

**TRINITY FIELDS SCHOOL
and
RESOURCE CENTRE**



Learning together in a changing world, creating success for all.
Developing all pupils as ambitious, enterprising, ethical and healthy learners.

**Governors' Annual Report to
Parents/Carers**

September 2024 to July 2025

On behalf of all the Governors of Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre, I am delighted to present the latest Annual Report to Parents/Carers. The school has continued to thrive and has a reputation as a centre of excellence within Caerphilly and across South Wales. We would like to thank all the staff at the school who work tirelessly to support the pupils and their families.

No meeting has been held for parents under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. The full report is available on the school website and paper copies for parents and carers are available on request.

Amanda Hurst (Chair of Governors)

Governing body (2024 to 2025)

Governor	Appointed by	Term of office ends
Amanda Hurst (Chair)	Local Authority	
Bleddyn Hopkins (Vice Chair)	Community	March 4 th 2026
Ruth Seymour	Local Authority	
Ian Hurst	Local Authority	
Gary Powell	Community	September 6 th 2026
Cllr Alan Angel	Minor Authority	December 4 th 2027
Jenny Watkins	Parent	March 23 rd 2027
Dale Swan	Parent	November 5 th 2028
Claire Swan	Parent	February 26 th 2028
Joanne Hall	Parent	February 26 th 2028
Helen Muscat	Support staff	September 22 nd 2027
Anthony Rhys	Teacher	March 2 nd 2026
Dave Jenkins (ex officio)	Executive Headteacher	

The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the school or via Governor Support, Tŷ Penallta, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG Tel 01443 866472.

Pupil assessment

- All pupils are assessed on an annual basis. The school uses B Squared to assess pupils' learning and the progress they make.
- Routes for Learning is used to support our assessment procedures for pupils working at very early stages of development. Further details are available from Leanne Boardman (Assistant Headteacher).
- These detailed assessments are used to track pupil progress and to support individual target setting.
- We have also introduced a range of specialist assessment frameworks to help staff set SMART targets. These frameworks include MOVE, AET, MOTIONAL and the Developmental Pathways.

Number on roll

- The number on roll is 309 (July 2025). The school roll continues to increase.
- There are now 31 classes, 22 of which are on the main school site. We have primary age satellite classes at Cwm Ifor, Deri, Ty Isaf Infants School and Pontllanfraith Primary School (2 classes) and secondary satellite classes at St. Cenydd Community School, Heolddu Comprehensive School (3 classes) and a class at Coleg y Cymoedd.

Staffing

- Since our last report (Autumn 24), additional staff have been appointed largely to meet the increasing number of pupils on roll, as well as to replace staff who have moved to other posts.
- The large staff team consists of the Executive Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, 4 Assistant Headteachers, 2 Associate Assistant Headteachers, 6 TLR teachers, 43 teachers, 7 HLTAs, 144 teaching assistants, 9 mid-day supervisors, 9 administrative staff and 2 site staff.

Health and safety (H&S)

- H&S is discussed at all governing body meetings and we have an effective H&S sub-committee, chaired by Bleddyn Hopkins, one of our very experienced governors.
- All aspects of our H&S procedures are monitored, evaluated and reported to the H&S sub-committee by the Headteacher/H&S officer. Any issues are given immediate priority for resolution.
- We continue to have excellent weekly support (via an enhanced service level agreement) from Anna Fitchett from the LA who continues to support our H&S programme.
- RAMIS, an online management tool, helps staff to manage the school's H&S compliance and associated issues.
- We continue to use the EVOLVE recording system for planning all school visits. This logs the H&S aspects of school visits. Our Educational Visits Co-ordinator is Leanne Boardman (AHT) and she and the staff follow the Educational Visits policy.
- All staff continue to receive update/refresher training in safeguarding, manual handling, Team Teach, fire safety, administering medication and first aid, as required.
- Our toilets and specialist changing areas are well equipped and ensure that all pupils have access to the highest possible standards of personal hygiene. We have staff on site throughout the school day which means that our toilets and changing facilities are checked and cleaned regularly throughout the day and this allows us to maintain our high standards.

Professional learning (PL)

- All staff access a wide range of training and support to develop them personally, in addition to supporting whole school improvement. Training since our last report has included:
 - Leadership development including middle leaders
 - Newly Qualified Teacher Programme
 - New Induction Programme for all new starters
 - Total Communication Training – delivered with support from Speech and Language Therapy
 - Vision, Values and Strategy for school improvement
 - Functions of Behaviour Training
 - TEAM TEACH Refresher and full course training
 - TEACCH – ASD specific structured teaching approach
 - Autism Reality Experience
 - Forest School Leaders
 - Advanced Trauma Informed Schools Practitioner
 - Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)
 - Sensory Processing Awareness training
 - Principles of effective play
 - Intensive Interaction
 - Signalong (all staff) and British Sign Language Level 1 (4 staff)
 - Curriculum Development Training including new Developmental Pathways
 - Assessment and progression including B Squared assessment refresher
 - Effective Target Setting for Pupils (teachers)
 - Manual Handling
 - Two Rhythms (was Touch Therapy)
 - Coaching and Mentoring
 - Team Teach/Behaviour management
 - IDP Implementation
 - MOVE (**M**ovement **O**pportunities **V**ia **E**ducation)
 - Reading Eggs
 - Emergency First Aid at work
 - Safeguarding level 1 and level 3
 - Standardisation and moderation of pupils' work
 - PREVENT

Finance

- The governors' finance committee, the Headteacher and School Business Manager continue to work closely with our LA finance officer to manage all aspects of the school budget and our Welsh Government grants (EIG/PDG/EYPDG/PL).
- A copy of the school budget for 2024/2025 is included as part of this report.

Monitoring of learning and teaching

- The quality of teaching and learning is rigorously evaluated on a termly basis against through a new Monitoring and Evaluation Cycle (MER). This has been developed collaboratively with staff and includes:
 - ❖ Lesson Observations
 - ❖ Learning Walks
 - ❖ Peer Observations through the Instructional Rounds model
 - ❖ Environment monitoring
 - ❖ Planning monitoring
 - ❖ IEP monitoring
 - ❖ Work Scrutiny and moderation of assessments
- The Governing Body are playing an increasingly robust role in testing firsthand the quality of teaching and learning. Members fulfill this very important function by participating in the activities listed above.
- The school has also piloted "pupil progress conversations". This initiative seeks to facilitate a structured conversation with each teacher to focus solely on the progress learners are making. They have proved very effective and will be rolled out to all teachers in September 2025.

Links with parents/carers

- Parents/carers continue to make a highly valuable contribution to all aspects of school life and we value their input and support. Termly Parents' Evenings are offered either in person or via Teams and are well attended.
- Our enhanced systems for communicating with parents/carers include "Seesaw", Hwb emails, Twitter, school website and Teachers2Parents texting service. These continue to be highly effective ways of communicating with parents/carers.
- CASS (Caerphilly Autistic Spectrum Service) continues to provide exceptional support and advice to pupils and their families, as well as to colleagues in other schools, social services, health and families. This service continues to be very highly regarded by other schools, parents/carers and the local authority. Michelle Meredith (AHT) takes the lead role for CASS. This service is unique to our school and Caerphilly.
- Our Home-School Support Worker (Donna Pugh) also provides excellent advice and support to families.
- Our close partnerships with families has been recognised through the Investors in Families diamond award.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

- We have a small, but very successful PTA. The officers are- Chair: Leanne Boardman, Secretary: Deborah Sapey and Treasurer: Geraldine Smallman. The PTA is always looking for new parents/carers to join them.
- The PTA can be contacted via the school. You can also check the school website for further details.
- PTA events this year have included a Christmas shopping trip to Bath, family cinema nights and the Christmas Fayre. The PTA have funded a range of additional resources and activities for the pupils.

Links with Caerphilly Local Authority and other agencies

- We continue to have exceptionally strong links with the local authority, through the Chief Education Officer, Keri Cole, and with her senior officers, particularly Sarah Ellis (Lead for Inclusion and ALN) and the Statutory Officers.
- Dave Jenkins (Executive Headteacher) and Tracey McGuirk (Deputy Headteacher) meet with the EAS special school headteachers and deputy headteachers on a regular basis. These meetings are used to share good practice and to provide additional support and challenge.
- The school is an active member of SWASSH (South Wales Association of Special School Headteachers).
- The school is a lead strategic member of the SWASSH Inter school moderation network.
- Our Youth and Leisure Services, led by Geraldine Smallman, continue to work in partnership with social services to provide exceptional support to pupils not just from Trinity Fields but from across Caerphilly. Saturday club and holiday schemes are well attended and highly valued by pupils and their families.

Unfortunately some sessions have had to be cancelled during the last year due to the ongoing building works to extend the school.

- We continue to have effective links with officers from Duke of Edinburgh Wales which is offered to the older pupils in the school.
- The school continues to have excellent relationships with Careers Wales.

Curriculum and other developments, including the Welsh dimension

- We have published our curriculum and assessment summary on the school website.
- We continue to work effectively with other schools across Wales to develop new and innovative ways to address the Curriculum for Wales and assessment arrangements.
- A lot of developmental work has been undertaken collaboratively this year to further develop our curriculum. These developments have also been tested with other special schools through moderation events, SWASSH events and EAS Headteachers forums.
- We have transformed the departments to form 5 new 'phases for learning' which are named using child led, age appropriate and motivating names:
 - **The Explorers** – mainly pupils in Nursery through to year 2, led by Rachel Westren
 - **The Adventurers** – mainly pupils in year 3 to year 6, led by Sian James
 - **The Investigators** – mainly pupils in year 7 to year 9 led initially by Jo Daniels
 - **The Researchers** – mainly pupil in year 10 and 11, led initially by Libby Harman
 - **Aspire** – mainly pupils in year 12 to year 14, also led initially by Libby Harman
- We have introduced new 'contexts for learning' across the school which broadly follow the same overarching theme to bring the school community together, but which are differentiated according to the phases above.
- We have introduced enrichment activities which 'launch' each new context for learning.
- We have introduced new 'formality of learning' information which seeks to provide differentiated learning for formal, semi-formal and pre-formal learners.
- We have introduced a new system for target setting which uses a range of specialist assessment frameworks and which draws together curriculum reform and ALN reform to ensure pupils' targets are SMART.
- We have re-branded and further developed our suite of interventions. Now named N-Gage, this suite is made up of highly skilled individuals who provide additional support for families, behaviour, sensory curriculum, communication, forest schools, music, sport and trauma informed schools.
- We have further developed the cross cutting themes associated with the new curriculum in Wales which has led to new curriculum maps/schemes of work for Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE), Digital Competence including Online Safety, Religion, Values and Ethics Education and Human Rights. These cross-cutting themes also place a strong value on using our local area to create authentic learning experiences.
- More information about the changes in the curriculum and assessment can be found on the school website in the form of short video clips, as well as in the useful "Parents/Carers Guide" which is available in the foyer.
 - The curriculum has been further enhanced through several enrichment days. Each one has a different AOLE focus and throughout the year pupils have enjoyed a Harry Potter Science and Technology themed day and a Dr Who Maths/MOVE Day. Pupils also enjoyed the 'Circus skills day' as the enrichment event which launched our new Heroes Theme.
- Staff continue to work with other special schools to develop effective assessment and recording procedures in line with the ALN reforms.
- An excellent range of activities took place during our annual Welsh Week. Pupils enjoyed Welsh music, art and craft activities, cookery activities and of course our school Eisteddfod. Welsh 2nd language continues to be taught across the school and "Curriculum Cymraeg" is strongly reflected in all aspects of our work.
- Our Trauma Informed Schools (TIS) programmes have a positive impact on all aspects of pupils' personal and social development, including their health and wellbeing.
- We have successfully maintained our Flagship Centre Status as part of the Inclusion Quality Mark.
- We have been awarded the MOVE Gold award and are further developing our provision around the programme to support pupils with mobility needs.
- We have been awarded with the The Vision Friendly Silver Mark for our important work in this area.

Strategic Equality Act 2010

- We are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils and staff; in addition, we aim to provide equality for all those receiving services from the school, irrespective of disability, race, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership. These are the “protected characteristics”.
- We promote a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected with the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- In consultation with stakeholders we have developed a Strategic Equality Plan (SEP), the purpose of which is to fulfil the duties to promote equality for people with ‘protected characteristics’ and embed fairness and equality at the heart of our school community and in all aspects of our plans and policies.
- The governing body will:
 - seek to ensure that no individual is discriminated against when applying for jobs at our school.
 - take all reasonable steps to ensure that the school environment gives equal access to people with disabilities.
 - strive to make all communications as inclusive as possible for pupils, parents and carers.
 - ensure that no child is discriminated against whilst in our school.
- The equality objectives for 2022 - 2025 are to:
 - continue to ensure “Equality of Opportunity” for all.
 - ensure all pupils achieve their full potential.
 - provide training and support to pupils, staff, parents/carers, governors and other stakeholders on equality issues and the protected characteristics (being mindful of the specific learning/behavioural needs of our pupils).
 - develop with pupils, a range of pupil friendly policies.
- A new strategic equality plan for the period 2025-2028 will be drafted and presented to governors in September 2025.

Governing body meetings

- Full Governing Body and sub-committee meetings take place regularly throughout the year.
- The Governing Body has a full membership and all Governors have completed their mandatory induction training.
- Matters discussed by the governors have included: whole school self-evaluation, school development plan, buildings, staffing, headteacher’s termly reports, school budget, Strategic Equality Plan, Curriculum for Wales developments, assessment and pupil performance, digital competence, pupil and staff wellbeing, nursing and therapy provision, school organisation, health and safety, safeguarding, fundraising and school expansion plans.
- The Governing Body has a number of subcommittees which meet throughout the year including Finance, Health and Safety, Quality of Life, Teaching and Learning and Governor Self Evaluation.
- Members of the Governing Body are now aligned to Areas of Learning and Experience (AOLE) in order to help them undertake their support and challenge role.
- The Governing Body has also been heavily involved with the building extension having undertaken many visits to sites and been involved in all important decisions.

The school and the community

- The Opening Ceremony for the extension to the school will go down as one of the most historic occasions in the school’s history as we welcomed so many people to formally open the extension.
- The allotment continues to go from strength to strength and we’re delighted that we’ve had our first harvest of the year.
- The school café (Café Oren) reopened successfully scoring 5 stars in the inspection by Environmental Health.
- School were delighted to welcome a visit from Welsh Government officials looking at our provision for Welsh Language Development.
- The Jungle Book pantomime performance gave pupils another opportunity to enjoy the expressive arts. It’s clear pupils loved the multi-sensory nature of the performance and good fun was had by all.
- We are delighted to report that “The Trinity Protocol” is being shared with police forces and LAs across Wales which really demonstrates just how ground-breaking this initiative has been.

- Working with PC Deke and his subsequent replacement, we have successfully established a division of Heddlu Bach in our satellite class at Cwm Ifor Primary School which also includes pupils from Cwm Ifor, ensuring that our already strong partnership working is further strengthened.
- During the summer some pupils planted a second wheelbarrow as part of a local competition. We were very proud of the impressive display the pupils created. Our thanks to Wendy Howls and the pupils involved.
- School facilities continue to be used out of hours by the Youth/Leisure Service and CASS. However, the building work has impacted on provision and has sadly interrupted the summer club due to health and safety considerations associated with the roof replacement.
- Senior leaders and staff contribute to local and national education meetings. These include South Wales Association of Special Schools Heads' and Deputies' meetings, headteachers'/deputy headteachers' meetings, case conferences, EAS Special School Heads and Deputies, Welsh Government groups etc.
- There are strong links with Touch Trust, Duke of Edinburgh Wales, ASDAN, AQA and other local and national organisations; these contribute to Trinity Fields School having a highly successful profile within and beyond Caerphilly County Borough.
- Our satellite provisions continue to go from strength to strength and we are delighted with how inclusive these provisions are.
- The school is a lead strategic member of the SWASSH sport network and links closely with Disability Sport Wales (DSW) to further develop sporting opportunities for pupils.
- The school's provision for sport continues to go from strength to strength with pupils enjoying exceptional experiences in rugby, cricket, boccia and most recently football where the 1st team have made the semi-final of the South Wales cup.
- It was great to welcome our bike club back to school for 2 weeks. Nearly all pupils had the opportunity to get involved and the expanded car park provided the perfect location for pupils to further develop their cycling proficiency whilst having fun.
- We were very lucky to have a couple of sprinting sessions from a local athlete who is currently studying in a local college.
- Our e-sports team made the south Wales final and played in the Principality stadium against a very strong Bridgend College who were older and more experienced. We narrowly missed out but everyone had an incredible experience.
- The school once again enjoyed part hosting the annual Six Nations Rugby Festival and we would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Sport Caerphilly for organising such a wonderful event.
- More pupils are having the opportunity to experience CAG (Caerphilly Adventure Group) to develop their confidence and engagement in school.
- In collaboration with our new WRU Rugby officer, the school has implemented many rugby sessions and is currently taking steps to implement the Rugby leaders programme.
- School worked with the WRU Education officers to develop adapted Six Nations Schemes of Work.
- The alternative curriculum has been adapted by arranging activities including skateboarding and Caerphilly Adventure Group.
- The school has engaged well with Frozen Light Theatre and M&M Theatres to ensure pupils have experienced highly effective theatre productions.
- The school held several productions of their own including
 - Harvest Festival in the Local Church
 - Christmas carol service in the Local Church
 - Engagement with Open Orchestra leading to a concert in school
 - Establishment of a new choir leading to a performance in the church hall

Working for others

- Pupils and staff continue to raise money for a range of local and national charities. Governors are very grateful to all parents/carers for supporting this work.

Donations

06/03/2025	Christmas Jumper Day £53
06/03/2025	Jeans for Genes Day £52
06/03/2025	Children's Mental Health Day £34.80
April 2025	Comic Relief £158.30

Action as a result of any resolution passed at the last meeting

- No specific resolutions were passed.

Governors' expenses

- There were no governors' expenses for 2024 - 2025.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

- In common with all other schools, we are legally required to report on our ALN provision. In line with the Welsh Government's Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act (ALNET), the school ensures all Statements/Individual Development Plans (IDPs) are reviewed annually. All Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are updated following person-centred annual reviews. These are now referred to as 'Going for Gold' targets and have been further refined this year to ensure they support the pupils' IDPs and support curriculum progression.
- The school has developed a useful guide for pupils for annual review as well as a parent/carers' guide to the Welsh Government's ALNET Act. These guides are both available on the school website.
- Annual review meetings follow a pupil centred approach and wherever possible pupils are involved in their annual review and contribute through a PowerPoint presentation. In line with a pupil centred approach all pupils have a one-page profile which provides staff with key information.
- Our ALN policy, and whole school procedures, are monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.
- We receive regular support from a range of agencies that include educational psychologists, social services, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, teachers for VI/HI/MSI, medical staff etc. We are grateful for this multi-disciplinary approach that means that all of our pupils have access to the very best services and support.
- Further information about the changes associated with the ALNET (Wales) Act is available by contacting Christine Thomas (Assistant Headteacher).

Admission arrangements for pupils with disabilities

- The school is required by law to report on this aspect. All areas of the school and curriculum are accessible to pupils with a range of impairments (sensory, physical and cognitive).
- In partnership with the school council, pupils, local authority, community groups, governors and staff have developed our Strategic Equalities Plan (SEP). The current plan runs from 2021-2025; a copy is available at the school and on the school website.

Educational visits

- The Educational Visits policy has been ratified this year following scrutiny from the Governing Body. In line with curriculum developments, there has been a renewed emphasis on the educational benefits of educational visits.
- Educational Visits have included trips to the local village, Tesco, Collier's Farm Park, Jump trampoline park, Museums, Forest Schools, Principality Stadium, Caerphilly Adventures and various sporting venues including Cardiff Met University.
- All classes enjoyed a Christmas educational visit.
- With the help of the private fund, we have been able to fund transport costs for all visits which has ensured parental contributions have been kept to a minimum.
- A number of pupils took part in multi-sensory theatre performances by Moonbeam Theatre over a three day period.
- We have also welcomed Live Music Now into school, along with a Male Voice Choir and a whole school pantomime. Pupils in 4 classes accessed weekly glockenspiel sessions.

Pupil achievements

- The success of our pupils continues to be the focus of all aspects of our work. We were delighted to hold three end of year pupil progress celebratory achievement events during the summer term.
- Governors are extremely proud of pupils' achievements and record their thanks to all the staff who support them to achieve their success.

14-19 learning pathways

- All pupils in the Researchers and Aspire (14-19 learning pathways) classes successfully achieved their predicted accreditation at the end of the summer 2025 term.
- Classes use the Independent Living Suite and complete accredited programmes that focus on skills for life and living independently.

Accreditation Board	Number of learners	Completed	Range of units
AQA	80	Average of 4 units per learner	Literacy, Numeracy & additional units of interest
AQA Transforming Aspirations	35 in Years 10 & 11		Good Health and Friends, Relationships and Community
ASDAN 'Lifeskills'	80		10 challenges (average)
ASDAN Bronze / Silver	11	Bronze-10 Silver- 1	Moderation commended a high level of pupil engagement, meaningful learning tasks and range of evidence for each learning outcome
Duke of Edinburgh (D of E)	All pupils in 14-19 dept engaging with skills and/or practical sessions		

Sporting achievements

- Sport continues to play a very important part in life at Trinity Fields and the school is engaging well at a strategic level with Disability Sport Wales to drive improvements across the sector.
- Pupils had the opportunity to experience the thrills of rugby, develop new skills and make new friends, when Sport Caerphilly school staff hosted a highly successful 'Six Nations Disability Event'. The success of this event has grown in popularity over the years, with 25 schools taking part in this year's event. The event now fills the Centre for Sporting Excellence facility and provides a fantastic high-quality experience for everyone involved. The event would not run without the support of staff and volunteers and the WRU staff apprentices, Dragons community staff, students from Ystrad Mynach College and Sport Caerphilly.
- Pupils accessed successful cycling sessions led by Pedal Power. Some pupils completed cycling proficiency awards, while others experienced the thrill of a cycling experience for the first time.
- Liam Richards, our PE teacher, has implemented an extensive range of exciting sporting opportunities listed below.

Sport Educational Visits 2024-25	Number of Pupils
Visit to Valleys Gymnastics Academy - for our pupils who regularly attended gymnastics session in school	8
Football match vs. Ysgol Bryn Castell - first ever competitive full football fixture	12
InSport Series at Cardiff Met - opportunity for pupils to take part in paralympic sports	10
Football rematch vs. Ysgol Bryn Castell	14
Table Cricket Tournament at Sport Wales Centre - Regional competition	8
Gymnastics regional competition - for our pupils who regularly attended gymnastics session in school	8
Disability Six Nations - record number of pupils attended	84

Table Cricket Tournament at Sport Wales National Centre - national competition	8
Esports Finals at Principality Stadium - our esports team finished in the top 4 of their league and therefore qualified for the finals day	8
Football match vs. Heronsbridge - first fixture in the PE Direct Cup (national competition)	13
WRU Inclusion Day - rugby festival of different activities	12
Football match vs. Heol Goffa - next round in PE Direct Cup	15
PE Direct Finals Day - Semi-finals and Final of tournament, eventual winners!!!!	13
Disability Football Festival at Centre of Excellence - hosted by Sport Caerphilly (similar to six nations)	15
Urdd Athletics Competition at Cardiff Met - national competition	9

Buildings and grounds

- In January 2024, the school completed its new 10 classroom multi-million-pound extension. The new extension benefits from sensory rooms, meeting spaces, life skills flat, new playgrounds and office space.
- Whilst very exciting, this has been logistically challenging and the Governing Body would like to thank all staff, pupils, parents and wider stakeholders for their patience with the lack of car parking, the level of noise from the site and the general disruption to the daily life of the school.
- From February 2024, the school then engaged with contractors to begin the replacement of the roof in the original building. At the end of July 2025, contractors have completed phase 1 out of 5. Completion is due in March 2026 and once again, the work has meant significant compromise. Governors have noted the temporary closure of the pool and understand the frustration this has caused. We anticipate the pool being open permanently in mid January 2026.
- The Governing Body has sanctioned a couple of specific moving days throughout the year to reflect the enormous task of moving classrooms to accommodate the very invasive roof replacement programme.
- In addition to the large-scale redevelopment works, the school continues to develop its own maintenance programme and has successfully refurbished several toilets, classroom and corridor spaces to ensure the environment remains as purposeful as possible.

Term dates for 2025-2026

- Term dates and staff training days are posted on the school website and included in the annual planner that goes out to all parents/carers at the start of each autumn term.

Term	Term begins	Half term holidays		Term ends
		Begins	Ends	
Autumn 2025	Monday 1 st September	Monday 27 th October	Friday 31 st October	Friday 19 th December
Spring 2026	Monday 5 th January	Monday 16 th February	Friday 20 th February	Friday 27 th March
Summer 2025	Monday 13 th April	Monday 25 th May	Friday 29 th May	Monday 20 st July

Staff training days: 2025-2026

There are 6 staff training days during the 2025-2026 school year. The school is also planning a few specific closure days to accommodate the roof replacement works. The training days are to be taken as follows:

- 01/09/2025
- 02/09/2025
- 03/09/2025
- 05/01/2025
- 15/06/2026
- 20/07/2026 – school closed to pupils and staff as this will be taken as 6 x 1 hour twilights during the Autumn Term
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Session times (Primary Department)

Session 1	Break	Session 2	Lunch/PSD	Session 3
8.55 - 10.30	10.30 - 10.45	10.45 - 11.45	11.45 - 1.15	1.15 - 2.55

The lunch break includes feeding programmes and the development of social skills and forms an essential part of the school's Personal and Social Development (PSD) scheme of work.

Session times (Secondary Department)

Session 1	Break	Session 2	Lunch/PSD	Session 3
8.55 - 10.45	10.45 - 11.00	11.00 - 12.15	12.15 - 1.15	1.15 - 2.55

The lunch break includes feeding programmes and the development of social skills and forms an essential part of the school's PSD scheme of work.

Targets set by the governing body

- The targets set by the governing body are fully documented in the school development plan (SDP). This is available on the school's website in the policies section.
- We continually monitor the progress made towards these targets, working with the staff, the local authority and the EAS. The headteacher provides updates at our termly governors' meetings.
- Targets for 2025-2026 include:
 - ✓ Improve the provision and progress pupils make with their reading, writing & communication skills through implementation of the consistent new literacy strategy.
 - ✓ Improve the provision and progress pupils make with their functional numeracy skills by implementing a numeracy strategy.
 - ✓ Improve the consistency, knowledge and shared understanding of structured teaching across the school.
 - ✓ Improve curriculum and progression arrangements which focus on pupils in the Researchers and Aspire Phase of learning.
 - ✓ Further develop pupils' digital competence experiences, skills and knowledge relating to ICT and assistive technology.
 - ✓ Continue to refine a robust professional learning offer by utilising professional learning days, podcasts and creative ways to improve time management
 - ✓ Achieve full compliance with SLO leading to first publication of the Trinity Learning Journal which is a quality assured suite of enquiry case studies.
 - ✓ Further develop the AOLE workstream structures to improve distributed leadership.
 - ✓ Begin to engage with the international community via the Taith programme.
 - ✓ Further develop the role of N-GAGE in supporting the school's universal and targeted curriculum offers. Increase the Specific focus on sensory processing, total communication and family engagement.
 - ✓ Further embed PBS including TIS methodology across the school resulting in improved understanding and further reduction of behaviours that challenge. Ensure MOTIONAL is rolled out to all pupils.
 - ✓ Introduce Lego Therapy as an important tool to improve engagement and wellbeing.

- ✓ Continue to improve attendance across the school.
- ✓ Further engagement with the local community to promote authentic learning experiences through educational visits with specific emphasis on PMLD.
- ✓ Further embed and Improve the consistency and relevance of target setting by embedding the new whole school approach which uses a range of specialist frameworks and guidance and links well to IDP.
- ✓ Ensure the move into the new extension is systematic and child centred which reduces as much anxiety as possible.
- ✓ Achieve full refurbishment of the existing school site by March 2026.
- ✓ Improve the external learning environments in Heolddu and Pontllanfraith Satellites 2026

Attendance information

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change from 2023-24
Attendance	82.21%	84.5%	85.7%	85.4%	- 0.3%
Authorised absence	17.72%	15%	13.8%	13.9%	+0.1%
Unauthorised absence	0.06%	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	+0.2%

- As governors, we continue to ask parents/carers to support the headteacher by telephoning the school to inform staff of any absences.
- Without this information, any absence must be recorded as unauthorised. This can have an impact on those pupils claiming the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

Destination of school leavers: Summer 2023

Destination of Leavers 2023-2024	
Provision	Number of pupils
F.E. College (local)	3
F.E. College (STAR)	3
Day Service	0
Residential College	1
Other (includes private sector)	1 (Sense)

Financial Statement

	2024-2025
Estimated pupil numbers	300
Delegated budget formula allocation	7,858,667
EXPENDITURE AREA	
Teachers	3,037,634
Supply staff	928,049
Teaching assistants	3,080,051
Clerical & IT technicians	251,429
Mid-Day supervisors and maintenance staff	147,647
	3,140
Hospitality	
Training	49,358
Long service awards	250
Staff car allowances/expenses	2,463
Medical appointments	525
Building and equipment/repairs and maintenance	88,561
Grounds maintenance	661
Swimming pool maintenance	5,355
Cleaning Contract and Materials	113,559
Electricity	100,363
Gas	73,830
Water/water dispensers	17,190
Insurance (theft, vandalism)	29,231
Offsite travel insurance	484
Building insurance	8,425
Premises H&S	2,964
Refuse/hygiene rental units	15,513
Alarms	3,042
Vehicle running expenses (including hire costs)	17,378
CRC Allowances	
Capitation	115,791
Micro repair	0
Stationery	4,659
Telephone/mobile phones	8,947
Postage	629
OT/Physio equipment/other	31,119
IT Equipment/Leasing/ Computers	27,609

Furniture	6,780
TV Licence/copyright licence/data protection	255
Photocopying	15,228
Subscriptions	29,725
Medical expenses/reports	167
Clubs' adjustment	30,090
SLAs	55,407
Miscellaneous	802
Grant overspend	1,090
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	8,474,563

INCOME	
Reimbursement school meals admin	1,293
Hire of premises	382
ALN grant	15,861
Use of premises (Youth and leisure services)	5910
Children Looked After (CLA) grant	7,472
EWC	0
NQT Grant	0
ALN new systems in schools	43,717
Miscellaneous	38,212
Staff reimbursements	0
Devolved income	391,589
Donations	0
Inclusion reimbursement (Merthyr Tydfil, Panside, Pontllanfraith)	44,381
TOTAL INCOME	623,236

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	8,474,563
TOTAL INCOME	973,126
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	7,501,437
TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	414,261
TOTAL FUNDING	8,272,928

PROJECTED SURPLUS 2024/2025 - £771,491

PROJECTED SURPLUS 2025/2026- £437,489