

Annual Report to Parents 2015/16



**This report
has been
prepared by
the Governing
Body.**

Message From the Chair of Governors

It is a pleasure to be able to share this report for the academic year 2015/16 which informs you about the work of the school.

I am particularly delighted that the school is continuing to provide our students with a first class Life Learning experience. This is because of the hard work and commitment of both staff and students.

In the past year the school has continued to focus on improving standards and has developed further a number of key initiatives:

I would like to thank the Headteacher and all staff for their continued dedication and commitment. I would also like to thank you as parents for your co-operation and support. The school's success is dependent on an effective partnership between all parties. We aim to work together to achieve success for all of our learners.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Jones." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a period at the end.

Brian Jones
Chair of governors

The Governing Body

The Governing Body is made up of volunteers: parents, teachers, local business people and people appointed by Wrexham Children and Young People's Service. The Chairman of the Governors is Mr Brian Jones. The Clerk to the Governors is Mrs Angela Hughes.

The role of the Governing Body is to safeguard the quality of educational provision at the school and ensure that it is effective and efficient.

If you would like to contact the Governing Body for any reason please contact Mrs Angela Hughes, on 01978 833010.

The Governing Body meets at least once a term and considers reports by the Headteacher on the following:

- The management of the school.
- The curriculum.
- Pupil achievement and examination results.
- Exclusions.
- Buildings/Premises.
- The School Development Plan.
- The School Budget.
- Number of pupils on roll.
- Staffing and appointments.
- Redundancy/re-deployment.
- Educational visits.

School events and meetings.

Health and safety.

Contact Details

Ysgol y Grango
Allt Ty Gwyn
Rhosllanerchrugog
Wrexham
LL14 1EL

The Governing Body

Chairman of Governors: Mr B Jones
Ysgol y Grango
Allt Ty Gwyn
Wrexham

Clerk to the Governors: Mrs A Hughes
Ysgol y Grango
Allt Ty Gwyn
Wrexham

GOVERNORS:

Mr G Pemberton (LEA)
Vacancy (LEA)
Vacancy (LEA)
Mr A Powell (LEA)
Mrs L Lindsay (Teacher Governor)
Miss H Draper (Teacher Governor)
Vacancy (Non-teaching Governor)
Mr D V Jones (Community)
Mrs S Evans (Community)
Rev T Day (Community)
Mrs C Galt (Parent Governor)
Mrs M Duckett (Parent Governor)
Mr M Cochrane (Parent Governor)
Mrs S Davies (Parent Governor)
Mrs P Walley (Parent Governor)

Dates for your Diary

2016 / 2017

Spring Term

Training Day	02/01/17
Term Opens	03/01/17
Half Term Close	17/02/17
Half Term Open	27/02/17
Term Closes	07/04/17

Summer Term

Training Day	24/04/17
Term Opens	25/04/17
May Day	01/05/17
Half Term Close	26/05/17
Half Term Open	05/06/17
Term Closes	21/07/17

Facts and Figures: Pupils

At Ysgol y Grango we take attendance very seriously. Regular attendance is essential if a pupil is to make progress. The target for each pupil is 100%. However, in circumstances such as illness, absence is sometimes unavoidable. **95%** is therefore regarded as an acceptable level of attendance. Except in exceptional circumstances any attendance level below **90%** is unsatisfactory.

Percentage attendance 2009 to 2016

Ysgol Y Grango School Roll, November 2016

Facts and Figures: Finance 13/14

	Budget
Employees £1,941,917	
Premises	£183,894
Travelling	£8,300
Supplies	£175,156
Governor Expenses	£500
Agency	£249,426

	Expenditure
Employee Related Expenditure £1,919,042	
Premises Related expenditure	£183,785
Travelling Expenses	£9,587
Supplies	£133,791
Governor Expenses	£300
Agency	£249,426

SCHOOL FUND	
	Expenditure
Balance B/F 15/16	£32,953
Payments	£43,585
Receipts	£44,994
Balance	£34,362

Year 11 Leavers Destinations 13/14

Links with the Community

There is a comprehensive programme of school based/ external events to enhance and strengthen links with school stakeholders on both an educational and social level.

Visiting speakers/organisations are involved in the delivery of Personal & Social Education, play an active role in Parent Focus group and support parents' evenings etc. Major new developments include:

Cross- Authority School to School Project.

Working with St Christopher's on developing use on the Literacy Numeracy Framework as a tool to support Additional Learning Needs pupils in schools and at key transition times.

Higher Level Teaching Assistants work in our feeder primary schools for half a day every week with Additional Learning Needs pupils transferring to Grango.

Challenging Years and Strengthening Families courses run at Grango in conjunction with the Local Authority Parenting Team.

Parent Information Fayre run by Youth Worker.

'Futures Event' held at Grango, organised to give young people an idea of routes Post 16.

Major employers and further education providers from across the region came to speak to Key Stage 4 pupils.

Development of Forest School. The ethos of Forest School is to provide sessions that enhance learning whilst developing physical, emotional and positive mental health within an outdoor environment. Forest School is widely recognised as a useful resource and Ysgol-y-Grango would like to offer its students the same opportunities and support those that do not thrive in a formal educational setting. Students that have positive mental health learn better, achieve more and understand that different approaches are needed for different needs.

A pilot project has been running at Ysgol-y-Grango over the last academic year and includes students with differing needs and levels of attainment. The findings of this pilot were very promising as the young people claim they feel more confident, their attendance has improved and their behaviour logs have decreased quite significantly.

Pupil Deprivation Grant

YSGOL Y GRANGO: PUPIL DEPRIVATION GRANT (PDG)

The Pupil Deprivation Grant is additional funding from the Welsh Government to schools. This grant is aimed at supporting students who have an entitlement to receive free school meals. The money delegated to schools is used to ensure that the learning needs of some of the most vulnerable learners are enhanced by targeted learning activities, specific interventions and support. The overall aim is to narrow any gap in outcomes between Free School Meal pupils and those who are not in that category. Each school receives an amount dependent upon the number of pupils entitled to FSM. The amount will vary from year to year.

Ysgol y Grango received £95,000 in the financial year 2014-2015 as part of the PDG grant. This money has been used to support the following targets:

- FSM Coordinator mentoring with pupils to identify where support would be beneficial, identify problem areas and provide additional guidance.
- Promotion of effective family engagement, via parent focus group, to improve communication/information sharing between school and parents.
- Strengthening Families project and Parent Support Network. Ensuring parents attend parents' evenings and other targeted events to allow them to become fully engaged in their child's learning. Developing positive relationships with families and increasing levels of engagement and partnership via text message service etc.
- Attendance officer to work with FSM families. Implementation of strategy to sustain and improve attendance/punctuality of FSM students. Attendance Officer, Julia Williams has been to targeted houses to check eligibility of families.
- Staff training- mini CPD sessions every 4th Friday, workshops and training events.
- Support the provision of extra-curricular trips and activities to extend the learning opportunities and experiences of disadvantaged pupils—support with uniform costs.
- Further develop AFL practice, with a particular emphasis on improved feedback to inform disadvantaged students of areas for improvement and development. Embedding new marking and literacy policies.
- Reduced class sizes in Maths, English and Science.
- Support disadvantaged pupils through key transition periods through a broad range of transition activities.
- Develop department resources to support disadvantaged pupils' literacy and numeracy.
- Develop disadvantaged pupils' study skills provision, including study skills/revision days –involvement of learning coaches.
- Purchase of revision books for core subjects for all FSM pupils.

ATTENDANCE

Julia Williams is the Attendance Support Officer (ASO) at Ysgol y Grango. She works closely with parents to address poor attendance and punctuality. Thirty One at risk students have now been identified and regular meetings are held with Progress Leaders, the ESW and ASO to put interventions and strategies in place to support parents and pupils in raising school attendance. Truancy call and the text messaging service are fully utilised in ensuring parents are meeting their responsibilities in terms of attendance.

Parents are apprised, via the school website, of the following facts generated by Wrexham LA in relation to attendance.

Mr Swanwick, the attendance officer, regularly patrols the village and liaises with the PCOS to combat truancy.

The Facts

Research shows that just 17 days missed from school can mean a drop of a GCSE grade across ALL subjects.

Pupils who persistently miss school are more than twice as likely to criminally offend.

Pupils aged 15 who have missed school are more likely to drink alcohol regularly, more than twice likely to have taken drugs, and three times likely to smoke. They also have a higher risk of teenage pregnancy. (Justice Board & Department of Health Statistics)

A mere 35% of pupils will achieve 5 A* - C grades if they miss 10-20% of school.

90% attendance may sound good, but over a school year it actually adds up to half a day missed each week, or nearly four weeks in total!

FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

Wrexham authority have published guidelines and documentation for schools and parents explaining their intention to levy a fixed penalty notice on those students whose attendance or punctuality falls consistently below the required standards.

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education.

The law says that Parents/Carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence. Ysgol y Grango have issued twelve fixed penalty notices to date, two of which have resulted in court appearances (the other ten paid immediately).

The Local Education Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice for unauthorised absence.

A fixed penalty notice can be given for a student who has 10 unauthorised absences (am and pm count as separate absences) from school. Persistent lateness (more than 10 occasions in one term).

If paid within 21 days the fine is £60. If paid after 28 days, but within 42 days the penalty will be £120. If the penalty is not paid in full by the 43rd day legal action can result.

Parents have been made aware that, although they may provide a reason for absence, it is the school which decides if the absence is recorded as authorised or unauthorised.

They have been asked to contact school if there are any problems.

Curriculum

All students follow a broad, balanced curriculum throughout their education at Ysgol y Grango. We offer a wide range of subjects and activities at Ysgol y Grango and a big part of our role is to encourage our students to fulfil their potential and discover their talents.

Key Stage 3

Core Subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh

Non-core Subjects: Art, DT, Drama, Geography, History, ICT, Modern Foreign Language, Music, PE, PSE, RE

Key Stage 4

Year 10 and 11 a large part of the curriculum is compulsory, so all students study: English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh, PE, RE, Welsh Baccalaureate, PSE, Careers Education

Students also choose further subjects to study. We currently run the following Level 2/GCSE course:

Art, Food Technology, Design Technology, Digital Photography, Drama, Engineering, Health & Social care, ICT, Geography, History, French, PE, Media Studies, Music

Other courses are also offered in collaboration with other providers across the Wrexham area. We constantly review our curriculum to introduce new courses in partnership with 14-19 collaboration to meet the needs, abilities and aspirations of our students.

English as an Additional Language - Christophe Lermite has been allocated by the LA to Ysgol y

Grango. He will be working with pupils in Years 9 & 10, to help them complete GCSE Examinations in Portuguese and Polish.

In September 2016 our Nurture Group was set up to smooth the transition for most vulnerable students.

Several new support packages are now in place:

One Person Profile

Individual Dyslexia Learning

New form Individual Educational Plan

Extended Teaching Assistant intervention for homework, handwriting etc.

Read, Write, Inc - A literacy programme

ELKLAN - Speech and Language Support

Social Skills

Pupil Deprivation Grant also ensures financially disadvantaged students receive materials to secure

Positive exam outcomes.

SPORT

The School's impressive sports complex with fully equipped sports hall, drama area for dance and floor work, all-weather pitch, tennis and netball courts, indoor gym facility and extensive outdoor pitches and practice areas allow school teams and afterschool clubs to flourish.

Extra Curricular Timetable 2016/17

WELSH LANGUAGE

Also a wide variety of other sporting activities are provided by the school's 5/60 officer who works in partnership with the school.

TOILET FACILITIES

such as Wrexham Athletics Club, Cefn Druids Football Club and other local football and rugby clubs

We are an English Medium school but all pupils, except those who are disapplied, study Welsh GCSE Full Course. We also encourage early entry with six year 7 pupils completing Units 1 & 2 in May/June 2016. They will completed Units 3 & 4 this year, to gain a GCSE qualification in Welsh in Year 8.

Summary of National Curriculum Assessment results of pupils in the school (2016) and nationally (2015) at the end of Key Stage 3 as a percentage of those eligible for assessment.

D represents pupils who have been disapplied, or pupils for whom teachers were unable to provide an assessment.

N represents pupils not awarded a level for reasons other than disapplication.

Nation Curriculum Outcomes 1,2 & 3 describe achievements below level 1.

The general expectation is that the majority of 14 year olds will attain level 5.

The Core Subject Indicator represents the % of pupils achieving level 5 or above in English , Mathematics and Science in combination.

Percentage of boys at each level

