



ST. HELEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD GATHOLIG SANTES HELEN



Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2018 - 19

The Governing Body

The Governing Body fulfils an important role in the life and work of St. Helen's Catholic School, regularly meeting to monitor progress and provide challenge. It has overall responsibility for the strategic direction of the school and is fundamental to the success of the school. Under the Instrument of Government, the foundation governors at the school are in the majority and are appointed by the Archdiocese of Cardiff. Governors oversee that Religious Education is in accordance with the teachings, doctrines and discipline of the Catholic Church. Tasks undertaken by the governing body include reviewing policy documents and updating existing policies; keeping up to date with changes to the curriculum; fulfilling statutory requirements with regard to health and safety matters; dealing with disciplinary matters and taking decisions on financial matters.

Governor Training

Governors voluntarily attended a variety of training sessions organised by the Vale of Glamorgan Governor Support Unit. These included: –

- Relationship Education,
- Redundancy Training
- Safeguarding Training
- Additional Learning Needs

No governor expenses were claimed during the year 2018-19.

St. Helen's is an English medium school.

Curriculum Cymraeg is developed across all areas of learning through an integrated approach by developing children's understanding of the cultural identity unique to Wales. The children's Welsh Language is developed through a range of practical activities in oracy, reading and writing; laying the foundations of bilingualism. Monitoring reports that standards of spoken Welsh are good throughout the school.

Admissions

The Governing Body has sole responsibility for admissions to the school. The admission number for the School for 2017-2018 was 44 and for nursery 24 am and 24 pm. In the Foundation Phase class sizes are limited to 30. The school can accommodate 308 pupils in total plus Nursery. All admissions enquiries are made to the school office where full details of the published admission policies for the school are available. This information is also published on the Vale of Glamorgan website.

Composition of Governing Body St. Helen's Catholic Primary School

Foundation Governors:

Chair of Governors: Mrs Kate Harris	Serving until 2021
Vice Chair: Mr Kieran Crossey	Serving until 2021
Mrs Marilyn Frayling	Serving until 2021
Mr Fred Johnson	Serving until 2021
Mrs Paula Marshman	Serving until 2021
Mr Brian Morris	Serving until 2021
Fr. Patrick O'Gorman	Serving until 2021
Mr Michael Stafford	Serving until 2021
Mr Simon Care	Serving until 2021
Vacancy	

Headteacher: Mrs Kathy Giernalczyk

Parent Representatives:

Mr Alasdair Davies	Serving until 2020
Mrs Annamaria Vincent	Serving until 2020

Teacher Representative: Mr Rhys Thomas Serving until 2020

Staff Representative: Mrs Candy Richardson Serving until 2020

Local Authority

Representatives:	Cllr Bronwen Brooks
	Mr Graham Niblett
	Mrs Val Simpson
Observer:	Mrs Michelle Clawson
Clerk to the Governors:	Ms Rachel Cox

School Improvement Plan Priorities 2018-19

1. To raise expectations of what all pupils can achieve and provide a more challenging learning culture.
2. To establish a new SRE Policy and Curriculum to support emotional wellbeing and resilience; further develop opportunities to ensure pupils make informed healthy choices about food, activity and understanding about society.
3. To further develop the planning and implementation of a new 'Creative Curriculum' and embrace a range of pedagogical principles in line with Successful Futures
4. To ensure the Catholic character of the school supports the Spiritual, Social and Cultural development of all learners.
5. To ensure ambitious, highly effective leadership, resulting in excellent outcomes for all pupils.

Security

Both school sites have controlled access systems. The main external doors are electro-magnetically locked throughout the day. An intercom system is used supported by a digital monitor. A close circuit system monitors all areas of the school.

Additional Learning Needs

The School has a comprehensive Additional Learning Needs Policy written in line with the SEN Code of Practice for Wales 2002. The School successfully identifies children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) through observation and assessment procedures. The School has a Wellbeing Team. The school works closely with the School Improvement and Inclusion Service and external agencies such as Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, medical professionals, Children's Services, Health Visitors, to ensure the needs of the children are as far as possible met. The named governor for ALN Mrs Kate Harris is a frequent visitor to the school. ALN includes English as an Additional Language. The school is currently preparing for ALN Transformation and the introduction of the new ALN Act.

Safeguarding

The School has a comprehensive Child Protection Policy, agreed by Governors and shared with all staff. The School has a Safeguarding Team with a Designated Safeguarding Person and Deputy Safeguarding Person on both sites. The named Safeguarding Governor is Mr Fred Johnson. The school uses My Concern secure software for recording and managing safeguarding concerns. All members of staff and volunteers have a DBS. Safer Recruitment procedures are fully implemented. All members of staff receive appropriate Safeguarding training at an appropriate level annually. Procedures and risk assessments are in place for Educational Visits. Procedures are in place to request parental permission for taking/using photographs of pupils. Film/video consent forms are in place. E-Safety is a high priority throughout the school and E-Safety weeks are held each half term. A Social Networking Policy is in place.

Sporting Aims and Achievement

The children follow a full and varied programme of Physical Development to cover the requirements of the Foundation Phase; this includes Personal Development, Physical Play, Health, Fitness and Safety. At Key Stage 2, pupils build on these skills through a programme of Health, Fitness and Well-being, Creative and Competitive activities. In 2017 the School introduced a new Scheme Real PE which has been very successful. Inter-school matches and after-school clubs enhance this provision. Through these activities we aim to develop the children's physical fitness and help them to learn and experience the skills of co-operation and teamwork through healthy eating. Pupils in Year 4 attend National Curriculum swimming lessons in the National Pool, Cardiff. Pupils in Year 5 have the opportunity to attend a residential outdoor activity centre in Llangranog.

The Curriculum

At St. Helen's Catholic School, we believe in lifelong learning and the idea that children and adults learn new things every day. We believe that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone; challenging but fun. Through our teaching we equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences help children and adults to lead happy and rewarding lives.

Currently, the Foundation Phase is the curriculum for 3 to 7 year olds in Wales. The Foundation Phase curriculum is broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated to meet the developmental needs of all children. Key Stage 2 is the National Curriculum for 8 to 11 year olds.

A new school curriculum is being developed in Wales and will be used in 2022. The new curriculum will have more emphasis on equipping young people for life. It will build their ability to learn new skills and apply their subject knowledge more positively and creatively.

Religious Education

Religious Education is taught at St. Helen's through the Come and See Programme. Developments in Religious Education include: The introduction of Christian Mediation and the Pupil Profile. All classrooms have a Prayer Focus area to reflection the current RE theme or the Liturgical calendar. A prayer garden was installed at the Key Stage 2 site. Acts of Collective Worship take place on a daily basis. Families are invited to attend Class Assemblies throughout the year. Canon Pat is a frequent visitor to the school and together with the RE Curriculum Leader plan a programme of Masses and Liturgical events. In 2017-18 the pupils visited St. Helen's Parish Church on a regular basis for Mass, Canon Pat distributed Ashes on Ash Wednesday and Foundation Phase led the May Procession. Pupils joined with Vale Catholic schools to participate in a 'Journey Through Lent'. Sacramental preparations took place on a Wednesday evening in the Parish Hall led by parish catechists. The RE Link Governor is Mr. Brian Morris.

Hygiene

The toilet facilities throughout the school are cleaned daily. Warm air hand dryers are situated in all toilets and anti-bacterial liquid soap is available for children to use. The school has the correct ratio of toilets for the number of children in the school. Toilets are deep cleaned during the summer holidays. Hand sanitisers are available for use throughout the school. New toilets were installed at Foundation Phase in 2019.

Links with the Community

St. Helen's School is an integral part of the Parish and wider community of Barry. We use the local neighbourhood to extend learning opportunities, visiting the Library, Memo, Rhondel House Day Centre, Belavista Nursing Home and local shops. FiSH works closely with the community to obtain support for events. The School maintains links with the Vale Foodbank charity in Barry, donating harvest gifts to help local families in crisis. The 'Big Wrap' also supports disadvantaged families in the local community at Christmas time.

Healthy Eating

The school follows the guidelines from the Welsh Government to promote Healthy Eating. Water is available in each classroom from water dispensers. Children bring in a healthy snack at break time – only fruit allowed. We are members of the Vale wide Healthy Schools initiative and pupils take an active part through Healthy Schools Ministry, Senedd Santes Helen. Birthdays are celebrated in school; the children wear their own clothes and are invited to share a healthy treat with their friends.

Headteacher	Mrs K. Giernalczyk	PE	Mrs B. Benson	Learning Support Assistants	
Deputy Head	Mrs M. Clawson	Maths	Mrs A. Morgan	Mrs G. Blakemore	Mrs C. Bowden
SLT/Well-being	Mrs G. Hill	Humanities	Mrs S. Williams	Mrs K. Bowkett	Mrs L. Bowsher
SLT/PLD	Mrs K. Galsworthy	Nursery	Mrs A. Brookes	Mrs C. Coyle	Mrs P. Edmunds
SLT/FPH	Mrs E. McCallum	Science/Technology	Mrs C. Bond	Mrs C. Jones	Mrs D. Jones
RE	Mrs A. Prosser	LLC	Mrs H. Lloyd	Mrs A-M Kane	Mrs D. Moreham
Humanities	Mr. D Moruzzi	Well-being	Mrs Z. Humphreys	Mrs C. Power	Mrs A. White
Creative Arts	Mrs H. Isherwood	Creative Arts	Ms S. O'Dare	Mrs L. Wiltshire	Mrs J. Yarr
Technology	Mr R. Thomas	Premises		HLTA	
Business Manager	Mrs J. Champ	Mrs C. Richardson	Mrs J. Powell	Mrs B. Blight	Mrs A. Davies
Administrator	Mrs H. Jones	Mrs S. Wilkinson	Mr C. Barnsley	Ms D. Isquierdo/Mrs R. Bailey	

School Session Times

Foundation Phase Site

Nursery

9.00am – 11.30 am Morning session
12.45pm – 3.15pm Afternoon session

School

9.00am – 12 noon Morning session
1.00pm – 3.15pm Afternoon session

Key Stage Two Site

8.50am – 12 midday Morning session
1.00pm – 3.30pm Afternoon Session

Attendance

The school monitors all absences rigorously, including holiday absences. The Governing Body have adopted the Vale of Glamorgan Attendance Policy Guidelines. Holidays during term time will be authorised up to 10 days if permission is sought from the headteacher. The school works closely with the Local Authority to improve attendance and prevent absences from school, supported by the Callio monitoring system. Parents are requested to telephone or email the school if a child is unwell. To ensure the safety of pupils, the school will contact parents if there is a concern about attendance and where necessary refer to external welfare agencies.

Term Dates 2019 – 20

Autumn Term	HALF TERM	
Start		End
*Monday 02 Sept., 2019	Monday 28 Oct. to Friday 1 Nov. 2019	Friday 20 Dec., 2019
Spring Term		
Monday 06 Jan., 2020	Monday 17 Feb. to Friday 21 Feb., 2020	Friday 03 April, 2020
Summer Term		
Monday 20 April, 2020	Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May, 2020	*Monday 20 July, 2020

Monday 02 Sept. 2019 and Monday 20 July 2020 are designated INSET Days by LA.
Friday 08 May 2020 school closed for May Bank Holiday to coincide with 75 anniversary of VE Day

Attendance Figures Compulsory School Age

Attendance figures for 2018/19.

	Authorised	Unauthorised	% Attendance
St. Helen's	3.8%	1.1%	95.0%
Vale	4.0%	1.2%	94.7%
Wales	4.0%	1.4%	94.7%

The school did not meet its Attendance Target in 2018/19.

Our target for 2019/20 is **95.6%**; please help us to meet this target by ensuring excellent attendance for your child.

The School has a **Complaints Procedure Policy** in place which can be obtained from the school office on either site.

The school has a comprehensive **Charging Policy**.

Information with regard to Meetings

All governing bodies of maintained schools are required to produce an annual report to parents reflecting on 2018-19.

The statutory contents are detailed in this report.

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (The Act) removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual general meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them.

1. Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.

- The parents of at least 30 registered pupils will need to sign the petition. If it is a paper petition, then a written signature must be given as well as the name and class of each child registered pupil at the school. If the petition is in electronic format, the 'signature' required is the typed name of the parent plus the name and class of each child who is a registered at the school and the email address of each parent who 'signs' the electronic petition.

2. The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school

- The meeting cannot be called to discuss such matters as the progress of individual pupils, or to make a complaint against a member of the school's staff or governing body.
- The petition should contain brief details of the matter(s) to be discussed, and the reasons for calling the meeting. This information should be clearly displayed at the top of the petition, with parents' signatures appearing below.

3. A maximum of 3 meetings can be held during the school year

- The law allows parents to use their rights to request up to 3 meetings with a school governing body during the school year.

4. There must be at least 25 school days left in the school year

- The law makes it a condition that at least 25 school days are left in the school year when the petition is received so that the meeting can be held.
- A "school day" means a day when the school is open to pupils: it does not include weekends, public holidays, school holidays or INSET days. The address for service of a petition requesting a meeting with this school's governing body is: Ms Rachel Cox, Clerk to Governors, St. Helen's Catholic Primary School.

End of Foundation Phase Results 2019

Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator - **75.6%** All Wales **82.6%**

	Outcome 5+	Outcome 6
Language, Literacy and Communication	76.5%	20.6%
Mathematical Development	85.3%	29.4%
Personal and Social Development	97.1%	50.0%

End of Key Stage Results 2019

Core Subject Indicator – **97.6%** All Wales **87.8%**

	Level 4+	Level 5+
English	97.6%	41.5%
Mathematics	97.6%	48.8%
Science	97.6%	51.2%
Welsh 2 nd Language	97.6%	51.2%

Welsh National Test Results 2019

	Reading			Reasoning		
	<85	85-115	>115	<85	85-115	>115
Year 2	2.9	79.5	17.6	2.9	85.3	11.8
Year 3	4.3	73.9	21.7	6.5	73.9	19.6
Year 4	7.8	70.6	21.6	2.0	70.0	28.0
Year 5	9.6	69.0	21.4	2.4	83.3	14.3
Year 6	0.0	60.0	40.0	0.0	62.5	37.5

School Fund

This fund is used to provide many extra resources for the children and the school. Monies from the Christmas Celebrations were invested in the School Fund. The money from Nursery Fund is used to provide a Healthy Snack and Cooking activities.

The school received £1050 in Donations in 2018/19.

School Prospectus

Changes include staffing changes, updated Admissions Policy and changes to Uniform to include outcomes of Consultation by Welsh Government.

This Report is written in accordance with School Governor's Annual Reports (Wales) Regulations 2011