



Governors Annual Report to Parents 2022-2023

Covering the
Year 2022/23

December
2023

Berriew Community Primary School Berriew, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8BA

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The Governors of Berriew Community Primary School are pleased to share this report with you.

If you would like to discuss the contents of this report, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us or any member of staff at the school.



The Berriew Fashion show July 2023.

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Governors Annual Report to Parents

2022-2023

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Dear all,

Another academic year has flown by, and our community school continues to grow. The increase to four classes in September 2022 has been a real positive for the school, especially in a period of increasing financial uncertainty.

Reflecting on another successful year, it is hard to select highlights from so many great achievements. The progress of our talented pupils has been evident in so many ways and it is always a pleasure for governors to listen to learners and look at their amazing work. The Christmas Concert was a marvel to behold, the increasing sporting prowess in many fields a pleasure to see, and not forgetting the end of year Fashion Show that saw all our pupils showcasing their creative abilities.

On a personal note, the last academic year was my final one as Chair of Governors. Over my five-year tenure, there has been much change and challenge for the school but also a lot to be proud of. I step down knowing that the school is in a strong position to face the future. A reinvigorated governing body with many new governors keen to lead all stakeholders and to work collaboratively for positive outcomes. Great gains have already been made in developing the new Curriculum for Wales so that our pupils leave Berriew School ambitious, capable learners and healthy and confident individuals.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone that has supported the school during the year, pupils, parents, carers, volunteers, governors and most notably the staff. I wish Berriew School all the best for the future.

Kind regards,

Julie Haycock

Outgoing Chair of Governors

Message from the headteacher - Sean Clarke

The school has continued to flourish, and we are now nearly at full capacity. I am indebted to the great work the Berriew preschool has done and the staff of the school over the last academic year to support our pupils on their learning journey. Many of our children have made good progress but we know that further work is needed to improve our Welsh, Numeracy, and emotional wellbeing.

We have continued to work hard developing our creative skills driven curriculum with the pupils and provided a range of opportunities for pupils to be creative, healthy, enterprising, and ethically informed citizens. We had a fantastic Christmas pantomime and the school year ended with a fashion show celebrating the creative skills of our pupils linked to the Four purposes. This was attended by nearly all our parents and representatives of the Local Authority.

Thank you for your continued support and look forward to another great year ahead.

Sean Clarke



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Governing Body of Berriew CP School

Chair

Ms J Haycock (Co-opted Governor) c/o School 01686 640312

Headteacher

Mr Sean Clarke c/o School 01686 640312

Clerk

Mrs J Savage c/o School 01686 640312

Term of Office

Local Education Authority Representative Governors

Mrs L. Tuffin	September 2023
Mrs K Jones	October 2025
Mrs G James	March 2027

Parents Governors (elected from and by the parents of the children attending the school)

Mr A. Jones	September 2023
Mrs A Gittins-Evans	October 2025
Mrs F Ferneyhough	December 2026

Minor Authority Representative

Mr N James September 2023

Community Governor

Mrs E McGill	February 2025
Mr J Skelding	December 2026

Teacher Governor

Mrs S Lewis August 2026

Non-teaching Staff Governor

Miss M Penhale September 2023

The full Governing Body met on six occasions throughout 2022-23 with the main responsibilities being the welfare of the children, staff wellbeing and the maintenance of the school, its buildings and grounds. The Governors continued to implement the School Development Plan and were heavily involved in the budget setting process, the appointment of staff and the self-evaluation process.

Governor training undertaken during the year included - Being an effective Chair, introduction for new governors, finance, assessment and data, all monthly Chair of Gov meetings and all termly Gov Briefing sessions.



Action taken by the Governing Body/School

Finance Sub-committee

The Sub-committee met several times to discuss the budget for 2022-23 and 2023-24 in light of the cumulative deficit budget. The committee also looked at fuel charges and improvements to the building including the newly refurbished school kitchen. The Finance Sub-committee also reviewed the spending plan, and we were able to reintroduce Activ8 sports coaching with additional PPA cover managed through the use of existing staff.

Pay Policy / Staffing / Performance Management Sub Committees

The Performance Management subcommittee met with Mrs Nia Vaughan the Challenge advisor to evaluate Mr Clarke's performance targets for 2021-22 and set his new targets for 2022-2023 linked to the new school improvement plan and the development of the new curriculum for the school. In addition, the staffing committee met to discuss the new classes for September 2023 and the allocation of teaching assistants.

Full Governing Body

In addition to the consideration of matters arising from the various sub-committees, the full Governing Body dealt with the following issues:

- Review the statutory policies linked to the school, including those provided by the Local Authority which needed ratifying.
- Support the school with monitoring activities linked to the school improvement plan. (These included book monitoring, learning walks, and listening to the learners).
- The development of the new school kitchen.
- Safeguarding around supply staff, site security and safeguarding procedures and policies.

Health & Safety / Buildings

The Headteacher and Health & Safety Governor undertook the annual Health and Safety audit, with a focus on the safety of the school playground during drop off and collection times, the security of the school site and changes to the layout of school due to the new kitchen and the installation of the storage unit at the front of school. Several issues were brought to the attention of the Local Authority, and it is hoped that remedial work around the school safety, lighting and energy reduction will take place in the current academic year. Risk assessments were implemented, and the traffic management plan amended following the monitoring that took place. Matters relating to the health and safety of the pupils and parents is shared via newsletters and by email.

Admission Arrangements

All applications are dealt with by Powys County Council and our current intake remains at 15.



School Prospectus

The school prospectus is updated annually. A copy is on the school website and is available to all parents if they request a paper copy. www.berriewschool.uk

School Development Plan (SDP 2022-23)

The SDP for the last year focused on:

1. To develop the use of IT skills across school.
2. To embed teaching styles to support problem solving and thinking skills.
3. To develop assessment strategies linked to the new curriculum for Wales.
4. To improve standards in mathematical reasoning skills across school.

Policies

The staff and governors review policies and copies are on the school website www.berriewschool.uk and can be obtained if requested from the office (digitally or paper copies).

Destination of school leavers

Nearly all Year 6 pupils leaving Berriew CP School went to either Welshpool HS or Community College Bishops castle.

Language

The school is an English Medium school. Welsh is taught to all pupils as a second language in discrete Welsh lessons, reinforcement activities are taught in class through a bilingual approach.

Links with the High School

The school has close links with both high schools, particularly Welshpool HS. Year 6 pupils visit the school of their choice and High School staff liaise with the Year 6 teacher and ALNCo to discuss individual pupil progress and identified needs. Numerous sporting activities were arranged for local school at the high school and pupils attended other sessions linked to language and maths.

Links with the Berriew Preschool

The Berriew Playgroup (run independently) is located in the mobile classroom adjacent to the school site and is managed by Claire Munslow. Throughout the year the reception staff liaise with the Preschool and during the summer term the pupils are invited into school to meet the staff and get to know the school. They joined the school for celebration assemblies and other events, the Christmas pantomime, workshops, the Berriew Fashion Show, and visitors. We share the school field and outdoor classroom and the preschool also use the school hall for various activities.



Staffing & Curriculum

The school was staffed for 4 classes (Class Unicorn - Reception, Class Dragon Years 1 and 2, Class Griffin -Y3 and 4 and Class Phoenix with Y5 and Y6 pupils). There was the equivalent of 4 full time teachers and three full time Teaching Assistants and one part time teaching Assistant.

During the year guitar, ukulele, drum, and piano tuition was provided by private arrangement with parents by Mr Theo Lawrence and Music Heroes. A number of our pupils made great improvements in this area over the year, taking examinations and performing in school.

A detailed self-evaluation of all aspects of school life was undertaken and this was used to develop the school's priorities and was the basis of the school's improvement plan for the year ahead.

The School Improvement plan was developed with the staff and shared with governors. The main priorities were to improve the IT skills of the pupils, develop teaching strategies to improve the quality of teaching and learning, work with the local cluster of school on assessment and progression and improve the reasoning skills of the pupils.

Termly analysis of the children's progress is carefully monitored through online reading and maths assessment plus half-termly writing assessments. In addition, the children do a spelling assessment at the beginning and end of the year. They are supported in each class during the year with phonics and spelling lessons. Reading is continually monitored through daily guided reading sessions, and we also undertake wellbeing questionnaires throughout the year to check on the emotional and mental wellbeing of our children. The school then addressed any issues which arose such as introducing Wakey Shakey, lessons being kind, friendship, Autism, Dyslexia and Dementia and discussed how we could make the lunchroom quieter and playtimes safer.

The Foundation Phase and KS2 curriculums continue to develop the pupils' skills through themed topics which are linked to the six areas of learning, to engage the children with their learning. Homework grids encourage home learning to further develop the skills the children have been taught in school. These cover all aspects of the Welsh Curriculum and offer the opportunity for pupils to work alongside their parents or work independently. This work is shared with the class and celebrated.

The new Welsh curriculum prepares pupils to become:

1. Ambitious, capable learners
2. Enterprising, creative contributors
3. Healthy, confident individuals
4. Ethical, informed citizens

The school celebrated this with the end of year Fashion show which enabled the pupils to examine and study each of the four and use this to design and create their own clothing/costume.



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Welsh Language

We are fully committed to the development of the Welsh Language and the Welsh Culture and work hard to support Cynefin, through visitors and online events. All pupils are encouraged to use incidental Welsh during the day, and this is modelled by the staff in and outside of the classroom. Additional Welsh resources were provided by the local authority to support class teaching and home learning. The pupils have a weekly Welsh lesson plus additional guided reading sessions and 15 minutes Welsh practice daily.

Pupils with Additional Learning Needs and Pupils with Disabilities

Berriew is a fully inclusive school, and we welcome all children for whom a mainstream education is appropriate. Our aim is to ensure that pupils with any form of special need participate in 'everyday' curriculum activities with their peers whenever possible. There is a disabled toilet in the main building so we can cater easily for those who require such facilities. The building is on one level and ramps lead up to several external doors. The school has a Disabled Access Plan in place.

Children with additional learning needs are supported by class teachers, teaching assistants and the ALNCo (Additional Needs Co-ordinator Mrs Lewis). Lessons within the classroom are carefully differentiated and planned sensitively to cater for those with special needs. However, in some situations, specialist support from the Local Authority or individual or class-based support is provided to help pupils reach their own individual targets. We work closely with outside agencies to support with mobility, sight and hearing impairments, dyslexia, and autism issues.

When a difficulty has been analysed, additional support is provided either through a universal Learning Plan (ULP) or an Individual Development Plan (IDP) is written, which sets short term targets for each child. These are regularly reviewed. A great emphasis is placed on quality first teaching, differentiation, effective ULP's and developing basic literacy and numeracy skills. In some cases, we have made referrals to the LA for extra support from specialist teachers to guide and support the staff in school to ensure we are supporting the children effectively.

Staffing changes

At the beginning of the year, we saw the arrival of Mrs Yorke (Class teacher in Class Unicorn), Mrs Worthington (class teacher in Class Phoenix) and Mrs Savage as administration officer. They settled quickly into school life and supported the school effectively over the year. Many children in their care flourished both academically and socially. Most of them made good progress by the end of the year.

Attendance

Our school target was 97% however, due to illness, and holidays in term times our attendance was greatly affected. By the end of the year, it was 95%. However, this was higher than the average across schools in Powys.



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Summary of Berriew CP School Budget 2021-22

Total Delegated Funds = 333,250	2022/23 BUGET	2022/23 ACTUAL
Expenditure Area		
Salaries and wages	£323,986	£387,107
Premises (e.g., repairs and maintenance, utilities, rates etc.)	£45,421	£44,272
Supplies and Office (e.g., stationary, LA support, copier etc.)	£33,368	£35,698
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		
Income (e.g., grants, donations etc.)	£402,775	£467,078
TOTAL INCOME		
	£18,629	£77,098
NET EXPENDITURE		
	£384,146	£326,177



2023-24 School Calendar

Autumn Term 2022	Non- Pupil Days	No of school days
Monday 4 th September to Friday 27 th October	Friday 1 st September	40

Half term – Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November

Monday 6 November to Thursday 21 st December		34
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Spring term 2023	Non-Pupil Days	No of school days
Tuesday 9 January to Friday 9 th February	Monday 8 th January	24

Half term – Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Monday 19 th February to Friday 22 nd March		34
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Summer Term 2023	Non-Pupil Days	No of school days
Tuesday 18 April to Friday 26 May	Monday 17 April	28

Half term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Monday 3 rd June to Friday 19 th July		35
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Good Friday	Friday 29 th March 2024
Easter Monday	Monday 1 st April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 27 th May 2024
Royal Welsh Show	Monday 22 nd July to Thursday 25 th July 2024