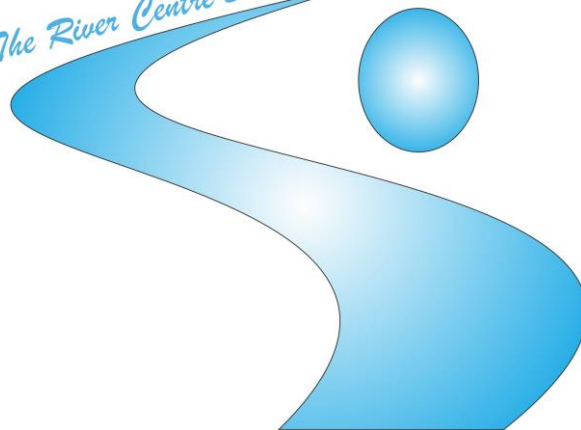


The River Centre 3-16 Learning Community



Cymuned Ddysgu Canolfan Yr Afon 3-16

River Centre Learning Community 3-16

Governors' Annual Report to Parents Autumn 2022

A look back at Academic year 2021/22

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Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Welcome to the first Governors' Annual Report to Parents that I have had the pleasure of writing on behalf of my fellow governors for the River Centre Learning Community. Every governing body is required each year to produce a report on its work during the academic year. As part of their work the Governing body can also be required to meet with parents up to three times per year, subject to certain conditions being met. Notwithstanding this, given the journey that the school has been on, I believe that it is important to continue to nurture and build positive relationships with parents and as such a meeting for parents with the Governing Body has been arranged for 25th May at 2.30pm on the Primary Campus. At this meeting it will be an opportunity to discuss the content of this report and provide you with a further update of our progress in responding to the Estyn recommendations following their visit in the Summer Term of 2022.

However, firstly, please accept my apologies for the lateness in providing this report to you, which focuses upon the 2021/22 academic year. Moving forwards the Governors Annual report will be shared with parents during the Autumn term, with the next report scheduled for the Autumn term of 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Jan English

Chair
On behalf of the Governing Body

Head Teacher Update

I can only begin by echoing the comments of our Chair of Governors and thank you most sincerely for the way in which you have continued to support the setting over the past year. This has been an unprecedented time for us all and I am immensely proud of the way in which we have continued to emerge from the pandemic and positively responded to the many changes and sustained worked together to achieve the very best for our learners as we seek to further improve provision for learners in order to provide them with the best chance in life.

During the Autumn term 2021, pupils settled well into their new classes. We welcomed new pupils into the provision across all campuses. Pupils enjoyed a wide and varied curriculum, attended Duke of Edinburgh activities, educational trips, welcomed visitors back into school and enjoyed our first Christmas concert back in the building since Covid at the primary campus. During the Autumn term the Local Authority issued the Governing body with a Statutory Warning notice to improve and this set out specific requirements against which the progress of the school would be measured. At this time the membership of the governing body substantially changed and our new Chair of Governors, Jan English took up position.

During the Spring term, an initial interim leadership team was appointed to help support the River Centre. Mrs. Darya Brill-Williams became our interim Executive Head who swiftly sought to secure alternative provision for years 9 to 11. A range of appropriate activities were identified which included physical; educational and fun activities. Pupils made the most of ARC during this time and also Duke of Edinburgh. At the primary campus, pupils enjoyed many wow days, an Eisteddfod and also some external trips. It was also wonderful for the school swimming sessions to resume.

During the Summer term 2022, we thanked Mrs. Brill-Williams for her hard work and welcomed Mr. Huw Lloyd as Interim Executive Headteacher. During this time, we implemented a new rewards and consequence system at the secondary campus that saw pupils achieving great trips weekly such as quad biking, mountain biking, climbing etc. The primary campus was fortunate to be allocated their own minibus which was used for swimming, library visits and trips. During the latter part of the summer term, partners from Estyn visited us on two separate occasions and a full inspection took place. The outcome of the inspection was that the school was put into the category of Special Measures. This means that the setting has significant areas of improvement that need to be addressed and ensures that appropriate support is put in place to help the setting improve. The report was published in the Autumn term of 2022 and can be accessed here [Inspection report River Centre 3-16 Learning Community 2022 \(gov.wales\)](#). In response to the report the Governing body and school leaders with the help of our partners immediately began to address the shortcomings of the inspection, the fruit of which is now emerging, such as the reconfigured and improved secondary campus.

The senior leadership team are always happy to meet with parents/carers to discuss their child, their progress, wellbeing or any issues that may arise. I would respectfully ask that in the first instance, parents should contact the Head of Campus, but in the event of a situation being unresolved, or parents feeling that a matter needs further discussion, please contact (email or telephone) the school to arrange an appointment with the headteacher. If I am

unavailable and the matter is urgent, a consultation with the Deputy Headteacher can be arranged.

We are all immensely proud of each and every one of our pupils and I am grateful to staff members for embracing these changes that will make our school the best that it can be.

Our Governing Body have continued to be very committed to the work of our school and they show great support of all that goes on here. They all give freely of their time to attend meetings and school events and are always available for support.

Finally, once again my many thanks to you, our parents and carers, for the supportive and proactive part that you play in your child's education. The continued commitment of you all is a strong feature of our school and another of which I am very proud to be part.

School Governors 2021-22

During this academic year there was a change in the composition of the governing body, with a new Chair of Governors and Vice Chair appointed. The next parent governor elections are scheduled to take place in the Autumn term of 2025.

Purpose of the Governing Body

Governors have a strategic role to provide future direction and guidance for schools, with collective responsibility for matters such as the School Improvement Plan, Defining the aims and ethos of the school, ensuring delivery of the National Curriculum, setting the budget, maintaining school premises, agreeing the staffing structure, reporting annually to parents, action planning after inspections. Parent Governors have a further role of providing a formal link between parents and the school.

The Headteacher is responsible for the day-to-day management of the school, with the Governing Body acting as a “critical friend”. Governors work in partnership with the Headteacher and Local Education Authority. Parents are able to access the policies of the Governing body through accessing the schools’ website (trc3-16.co.uk).

For all schools, panels and subcommittees are essential. We have several subcommittees that look into a variety of issues during the year, with some of the panels including statutory committees. Following panel of subcommittee meetings, reports are given to the next meeting of the Governing Body.

Records of which Governors belongs to each sub-committee are available from the school. In addition to formal meetings, Governors undertake professional learning, visit the school for sub-committee and panel meetings, to discuss curriculum issues with subject co-ordinators and to attend social events. Confirmed minutes of these meetings can be reviewed upon written request to the Clerk to the governing body.

COMPLAINTS

The school has an open door policy and an excellent relationship with parents and third parties. Any complaints are handled in line with the school’s complaints procedure which can be found on the schools website. All parental concerns are dealt with in a timely manner and are resolved in the best interests of the child.

SAFEGUARDING

All staff are fully trained, policies and procedures are well embedded and all processes are followed rigorously. DBS checks are current for all staff and visiting professionals. The **well-being of pupils is of paramount importance** and all concerns are noted and responded to in line with school, LA and WG Policy. The DSP for the school is Allison Howells and Richard Barrett is the Safeguarding governor.

Governing Body Composition

Name	Type of Governor
Jan English	LA - Chair of Governors
Richard Crook	Co-opted – Vice chair of Governors
Lesley Bush	LA
Lee Powell	LA
Bev Randall	Community
Allison Howells	Teacher Rep
Zoe Jones	Parent
Steve Duggan	Parent
Ruth Edwards	Parent
Rob Blatchford	Non Teacher Rep
Jenna Undery	LA
Richard Barratt	LA
Substantive - Ian Roberts Acting - Theresa Evans- Rickards	Headteacher

Contact can be made with each Governor via the school:	River Centre 3-16 Learning Community, Tel: 01495 357714 Email: info@trc3-16.co.uk
Corporate Director of Education	Lynn Phillips Anvil Court Church St Abertillery NP13 1DB Lynn.phillips@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Clerk to the Governing Body	Rhiannon Emms EAS - Governor Support Tredomen House Ystrad Mynach CF82 7WF Governor.Support@sewaleseas.org.uk

IN PLAIN ENGLISH

This section has information about the work that governors do with the school.

It also gives information about who our governors are and what they do.

Who to contact if you wish to get in touch with the governing body.

It also has a list of the committees and an outline of what the committee does.

Panels and Sub-Committees

The various Panels and Subcommittees of the governing body are appropriately constituted in line with the Clerks guidance and meet in accordance with the needs of the school and include for example, Finance and General Purposes Committee, Curriculum Committee and Appointments Panel for All Other Staff.

Term Dates

2021/22	Term Begins	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn Term 2021	Monday 02/09/21	Monday – Friday 25/10/21 – 29/10/21	Friday 17/12/21
Spring Term 2022	Monday 04/01/22	Monday – Friday 21/02/22- 25/02/22	Friday 08/04/22
Summer Term 2022	Monday 25/04/22	Monday – Friday 30/05/22- 03/06/22	Thursday 22/07/22

2022/23	Term Begins	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn Term 2022	Monday 02/09/2022	Monday – Friday 31/10/2022- 04/11/2022	Friday 23/12/2022
Spring Term 2023	Monday 09/01/2023	Monday – Friday 20/02/2023- 04/02/2022	Friday 31/03/2023
Summer Term 2023	Monday 17/04/2023	Monday – Friday 29/05/2023- 02/06/2023	Tuesday 21/07/2023

Bank Holidays – During the Academic Year

27 & 28th December 2021

3rd January 2022

15th & 18th April 2022

2nd May 2022

2nd & 3rd June 2022

29th August 2022

Training Days

- 2/9/2021
- 3/9/2021
- 4/1/2022
- 5/1/2022
- 25/3/2022
- 25/4/2022
- 3/5/2022
- 27/5/2022

Session Times

School Opens: 8:30/9:15

Morning Session: 9:00/9:30

Afternoon Session: 1:00/1:15

Primary Campus/ Secondary Campus
ends 2:15/2:30

Financial Statement 2021-2022

SCHOOL BUDGET

Financial Information:

At the end of March 2022 the school was in a surplus of £181,912.68

SCHOOL GRANT

GRANT INFORMATION 2021/22

The school has received the following grants during the academic year

PDG	£40,250.00
SIG	£23,011.67 & £2,471.33 (match funding)
ALP	£2,218.24
Teachers Pay	£1,150.06
RRRS	£4,049.80
RRRS Additional	£4,626.90
ALN New System	£7,916.52
Winter of Wellbeing	£1,329.91
Exam Learners	£4,733.19
Revenue Maint.	£8,852.69
School to School	£48,059.50

School Overview 2021-2022

Staffing Levels (FTEs)	Teaching	Specialist TA's (inc HLTAs)	Classroom TA's	Admin.	Cleaners	Dinner Supervisors	Canteen Staff	Total
	10	3	14	2	2	0	0	31

Note ; plus Head, 2 Head of Campus, Business Links Co-ordinator, Learning Coach, Raising Standards and Data Manager, Site Manager = 7

No. on Roll		N	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	B					1	4	3	4	12
	G									
	T					1	4	3	4	12

No. on Roll		Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13	Y14	Total
	B	5	7	5	5	6				28
	G			1	3					4
	T	5	7	6	8	6				32

Ethnicity	White	Mixed Background	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or Chinese British	Other Ethnic Groups
	42	1				1

Statemented Pupils	2021-22	
	No. of pupils	39 statements 12 IDP = 51
	% of school roll	68%

Free School Meals	2021-22	
	41 FSM (75 pupils supported during 2021/22)	54%

Attendance	2021-22	
	%	62.9%
Exclusions	1	

School Development Plan 2021-22 & Statement on Curriculum Organisation

The main priorities within the School Development Plan were:

- Cfw introduction
- **ALN implementation**
- **Covid Recovery**
- Curriculum and organisation statement

IN PLAIN ENGLISH

The tables show the outcomes pupils received at the end of KS 4

Senior Leadership Team:				
IR (Head)	JG (Deputy Head)	AH (Assistant Head)	LW (Assistant Head)	PF (Raising standards/ Data manager)
Middle Leadership Team:				
JM (TLR holder)	DD (TLR holder)	SF (TLR holder)		
Teachers:				
RP	EP	PA	GW	LA
MJ	SG	CW	GB	
HLTAs:				
AM	RB	NA		
Teaching Assistants:				
DE	SH	AB	LM	GD
LD	DH	MW	DB	CH
CW	JH	LV	LB	LS
MH	SB	WC	WD	MM
Other:				
TB (Administration manager)	TO (Consultant)	DJ (receptionist/ TA)	SS (Learning coach)	NS (Business links co-ordinator)
AD (Caretaker)				

Pupil Progress Academic Year 2021-22

Subject	Number of Students	A-C%	D-G%	U%	X%
Mathematics	14	7.1	28.6	42.9	7.1
Numeracy	12	8.3	33.3	41.7	16.7
Fine Art	1	100	0	0	0
Religious Studies	1	100	0	0	0
English Language	9	0	77.8	22.2	0
Health Studies	1	0	100	0	0
Applied Science	5	40	60	0	0

Destination of Leavers

School Prospectus - Changes

A copy of the school prospectus can be requested from the school, once updated it will be placed on the school website.

Statement on the Use of Welsh Language

The school is committed to developing the welsh language to enhance staff and learners' skills.

School Premises

The Governing Body has adopted that Local Authority and School Health and Safety Policy. These policies are reviewed annually. There are appropriate Health & Safety measures in place for all pupils, staff and visitors on site and when undertaking off site activities.

The school commissions the services of Blaenau Gwent catering and cleaning to undertake facility management issues across the school sites.

The Governing Body with the deftly support of the Local Authority has addressed the premises related matters arising from the Estyn inspection.

Extra-Curricular Activities & Community Links

During the period no extracurricular activities took place.