

# LLANTWIT MAJOR SCHOOL



## GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

**2014/2015**

Published January 2016

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### Introduction from the Chair of Governors

I am very pleased to be given the opportunity as Chair of Governors to present the Annual Report to parents.

I would advise that the 'Schools Standards and Organisation Act 2013' has removed the requirement for School Governing Bodies to hold an Annual Meeting with parents. However, new arrangements mean that you have the right to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with the Governing Body. For this to take place, the following 4 conditions need to be met:

- Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.
- The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school. It is not designed to discuss individual matters. The petition should include brief details of the matter to be discussed and the reasons for calling the meeting.
- Parents can use this right to request up to 3 meetings with a school Governing Body during the school year.
- There must be at least 25 school days left in the year when the petition is received in order that the meeting can be held. A 'school day' means a day when the school is open to pupils and does not include weekends, public or school holidays or INSET days.

Further advice for parents can be found on the Welsh Government's website.

### Examination Results 2015

At A Level, this year, the school maintained its recent impressive performance with 70% of all grades obtained being A\*-C which is testament to the positive working relationship between staff and students. In addition to this impressive A Level performance, 98% of students were successful in gaining the highly respected Welsh Baccalaureate qualification.

At GCSE, students produced an outstanding set of results, which have already led to the school as being recognized as one of the highest performing in Wales. The number of students obtaining 5 or more GCSE's at grades A\*-C including English and Mathematics rose, dramatically, by 14% to 79%, this figure has now risen by a staggering 27% over the course of the last 2 years. Performance in the 'core subjects' of English, Mathematics and Science is now at its highest level in the school history with an (A\*-C) pass rate of 86% in both English and Mathematics and 99% in Science. The strong performance across all subjects is perhaps best reflected in the fact 94% of students obtained 5 A\*-C grades or more.

As a school we can confidently expect to see the successes outlined to continue to be built upon through the dedication and commitment to learning of the students at the school. I say this, not only as a result of the feedback that I receive from staff at

the school, but also on the basis of the outstanding performance of the last years Year 9 cohort. At the end of the Key Stage 3 section of their education Yr. 9 National Curriculum performance in Llantwit Major was ranked in the top 25% of similar schools in the vast majority of subjects. Their results were significantly above the average performance seen both across the Vale of Glamorgan and across Wales.

Welsh Assembly Government outturns of the school's examination results for 2014 are found in the appendices as follows:

1. Appendix 1: explanation of the terms used in the WAG documents
2. Appendix 2: summary of school performance 2014 containing comparative information on KS4 and sixth form examination results
3. Appendix 3: school comparative information: National Curriculum Assessments 2014 with benchmarking KS3
4. Appendix 4: school comparative report with benchmarking: Welsh Reading & Numeracy Tests
5. Appendix 5: Key Stage 3/4/5 targets
6. Appendix 6: Financial outturn.

### School Performance Targets

Targets for school performance are routinely set in advance and are then agreed with the Local Authority and Central South Consortium. At both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, targets have been set in line with type D Fischer Family Trust Estimations which challenge schools to achieve outcomes in the top 25% of all schools. The Key Stage 3/4/5 targets can be found in Appendix 5.

### Wellbeing

The school is delighted with the support received from both pupils and parents over the course of the last 4 years with attendance rates standing at 94.8%, a rise of approximately 5%.

Guided by its ethos that 'people are our greatest asset', the school has made considerable strides in its attempts to support each student by addressing their individual needs. Running in parallel with the work of departments in this area has been the development of the Learning & Wellbeing department which coordinates a range of interventions, both pastoral and academic, designed to maximize the potential of each pupil; devised and allocated on the basis of rigorous performance analysis.

### School Improvement Plan

We are committed to ...

- Consistently creating high quality learning experiences that ensure opportunities to add value to all pupil outcomes in a safe, supportive environment.

The following key areas of focus have been identified in drawing up the School Improvement Plan:

- Results;
- Sixth Form – Recruitment, Retention & Results;
- FSM and other ‘vulnerable’ groups of pupils;
- Curriculum.

In addressing these key areas particular emphasis will be placed on

- The production and use of robust data to ensure high challenge and effective support;
- Consistency of practice across all aspects of the school.

In drawing up the plan the school first produces a rigorous school self evaluation report which, coupled with the key areas of focus, are then used to draw up a school improvement plan. Throughout this process staff, students, parents (via the Parent Forum), and Governors, are consulted and involved in order that the final plan reflects the concerns and priorities of all stakeholder groups. Once finalized by the Governing Body, the school improvement plan is reviewed and agreed by the Central South Consortium Challenge Advisor.

#### Statutory Information for Parents – Governing Body

Headteacher:	Dr Vince Browne
Teachers: (Elected as representatives of the teaching staff of the school)	Mr Mike Bell Mrs Jane Jones
Staff: (Elected as a representative of the support staff of the school)	Mrs Sharon Cox
Parent: (Elected as representatives of pupils currently attending the school)	Ms Jeni Jenkins Mrs Jackie Vickers Ms Alyson Jones Ms Natalie Godfrey Mr S Pownall Dr Carol Brown
LEA Appointed: (Nominated by the Local Education Authority to serve on the Governing Body)	Cllr Gwyn John Mrs Mari Gibbs Cllr Eddie Williams Mr Derek Mutlow (Chair) Mr John Clarke

Community:  
(Invited by other governors  
to join the Governing Body.  
Act as a link with the  
Community)

Mr Simon Morea  
Mr Graham Price (Vice Chair)  
Dr M Picton  
Cllr M Mason  
Mrs P Richards

Head Boy/Head Girl: Richard Dangerfield  
Kathryn Llewellyn

Clerk: Mrs A Rees  
(Takes the minutes of the  
Governing Body and all its  
Committees)

### School Information

Address: Llantwit Major School  
Ham Lane East  
Llantwit Major  
Vale of Glamorgan  
CF61 1TQ

Type: Comprehensive  
Age Range: 11 -18

Number of pupils on roll (September 2015): 895 (179 in Sixth Form)

Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff: 56

Pupil/Teacher ratio: 15.9 students per teacher

## Term Dates

	2015-2016
Term Begins	Tuesday 01.09.15
Half Term Begins	Monday 26.10.15
Half Term Ends	Friday 30.10.15
Term Ends	Friday 18.12.15
Autumn Total	74 Days
Term Begins	Monday 04.01.16
Half Term Begins	Monday 15.02.16
Half Term Ends	Friday 19.02.16
Term Ends	Thurs 24.03.16
Spring Total	54 Days
Term Begins	Monday 11.04.16
Half Term Begins	Monday 30.05.16
Half Term Ends	Friday 03.06.16
Term Ends	Wed 20.07.16
Summer Total	67
Year Total	195 Days

## Financial Statement

The financial out-turn statement for 2014/2015 is shown in Appendix 6.

## Governors' Expenses

No claims for expenses were submitted.

## Prospectus

A Prospectus is issued to parents when pupils are first admitted to school. Assessment and reporting guidance booklets are also issued at the start of each Key Stage.

## Special Education Needs

Following the school's policy on the identification of pupils with SEN, the number of pupils who were registered at each stage of the Code of Practice is:-

School Action	-	154
School Action Plus	-	14
Statemented	-	6

All pupils registered as School Action plus or statemented have Individual Educational Plans which are regularly reviewed in order to establish their continued relevance and appropriateness.

## The Learning & Wellbeing department

The Learning & Wellbeing department provides support and intervention for any students who are identified as needing support in order to fulfil their potential. Currently 184 pupils follow an intervention programme, supporting them in such areas as literacy, numeracy and the building of self confidence.

In addition to the support provided by both the teaching and support members of the Learning and Wellbeing department, significant numbers of our students, particularly in the sixth form are engaged both during and after school in supporting their peers. These interventions are having a very positive impact for all concerned.

## School Achievements

Through a combination of the Headteacher's Report to the Governing Body, three yearly newsletters to parents, communication via the school website and twitter and regular advertisements in the local newspaper, all the major achievements of the school have been identified and recognised.

## Action taken to Review School Policies

Policies and Procedures are regularly updated and are available to the relevant parties on the school website.

## School Links with the Community

The School offers a comprehensive range of activities, both curricular and extra-curricular. Extra-curricular opportunities are available in music, drama and sport in particular with community clubs working alongside the school to enhance or link provision e.g. Llantwit Major Rugby club, Community drama groups.

The school works in partnership with key stakeholders to apply for grants and raise money to support school projects. Other involvement with the community includes the Rotary club who assist in the development of the school's Interact club, helping to organize various fund raising events. Atlantic College pupils visit the school weekly to support in the delivery of geography and literacy and numeracy programmes. Various local church groups enrich many of our daily acts of collective worship and assemblies. Our local community churches have also helped us develop links and establish an annual visit from a church group from Texas.

A wide cross-section of local clubs and businesses have contributed to the school's Community week including Aberthaw power station, The Principality building society, Keep Wales Tidy, Llantwit Major town council and the Vale of Glamorgan council. This, alongside the school's enterprise week, have now become key pillars in the school's delivery of the new Welsh baccalaureate qualification. The school also supports a number of local organisations with the pupils running a variety of events including a senior citizens Christmas tea party where form groups create and present hampers, beach cleaning at Aberthaw and many more.

The School has also maintained and fully utilised its excellent links with Careers Wales, Cardiff and Vale college and MCPT college to continue to provide a diverse range of courses and educational Guidance to pupils in all Key Stages. The MPCT also run leadership and team building courses across the cluster of primary and secondary schools, and support our provision for MOD pupils.

The school has an extensive transition programme covering Years 4, 5 and 6 with events run both in and outside school. There is a close link with the Youth service who work alongside the school to provide additional support for learners who may find transition more challenging. In this partnership we have established an after school club for these learners to attend the Comprehensive school once a week in the final term of Year 6.

The work of the Parent Forum has given a significant boost to the school's engagement with this important stakeholder group. They have also worked closely with the governors and pupil council to input into the school improvement plan.

The PTA provides valuable input into school activities and has established a successful Transition disco for Years 6&7 pupils. They also ran a successful community 'pamper evening' at the school this year for the first time.

The school runs a comprehensive educational trips programme. The full itinerary is to be found on the school website. PDG funding is used to ensure that students do not miss out on these valuable activities. In addition, the school regularly has entries in the Rotary Club 'Master Chef' competition.

### Sporting Opportunities

The school has a comprehensive range of sporting and extra curricular activities for pupils to participate in. This is supplemented by the 5x60 programme. Information regarding these activities is on the school website.

### Welsh Language Provision

Formal Welsh provision in the school is provided at KS3, KS4 and KS5. At GCSE all pupils study Welsh as a second language. Outside of lessons the school promotes the use of the Welsh language reflecting the Welsh Government document 'Our Language: Its Future, Iaitb Pawb'.

Destination of Pupils 2014/2015

YEAR 11 (2014-2015)

101	-	Students returned to Year 12
34	-	In College
1	-	Other Schools
0	-	Part-time Education
1	-	Employed
1	-	Left Area

YEAR 13 (2014-2015)

42	-	Students placed in Higher Education
8	-	In College
1	-	Returned to Yr 13
5	-	In Employment/Seeking employment
0	-	Part Time Education
3	-	Unknown
4	-	Gap Year

Mr D Mutlow  
Chair of Governors