



Governing Body of Hirwaun Primary Annual Report to Parents 2024-2025

Hirwaun Primary
School

Autumn 2024-2025

This report is produced in accordance with National Assembly for Wales (NAFW) Circular 15/01. A full report is available upon request.

The Governing Body

Clerk

The Clerk to the Governing Body is Mrs Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion, Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon, CF45 4SN

Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Mr M Morgan c/o Hirwaun Primary School, Glannant Street, Hirwaun CF449NF

Membership

Who is on our Governing Body?

Name	Category of Governor	Appointed By	Retirement Date
Cllr C Woodley Cllr A Rogers Cllr J Woodward	LEA	Council Members	11/03/2028 08/12/2027 28/09/2029
Mr Stephen Howells Mrs Z Goss Mr M Morgan	Community	Governing Body	21/06/2026 28/04/2029 01/12/2028
Cllr M Courtney-Solbach	Minor Authority	Council Members	08/11/2027
Mrs C Geake Mrs M Lewis Miss K Evans Mrs S Oliver	Parent	Parents	17/05/2027 20/11/2028 20/11/2028 20/11/2028
Mrs R Davies	Teacher	Teaching Staff	05/01/2029
Mrs M Morgan	Staff	Non Teaching Staff	05/01/2029
Mrs B Hill	Headteacher		



Election of Parent Governors

The next election of parent governors is due to take place on 17/05/2026. However, if there are any parent governor resignations before this date, arrangements will be made for an election to take place to fill



When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows :

LEA Representatives	3
Parent Governors	4
Staff Representative	1
Headteacher	1

Community Governors	3
Teacher Governor	1
Total	13

Details of meetings

There were no meetings held.

Sporting Aims and Achievements—School Clubs Children have been involved in a range of school clubs. These have included

- boys and girls football tag rugby
- Urdd sports club Rights respecting Schools
- Cardiff City football Choir

Children also represented the school at Urdd and local cluster sporting events.

School Development Plan

Governors are responsible for drawing up (in conjunction with staff) the School Development Plan. The plan identifies the direction the school will take over a three-year period, in delivering the curriculum. The plan is regularly monitored and revised to take account of progress made and any changes to curriculum requirements. The School Development Plan for the 2024-2025 academic year was approved by Governors. The targets set included short, medium, and long term aims, and were regularly reviewed by the Governing Body,

- Target 1 - Continue developing a concept-based curriculum to meet the mandatory elements of Curriculum for Wales (CfW)
- Target 2: Further develop pedagogy to ensure quality teaching and learning experiences to meet the needs of all learners
- Target 3 : Continue to implement and embed the ALNET Bill ensuring needs of pupils with ALN are effectively met
- Target 4: To continue developing Health and Wellbeing to support the needs of all learners



Fabric of the Building & Provision of Toilet Facilities

We are in a new building, where an investment of 10.2 million pounds has been made by RCT and Welsh Government as part of their 21st Century schools initiative.

Facilities are state of the art and the pupils are well deserving of such excellent new school.

Performance and target Information

The school attendance was 88.5% for 2024/25. Authorised absence is 6.8% Unauthorised is 4.7%. The target for 2025/26 is 90%. Attendance of all pupils is closely monitored and a priority for improvement.

43 pupils transferred to Secondary School at end of the year.

Use of the Welsh Language - Communication

This school is an English medium school, lessons and other school activities are communicated through the medium of English. The use of the Welsh language is promoted by the use of incidental Welsh with all pupils throughout the school day.



Financial Statement – Period Covered 2024– 2025

Enclosed, as appendix A is a copy of the school's financial statement for the Financial Year 2024/25 Further breakdown of the information is available upon request

Action taken by the Governing Body

The school has a large number of Policy documents covering both curriculum and non-subject areas. These documents are constantly reviewed/revised by staff/governors to incorporate changing trends and legislation. The following policies were agreed in the Summer Term meeting:

- Intimate Care Policy
- RCT Exclusion Policy
- Teachers Pay Policy
- Cyber Security Policy

Further information is available by contacting the Headteacher during school time.

Parents are informed if any amendments are made to the existing prospectus.



Term Dates and Holidays

Term	From	To
Autumn 2025	Monday, September 1 2025	Friday, October 24 2025
Half Term	Monday, October 27 2025	Friday, October 31 2025
Autumn 2025	Monday, November 3 2025	Friday, December 19 2025
Christmas Holidays	Monday, December 22 2025	Friday, January 2 2026
Spring 2026	Monday, January 5 2026	Friday, February 13 2026
Half Term	Monday, February 16 2026	Friday, February 20 2026
Spring 2026	Monday, February 23 2026	Friday, March 27 2026
Easter Holidays	Monday, March 30 2026	Friday, April 10 2026
Summer 2026	Monday, April 13 2026	Friday, May 22 2026
Half Term	Monday, May 25 2026	Friday, May 29 2026
Summer 2026	Monday, June 1 2026	Monday, July 20 2026

Mon 1 Sept 2025 and *Monday 20 July 2026 will be designated INSET days for **all** LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining three INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. ***It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Mon 20 July 2026 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.** All schools will be closed on **Monday 4th May 2026** for the May Day Bank Holiday

Significant dates:

- Christmas Thursday 25 December 2025
- Easter Good Friday 3 April 2026 Easter
- Monday 6 April 2026
- May Bank Holidays Monday 4 May 2026
- Monday 25 May 2026

The School day is organised as follows;

- Morning** - 9:00 am to 12:00pm
- Lunch break** - 12:00pm to 1:00pm 12.20pm to 1.30pm
- Afternoon** – 1:00 pm to 3:20pm

Community Focused Schools

A community-focused school is one that: ‘provides a range of services and activities’, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community. Across Wales many schools already provide some community services including adult education, study support, ICT facilities and community sports programmes’.

The development of community-focused schools is not just a short-term project or initiative, but a real opportunity for schools and communities to work together in new ways for the future benefit of children, young people and adults.



Additional Learning Needs



The school's policy for the Assessment of and Provision for Pupils with Additional Learning Needs is summarised as follows: The school's policy for the identification, assessment and provision for pupils with additional learning needs is consistent with the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales (approved by the Senedd on 23rd March 2021) under section 4 of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018

The school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) works closely with all other members of staff to ensure that individual educational plans are developed and implemented to meet the needs of pupils, appropriate to those who require them. The ALNCo also liaises with all members of staff, to ensure that the progress of all pupils is regularly monitored and assessed and to ensure that each pupil reaches his or her potential. During the academic year 2024/2025 11 pupils were in receipt of an Individual Development Plan (IDP)

Admission/Transition Arrangements

RCTCBC is the Admissions Authority for all schools (other than Church schools where the schools governing body is the admissions authority) within the Authority's boundary. The school's admission arrangements are therefore operated in line with the Authority's policy on school admissions which is contained in the publication Starting School Book. The book is made available to parents at the point of their application for their child's admission to school. The contents of this book can also be accessed online on the Authority's website. Pupils will usually remain in the school until they complete year six and then transfer to secondary school. This school is a feeder school for Aberdare Community School however pupils may apply to attend any secondary school they choose, subject to compliance with the Authority's admissions policy. It is the Authority's policy that all children, as far as is possible within the terms of the Education Act 1996 (amended by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 and the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Act 2018) should be educated in mainstream Welsh, English and dual language schools within their local communities. The Additional Learning Needs Code 2021 provides statutory advice to professionals regarding their roles and responsibilities and further guidance is provided within the Equality Act 2010. The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act 2018 clearly states that most pupils with additional learning needs should receive appropriate and inclusive additional learning provision within their local mainstream Welsh, English or dual language school. However, children with significant and very complex learning difficulties may be offered placement in a Learning Support Class within a mainstream school or in a special school. Children with significant and highly complex social, emotional and behavioural difficulties may receive their education via RCT's EOTAS (Education Other Than At School) Provision. Decisions regarding specialist placements are made by the Access and Inclusion Service following consultation with parents, schools, health professionals and other relevant support services

Access for Disabled Pupils

The governing body is mindful of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 and The Special Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) 2005 in drawing up the School Development Plan/Post Inspection Action Plan, and the day to day operation of the whole site.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils are able to participate in the school curriculum and (where they desire) in activities such as after school clubs, leisure/sporting events and educational visits. All aspects of accessibility, including access to written information are included in the planning process.

The Authority has in place an Accessibility Strategy and in line with this strategy we have had an audit of the school site undertaken, as part of an Authority wide brief, to identify any potential barriers and to improve the access to the school.

Healthy Eating

The school promotes the importance of Healthy Eating and children are encouraged to bring a fruit snack into school and milk is provided for all pupils from Nursery to Year 2. Water fountains are available to provide pupils with fresh water to drink. The school is part of the Healthy School's scheme.

