 lunchtime: 12.00 - 1.15 pm

Class 2 lunchtime: 12.10 - 1.15pm

At Gladestry Church in Wales School our pupils are at the heart of all teaching and learning and lead much of the planning, making informed choices at an individual and group level, to become independent learners. Flexibility of teaching methods ensures that the National Curriculum, the Literacy and Numeracy framework and the Four Purposes are delivered to suit the needs and choices of the pupils in the most appropriate way.

At the core of the curriculum the Four Purposes ensure that all our children and young people will be:

Ambitious, capable learners;

Enterprising, creative contributors;

Ethical, informed citizens;

Healthy, confident individuals.

Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility in all aspects of school life and to develop self-esteem, independence, responsibility, respect and social awareness, independent learners.

Helping our pupils to achieve

Everyone wants learning at Gladestry CIW School to be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all our pupils. The staff strive to make the curriculum appropriate to pupils' needs with teaching styles that develop positive attitudes to learning and the acquisition of both knowledge and the skills for self-discovery. Every child is carefully monitored throughout the year and pupil progress meetings are held to discuss each pupil individually. This ensures that pupils who may need extra help are identified quickly and those who are particularly gifted in certain areas are given appropriate enrichment activities.

Additional learning needs

The school's ALN policy is available to read in school. This year the percentage of pupils registered with Special Needs was 17%. Mrs Beck and Mrs Ingram had responsibility for the overall running of the ALN policy. Lyn Twiddy offered extra support with individuals and small groups when required. There are no special arrangements in the curriculum or otherwise for any particular categories of pupils. Jody Parry was the governor with specific responsibility for SEN.

Safeguarding

Mrs Beck is the designated Child Protection/ Safeguarding officer and Mrs Budd is the designated Governor. They ensure that training for all staff and governors is regularly undertaken. The Child Protection Policy is updated annually and is the point of reference for all matters relating to protecting your children. A copy is available in school.

School Policies

The school staff and governing body regularly review all the school policies, to make sure that they are up-to-date and that they incorporate the latest statutory and educational guidelines. All school policies are available in school and some are also published on the school website.

School Prospectus

The prospectus is updated annually to include: changes in staff and governors; the school calendar; up-to-date pupil assessment results; emergency procedures; collective worship and religious education; admission to school including accessibility plan for increasing access to the school by pupils with disabilities. A copy of the prospectus is available on the school website.

Healthy School

Healthy eating and drinking by pupils is promoted through the Healthy Schools programme, School Council initiatives and Teaching and Learning. Only healthy snacks are allowed in school. Healthy lunch boxes are encouraged and the School Council undertakes regular surveys. Pupils have access to their own water bottle throughout the day.

The whole school, including the boys' and girls' toilets, have always been cleaned each evening; however, since reopening additional cleaning and sanitising protocols have been introduced. Social distancing is practised by staff and pupils.



An Eco School

Members of the Eco Gang are passionate about animals, nature and the environment. In November 2019 the school received a fourth Platinum Award.

School Staff

It has been a challenging year for staff and governors thank them all for their hard work throughout the year. In September we welcomed our new executive headteacher, Mrs Beck, and assistant head teacher & KS2 teacher, Mrs Ingram. Miss Tame continued to teach Foundation Phase pupils. In November Mrs Guy joined us as a teaching assistant to help in Class 2.

Schools in Powys were forced to close again on 14th December due to the Covid 19 pandemic but remained open as childcare centres for children of key workers. This curtailed the usual end of term Christmas celebrations. Staff taught remotely via Teams until schools reopened on 23rd February for Foundation Phase pupils and 15th March for Key Stage 2 pupils.

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold events to say thank you and farewell to Mrs Morris, Mrs Biggs and Mrs James but we wish them all well in their respective retirements. In June Mrs Preece started a new role as an advisory teacher for the early years settings in Powys. At the end of the year we said goodbye to Mrs Guy and wish her well with her teacher training course.



Attendance 2020 – 2021

Data not required due to the forced closure of schools and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Financial Matters

End of year reports for the financial year 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 giving details of income and expenditure are included in the documents below.

No travelling or subsistence allowances were paid to Governors.



School Budget_Actual School Fund Balance
Outrun_2020-21.pdf Summary 20021-21.p

Pupils' Performance Results

Data not available due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Targets

Data not required due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Term dates for Year 2021 – 2022

Please see the separate page below –



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FROGS

The governors are very grateful to the Friends of Gladestry School for their support, not only with fundraising but also their help in many other ways throughout the year. Thank you all.

Report from the Chair of FROGS

The year started really positively with FROGS supplying and spreading new chippings in the play area of the top playground. Lots of parents and students descended on the playground with rakes and wheelbarrows in the October half term and turned what seemed like a huge task into quite a short and enjoyable one. Thank you to everyone who came to lend a hand!

After the half term and Wales imposing a short lockdown, we looked to raising some funds at Christmas. Unfortunately, social distancing and gathering rules meant we couldn't hold the usual Christmas Fair so we held a raffle through the school instead. Because of the sudden closures of schools just before the holidays we were unable to get the raffle drawn and prizes out to people and had to wait until the school was able to re-open and new (less Christmas themed) prizes were organised. In the end we raised £132.

Over the year we have also helped the school to purchase some headphones for the students to use with the school's new laptops. We are also helping to fund some new goal posts for the playground.

It has been a difficult year in which to organise meetings and raise new funds, many of our regular events like the Christmas Fair, selling through the community shop and the sports day BBQ were not able to go ahead due to lockdowns and social distancing rules. We hope to be able to do more next year and keep our fingers crossed we will be able to hold these events again soon. FROGS would really like to say thank you to all the parents, teachers and member of the community who have given their time and money this year to help us, we really appreciate all your support.

Kate Vincent

FROGS Chair



THE GOVERNING BODY

Chair: Hattie Budd, The Foyce, Gladestry, HR5 3NS

Clerk: Sue Croose, Grove Farm, Huntington, HR5 3PJ.

Name	Type of Governor	Date for Re-election	Individual Responsibilities
Rev Mark Beaton	Church in Wales Foundation Governor	Ex-officio to 30.09.2021	
Mrs Ros Beck	Head Teacher	Ex- officio	
Mrs Hattie Budd	Powys County Council LA Governor	05.05.23	Chairman Foundation Phase (FP) Safeguarding inc. Child Protection (CP)
Mr James Burnett-Stuart	Parent Governor	31.07.21	Attendance & Wellbeing ESDGC LNF (Literacy) Hall Committee rep.
Mrs Heather Carrington	Church in Wales Foundation Governor	to 16.07.2021	Equal Opportunities
Mr Gareth Croose	Gladestry Community Council Appointed Governor	17.11.23	Health & Safety
Mr Stuart Jones	Co-opted Governor	31.12.23	Health and Safety; School Performance Data
Dr. John Milsom	Powys County Council LA Governor	13.01.24	School Performance Data
Mrs Hannah Price	Parent Governor	30.09.21	Vice Chairman LNF (Numeracy) Safeguarding (inc.CP) Siarter Iaith Training Link Governor Hall Committee rep
Mr Jody Parry	Parent Governor	29.06.22	Looked after children (LAC) SEN / ALN ICT
Rev Rachael Storer	Church in Wales Foundation Governor	Ex- officio from 01.05.2021	
Mr Joe Wellard	Parent Governor	from 01.08.21	
Vacancy	Teacher Governor		

The Governors are very grateful to Rev Mark Beaton for all that he did during his time in office and wish him well in his new parish. They are also grateful to James Burnett-Stuart for his support during his 4 years term of office and to Mrs Heather Carrington who stepped down from her role at the end of the year. We look forward to welcoming new governors into the vacancies created.

The next Parent Governor election is scheduled for September 2021.

All governors require a DBS check.

