

# GOVERNORS' REPORT TO PARENTS ON THE PAST SCHOOL YEAR: 2017 - 2018

## INTRODUCTION

The Governing Body is required to provide a report to parents each year and we are pleased to do so. Some of the material is included to meet statutory reporting requirements but there is additional information about the school, including changes in staff and curriculum and a record of achievements, both individual and collective.

I would like to begin this introduction with a thank you, and it is to you, as parents and guardians, for the support you have given the school over the last year; firstly, by encouraging your children in their work and behaviour at the school. This has included your cooperation in helping us implement our new uniform and mobile phone policies. Secondly, so many of you have given practical support, whether this has meant helping individually at the school, being involved with the PTA or lobbying the County Council, our MP Ben Lake, or our Welsh Assembly Member, Elin Jones. Our recent meetings involving all three have had a significant effect, not least, I believe, in leading to a further contribution of £81,000 from the Council towards the end of last term.

Despite this welcome payment, the financial position remains difficult. The last year has required a further programme of restructuring and redundancies which has involved the support and administrative side of the school rather than the teaching staff. The school's financial position remains difficult and further details are given later in this report.

We as governors and you as parents and guardians want our children to thrive at school; to find their strengths, to challenge their weaknesses, to do their best, and to enjoy being at Penglais. In that context, exam results are not the be all or end all, but they remain important. In general terms, both at GCSE level and A level this year, the percentages of students achieving A\*/A and A\*- C were similar to those of last year. As you will know, the school remains in Estyn monitoring, largely due to concerns over some of our results, and the gap between boys' and girls' achievements. I know that our head teacher,

Ms Mair Hughes and the rest of the staff recognize the need to improve our results and are working hard to do so. Our ambition remains is to see Penglais in the top 25% of school in Wales.

As always, I want to end this introduction by expressing my gratitude to all the members of the Governing Body for their support over the last challenging year. They have been very dedicated during a time of almost unrelenting pressure. In so doing, they have continued - as unpaid volunteers - to put in hours of work to help guide and direct this wonderful school.

Richard John

## INTRODUCING THE GOVERNORS

Term of Office	Expiry Date of
<b>Chair</b>	
Mr. R John	15/11/18
<b>Vice Chair</b>	
Dr. J Moorby	15/11/18
<b>Headteacher</b>	
Ms. M Hughes	N/A
<b>Clerk to the Governors</b>	
Mrs. H Clements	
<b>Teacher Governors</b>	
Mrs. K S Porter	01/09/20
Mrs. J J Elgood	01/11/20
<b>Staff Governor</b>	
Mr. J Kelsey	01/10/22
<b>Parent Governors</b>	
Ms. G Glasby	01/11/20
Dr. J Moorby	01/11/20
Mr. C Turner	01/11/19
Mr. P Williams	01/11/19
<b>Community Governors</b>	
Mr. R Bennett	01/11/18
Mr. R John	01/11/18
Mr. K Jones	01/11/20
Dr. A Williams	01/11/19
<b>LEA Governors</b>	
Cllr. C Davies	09/05/21

Dr. Ann Minchin	01/11/18
Rector M Farah	27/02/21
Cllr. P James	09/05/21
Mrs. L. Jagger	30/04/18

Any enquiries to the governors can be sent via Helena Clements, Clerk to the Governing Body Tel: 01970 621110 or email: hcl@penglais.org.uk

## **SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (Post Inspection Action Plan: PIAP)**

The plan sets out the aims and priorities for the school development and provides a crucial framework for effective management and enables us to evaluate progress against annual targets. The School Development Plan (PIAP) is available for parents to view in school. Parents wishing to receive a personal copy are invited to request one from Mrs Helena Clements, Clerk to the Governing Body at Penglais School, Waunfawr, Aberystwyth, SY23 3AW.

The main priorities identified for 2017-18 were the recommendations made by Estyn in their Core Inspection of January 2016:

- R1: Improve the achievement of all students, boys and pupils entitled to free school meals
- R2: Improve attendance rates
- R3: Improve the co-ordination for the development of pupils' literacy and numeracy skills to help them make suitable progress in all subjects
- R4: Improve the quality of teaching and assessment
- R5: Address the health and safety concerns raised during the inspection
- R6: Ensure that the senior leaders hold middle leaders to account for raising standards
- R7: Improve the rigour and effectiveness of self-evaluation and improvement planning at all levels

Estyn visited the school in December 2017 and judged that the school had not made sufficient progress in addressing each of the recommendations. Estyn will be returning to the school within 12-18 months from the December visit.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The school continues to manage its budget under very difficult circumstances with the

school budget being cut. Due to increased costs and further budget cuts, a programme of restructuring and redundancies had to be made during the last academic year. This had a greater impact on the support and administrative aspect of the school rather than the teaching staff. Careful managing of the budget, as well as grants made available in the last month of the financial year, left the school with a surplus of £183,089. However, the in-year costs of the school are currently running at a deficit, despite the cuts that were made last year and further work will be needed this year to address this.

The Governing Body and Headteacher have worked hard to raise awareness within the local authority and with our local MP and AM of the financial difficulties that the school faces. A meeting that was arranged for parents in March with officers from the Local Authority was successful in raising awareness and further funding was secured by the LA towards the end of the financial year. The support of parents in raising this awareness is appreciated.

## **SETTING AND MEETING TARGETS**

The main indicators for school performance are explained below:

### **Key Stage 4:**

- L1 Indicator Attainment of at least 5 GCSEs at A\*-G
- L2 Indicator Attainment of at least 5 GCSEs at A\*-C
- L2+ Indicator Attainment of at least 5 GCSEs at A\*-C (including English or Welsh 1st Lang and Maths)
- Capped points score GCSE Average of the 9 best GCSE grades per pupil

### **Key Stage 5:**

- L3 Indicator Attainment of 2 or more A Level passes

The Welsh Government compares schools' performance across Wales for each of the indicators above. One important benchmark is the comparison of our school performance with that of schools with a similar percentage of pupils claiming free school meals.

There have been improvements in the school's performance when looking at the benchmarking for key stage 4:

- Best Maths has remained in the second quartile and Numeracy has moved up to the first quartile
- Capped 9 score has moved up to the second quartile
- Science has moved up to the second quartile
- Level 2 has moved up to the second quartile
- Percentage of students who have achieved 5A\*/A is in the first quartile

The performance of boys has increased across all measures as has the performance of students who are eligible for free school meals.

Performance in English in 2018 stood at 65%, a reduction from 69% in 2017. Performance in Maths in 2018 was at 64% and the Numeracy achieved 70% both of which show an improvement on 2017. The best Maths for 2018 was 72% up from 70% in 2017. In Science the department achieved a 75% for the two GCSE examinations, a slight reduction from 77% in 2017.

### Key Stage 5:

At post-16, 34% of grades were at A\*/A; 60% at A\*-B and 77% at A\*-C grades.

95% of students achieved 2 A Levels at grades A\*-E, and 62% achieved 3 A Levels at A\*-C.

At **Key Stage 3**, our Year 9 group last year achieved slightly lower than the previous year. The Core Subject Indicator which is the percentage of pupils obtaining Level 5 in all three of English or Welsh First Language, Maths and Science was 89.5% compared to 91.5% in 2017.

As a school we are very proud of our pupils' achievements. The school is most grateful to the unrelenting hard work of our staff, the efforts of our pupils and the tremendous support of parents and governors.

### STAFFING

We said a sad farewell to the following members of staff left Penglais in 2017-2018:

Mr G Davies	Mr R Edwards
Mrs K Carden-Brown	Miss R Ireland

Mrs E Morgan  
Mr R Davies  
Mrs D Owen  
Mrs A Reeves  
Mrs L Griffiths-Cole  
Mr M Jones  
Miss S Bowen

Mr R Binks  
Mrs S Grasham  
Mrs C Owen  
Mr D Sykes  
Mr L Vaughan  
Mr J Roberts  
Dr J Ibbotson

The following are the new members of staff that joined us in September 2018 to fulfil new and existing posts:

Dr S Evans	Miss K Thomas
Ms J Weeks	Miss C Williams
Miss J Wilson	Mrs S Johnson
Mr P Budd	Mrs C Jones
Mrs R Rock	Miss J Malay
Miss A Rees	Mr E Davies
Miss C Barton	Ms K Gallon

### CURRICULUM CHANGES

All students have access to a very broad and balanced curriculum through all key stages. In key stage 3 students have been following all core subjects along with humanities and creative. This has included Drama for all once a fortnight.

Throughout the curriculum, improvement of basic literacy and numeracy is fundamental. Many pupils have timetabled lessons where basic numeracy and literacy are the main focus. Other pupils are withdrawn from lessons in order to improve a specific need such as spelling. All schemes of work in Key Stage 3 are focusing more on literacy and numeracy following the statutory National Literacy and Numeracy Framework. We have been providing a narrative report to parents regarding literacy and numeracy within subject areas to ensure a greater understanding of pupil progress for parents. We are also auditing our progress towards the digital competency framework and will be adjusting schemes of work where necessary.

In Key Stage 4, pupils could choose from three option boxes with a wide variety of subjects, including vocational, practical and academic. All pupils now study the Welsh Baccalaureate giving all the chance to obtain a GCSE equivalent qualification.

In the Sixth Form we have again managed to maintain a wide range of subjects and have attracted many pupils to the school who wish to study a broad and interesting range of options. We are still able to offer all three modern foreign languages, social sciences and Geology.

## **ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS / SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

The department provides support for pupils with a variety of additional needs. It comprises of the Learning Support Centre (LSC), Dyslexia and Skills Centre, Numeracy Support Centre, Hearing Resource Centre [HRC] for Deaf and Hearing-Impaired pupils, Hafan (for emotional support) and English as an Additional Language (EAL) Centre.

The HRC currently has four members of staff. Staff deliver a personalised curriculum in the base with pre and post tutoring sessions. The team of Teaching Assistants [TAs] continues to work as a group to give invaluable in-class support to pupils and staff. The team join the INSET training on offer to teaching staff when appropriate and have also had training on literacy and numeracy support. The local authority SEN team also offers training for pupils' specific needs. Training last year included sessions with a focus on Autism, attachment and emotional coaching.

All pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 undertake statutory testing in May each year and the data is analysed to ensure all pupils receive any additional support necessary. The data is also utilised to check progress for individuals receiving additional basic skills provision. These results are recorded and shared with mainstream teachers and support staff on an annual basis.

We have also introduced whole school screening to support the identification of pupil difficulties much earlier. Every pupil is screened on a rolling programme. The screeners we use highlight strengths and difficulties with spelling, reading, handwriting and working memory.

Pupils in the smaller supported class have timetabled Skills lessons. They are seen by specialist staff and a range of programmes are used to address any literacy needs. Other pupils who are struggling with aspects of literacy are seen for intervention by being withdrawn from lessons. We also offer a skills option in Key Stage 4. These sessions are used to support the delivery of GCSE options. The EAL centre has a teacher and a full-time member of support staff. Pupils with English as an Additional Language (who often arrive in Penglais with very limited command of the

language) continue to be given support by the EAL team. This may be in the form of an intense language programme or in-class support as necessary. Many of these pupils go on to do extremely well in their external examinations.

With regard to training, we now have an ASD champion within the school who can provide guidance to staff on how to support ASD pupils. We have two members of staff training as ELSAs (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants). A team of staff across the school are working with Dr Dee Grey on developing a package of support to aid the development of resiliency with young people. We are planning on rolling this programme out across the school. We also have two specialist teachers for access arrangements.

12 members of staff have undertaken a sign language course. This has raised the awareness of sign language across the school. Staff have been using BSL with staff and pupils from the HRC.

The department will be developing a Young Carers hub and a sensory garden over the next few months. Funding for the Young Carers hub has been donated by Aber Instruments and funding for the sensory garden has been donated by Tesco.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY AND SCHOOL SECURITY**

A health and safety audit is carried out annually by Mr P J Jones, Health and Safety Co-ordinator at the school and Mr C Turner, governor with responsibility for health and safety. For 2017-18 this was carried out in June 2018. No major problems were found during the last audit. In 2018-19 significant works will include replacement of boilers and replacement of fencing in several areas of the school. A grant application has been made for funding to renovate and install new toilet facilities in school. Plans have been drawn up for new toilet facilities in school and the school is actively seeking funding to carry out this work.

Significant site improvements have taken place over the last two years. Funding was secured from Ceredigion County Council to improve the accessibility in school – this included the installation of a lift and wheelchair ramp. The Lillian Ball trust fund has funded an electronic door near Reception. In July 2018

the County Council also provided funding to install air conditioning in three of the warmest classrooms in school.

Mr Jones will work closely with Ceredigion Council Health and Safety staff, the school site staff throughout the year and he will also meet during the school year with department Health and Safety representatives.

Since September 2013 it is a requirement that the school reports on its toilet facilities. At Penglais they are as follows:

**D Block Corridor:**

Boys 7 cubicles, 2 rows of urinals  
Girls 11 cubicles  
1 accessible cubicle

**Learning Support Centre:**

1 male cubicle  
1 female cubicle  
1 disabled cubicle

**PE changing rooms (outside):**

Boys 2 urinals, 1 cubicle  
Girls 2 cubicles  
1 disabled cubicle

**PE changing rooms (inside):**

Boys 1 cubicle  
Girls 2 cubicles  
1 disabled cubicle

**Sixth Form Centre:**

Boys 4 cubicles, 2 urinals  
Girls 6 cubicles  
1 disabled cubicle

The boys' toilets in D block are flushed 6 times a day and freshened up 2-3 times a day. There are two extractor fans and a sanitiser. The toilets are also fully cleaned at the end of every day. All other toilets are cleaned at the end of the day.

**PROMOTING HEALTHY SCHOOLS**

National Quality Awards 2014-2017

The NQA is ongoing from our last assessment in 2015, with the aim of completing by the end of the academic year 2018/2019.

The following areas have been covered while working through from Phase 1 to Phase 5 in the Ceredigion Healthy Schools Scheme. The scheme encourages schools to promote

health through work with pupils and staff and to raise awareness with parents, governors and the wider community.

Phase 1	2006 & 2008 Nutrition and Safety
Phase 2	2010 Environment and Physical Activity
Phase 3	2013 Personal Development and Relationships, Mental, Emotional Health and Wellbeing
Phase 4	2014 Hygiene
Phase 5	2015 Substance Use and Misuse Education

Evidence is being collated under seven health topics for the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes National Quality Award (NQA).

- Mental and emotional health and wellbeing
- Food and fitness
- Personal development and relationships
- Substance Use and Misuse
- Environment
- Safety
- Hygiene

**LIBRARY REPORT**

Bucking the Trend

The library is proud to report that boys' reading and library loans have been statistically higher than girls last year: 52% of fiction books were loans by boys between the beginning of Sept last year and this year compared to the girls' 40%. This is the first year ever that the boys reading for pleasure figure has overtaken the girls. One of the top ten borrowers was also male and EFSM. These figures could be partly due to the increase in popular fiction aimed at the boys and the drive in the curriculum to improve boys' reading. Not surprisingly, it is also the boys who are filling the library every day at lunch times and breaks. Almost all the computers during these times are occupied by boys completing their school work or homework in the library. The overall majority are working hard and not time wasting.

Lunch and break time use in general remains heavy and there has been an improvement in behaviour during these times. There has been a notable increase in borrowing at the start of this academic year and loans for September are over double the figure of last year: 93 compared to 48. The increased use of form time for literacy has already seen more pupils borrowing books from the library.

The library's opening hours were reduced from September 2018 and the library no longer provides after school provision.

## RESOURCES

The library remained within the budget set last year and £3000 has been allocated as the budget for 2018-9. A large proportion of this has already been spent on upgrading the library software to provide pupils with access to their own library accounts and more flexibility for book reviews and book interaction. The eBook licence will not be renewed this academic year and the library will instead focus on print-based resources and investigate electronic journals for Key Stages 4 and 5.

## THIS YEAR

Library competitions will run throughout the year and will involve the use of the new Reading Cloud software. The focus on 2018-19 must be to increase the girls' use of the library and drive up library book loans in general.

## ATTENDANCE

In the last academic year, the attendance figure for Years 7-11 was 94.8%. This figure rose from last year's figure by 0.1%. This achievement continues to put the school into the 2nd quartile and has given the school a level of consistency over the last 2 years. Attendance rates for our eFSM students also continues to rise. 2017-18 saw the whole school figure for eFSM pupils rise by 0.2% and reach our highest ever percentage of 92.4%

Our current whole school target remains 95% and in order to achieve this target we will continue to reinforce current good practice within Penglais as well as introduce a number of initiatives to reach our challenging target.

The main initiatives used to date to raise the level of attendance in Penglais are;  
School intervention to any student below 95% attendance (letter, meeting etc.)  
Non-authorisation of attendance for students below 95% attendance  
Early LEA intervention  
This year under the guidance of a new EIO and school attendance officer we have introduced the following initiatives;

- LEA letter for any parents that take their child on a holiday (>5days)
- Bespoke educational packages to students at risk of exclusion

The reasoning for these two initiatives is that, last year 401 days were lost to holiday absence and 137 days to exclusion. It is hoped that through the introduction of these initiatives, we can meet our 95% target.

The Assistant Headteacher continues to meet once each week with the Education Inclusion Officer (EIO). At these meetings pupils with poor attendance are discussed and those who meet the criteria are referred to the LEA. The EIO will invite the parents to a meeting in school. If appropriate, referrals will be made to the school medical service and/or the county legal department. When attendance does not improve, this will lead to further meetings with the involvement of appropriate



outside agencies together with the county solicitor.

An early intervention approach has been used in the last four years very successfully with the EIO. When attendance remains poor but does not meet the criteria for a formal referral, the EIO will come into school to meet parents. In nearly all cases attendance improved significantly and with immediate effect which has been sustained. This system is now supported by the EIO attending Pastoral Committee meetings.

The school has continued to raise the profile and importance of attendance. Regular league tables are published and presented to form tutors and placed on year group noticeboards, along with lists of those pupils with 100% attendance. Those pupils with 100% attendance were awarded certificates at our Celebrating Achievement Assembly. Heads of Year stress the importance of attendance regularly in assemblies. School reports to all pupils include a figure, a comment and information of the level of appropriate attendance.

## **BEHAVIOUR**

The academic year 2017-18 saw a subtle change to the behaviour procedures implemented by staff at Penglais. Whilst the system that distinguishes between emotional behaviour and learning behaviour continued, following an analysis of behaviour data it was felt that staff training regarding ego states and transactional analysis was needed. The consequence of this training saw a decline in behaviour incidents as the year progressed. The result of this meant that students remained in lessons and thus continued their learning.

Further training with middle leaders supported this system and weekly briefings with Heads of Year and faculty leaders resulted in the school being proactive in its approach to behaviour management.

The work of the Inclusion Unit (Y Bont) in school continues to expand. The main purpose of the unit being set up in school originally was to prevent exclusion and to house our more vulnerable learners. Towards the latter part of the year, a number of students were able to access their learning via the Pupil Referral Unit, this resulted in there being less

students educated within the Bont and as a consequence staff could again be more proactive with regards to behaviour management and provide support to students in class and evaluate and understand pupil responses/triggers and behaviours.

In the last academic year Encil was again used as an alternative to exclusion and, as a result prevented a number of possible exclusions from occurring. The result of whole school staff restructuring has seen the role of Encil Manager replaced by a rota of SLT staff.

Hafan continues to support pupils with emotional needs and prevents the possibility of further incidents involving these students leading to disciplinary sanctions.

A senior staff rota supporting 'hotspot' classes helped to further support the adapted behaviour procedures, as did the purchase of ClassCharts. ClassCharts is a new web based behaviour management programme designed to support student differentiation, teacher planning, and communication with parents. The programme was trialled in the later months of the year and has received positive feedback to date.

## **WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY AND WELSH ETHOS**

The school continues to implement the County Language Policy. The school's agreed policy is as follows:

The school takes pride in continuing to develop a distinctive Welsh ethos and in affirming its commitment to bilingualism. Linguistic continuation and progression between key stages is recognised.

- Welsh first language groups will continue to be staffed generously to ensure appropriate differentiation and progression.
- Pupils entering Year 7 can opt to study Geography, RE, Music and Art through the medium of Welsh. This option is to allow these pupils to better develop their reading, writing and speaking skills in Welsh. All staff are encouraged to use Welsh with pupils through classroom interaction or comments in books.
- Pupils in Welsh medium registration groups will have their form period time and regular

Welsh assemblies support pastoral development.

- All pupils are either taught Welsh first language or Welsh second language depending on their programme of study in Key Stage 2.

As a result of these measures between 20-30% of the curriculum will be delivered either through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. However, the teaching and learning experience will be predominantly through the medium of English and the school believes this is in keeping with the majority of parents' and pupils' wishes. Examination courses in Key Stage Four and in the Sixth Form will, with the exception of Welsh, be conducted through the medium of English.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Last year saw a new structure to the organisation of the school council. The formation of the school council was made up of a faculty representative (curriculum) and a year group representative (pastoral). For these members to be elected, each faculty and year group formed their own individual council.

Members were elected to their individual faculty by the Faculty Leader and the year group councils via ballot coordinated by the year leader. Each council then elected a lead member that would sit on the whole school council. It was proposed that each separate council would meet every half a term and report to the whole school council at the end of every half term.

The School Council for 2017/18 met for the first time in early October. They elected officials, organised the creation of the fixed agenda items for both faculty and year groups. The committee began work by drawing up its own list of priorities, which included; continuing to raise the profile of the Council, looking at ways of improving the curriculum, learning environment and pastoral systems.

During the year, pupils have met regularly and discussed whole school issues such as teaching & learning, homework, behaviour, attendance, staffing, faculty/whole school specific trips and visits. Working alongside the

Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher they have also worked on developing changes to the new order of the day for September 2018 and had a vital part in determining the school vision and values. This work was carried out in several sessions with the Assistant Headteacher and Headteacher looking at views of the School council.

The School Council helped with the Year 6 transition days and supported the school open evening. Several members of the group spoke to parents and pupils on the night regarding the role of the school council.

The School Council has been consulted on a range of school policies and has informed curricular change. Their input was greatly valued, and their feedback was used to shape the school improvement plan.

The continued work of the School Council is supporting Penglais in working towards the National Award and if successful, will be the first secondary school in Ceredigion to achieve this award.

## **SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS 2017 – 2018**

### **'Sports Crew'**

The 'Sports Crew' is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year and has 20 members from Years 7, 8 and 9. The Sports Crew is in the process of being rejuvenated and having a fresh application process ahead of the 2018/19 year. More information will be released in the coming weeks.

### **5x60 Dance Competition**

The Penglais 5x60 dance squad competed in the 5x60 Ceredigion Dance Competition which was held by video recording this year due to severe weather and snow. In total 25 girls took part in two junior groups and a senior group. The girls had spent months learning and practising their routines with the help of choreographer Charlotte Warwick. They attended the weekly 5x60 Hip-hop club and also put in extra hours during break times and at weekends, demonstrating their dedication. The girls trio achieved third place - well done girls!

### **Young Ambassadors**



Currently there are 8 Silver Young Ambassadors in year 11 with many in the application process of applying to be Gold Young Ambassadors. They have worked tirelessly to increase participation in physical activity and promote wellbeing, both in school and with local primary schools.

### **Aber Cyclefest**

Penglais pupils participated in the school mountain bike and road bike races organised by the Aber Cyclefest team in May. The pupils raced along the roads that the pro riders were competing on later in the evening.

### **Girls Only**

Our Silver Young Ambassadors hold a 'Girls Only' Benchball club which is hugely popular with up to 30 girls attending. The Young Ambassadors play music to give it a party atmosphere which the girls love. The girls also participated in the county 5x60 girls competition in Lampeter. Squads at U14 and U16 won several matches and played fantastic football.

### **Netball**

Both U18 and U16 teams achieved success in the Ceredigion Championships held in Lampeter last October. The U16 team won all their matches in their pool but lost by one goal in the final against Aberaeron. In the U18 category, the team got to the final, winning the competition and got through to the West Wales competition that was held in January against the Southern Counties. Despite some of the team members not being able to compete, they came a respectable 4<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Football**

#### **Welsh Cup Competition**

A total of 5 teams were entered from Penglais (3 boys teams and 2 girls teams).

The U12 boys achieved some very pleasing results gaining a place in the Semi Final against Brynhyfryd school in North Wales but lost the match 2-1 away. In the U14's, the team reached the quarter final stages losing at home to Bro Myrddin 3-0. At U16 level, having won the Ceredigion tournament they sadly lost

in the third round against Coedcae school in Llanelli.

Both girls teams at U13 and U15 level unfortunately lost their matches in the first round despite being committed to training and displaying persistence throughout.

Aberystwyth Town U19 side won their first ever National League trophy at Newtown against The New Saints (TNS). Aberystwyth earned a penalty in the first half and took the lead over TNS, winning the match 1-0. This is an enormous achievement for the club and Penglais are very proud of both current and former pupils of the school who are a part of this golden generation of players:

Team: Harri Horwood (year 13), Josh Crowl (year 12), Alex Pennock (year 12), Steffan Gittins (year 12). Former pupils: Mathew Jones, Niall Coleridge, Liam Berner, Oliver Farebrother.

### **Hockey**



Three pupils from Penglais School were selected to play hockey for Wales.

Conor and Aodhán O'Regan were selected for the Wales U16 boys team and Lora Constable for the U18 girls team. All teams played in a 3-day International test series against Scotland at the National Hockey Centre in Glasgow over the Easter weekend.

### **Penglais pupils win the Hockey Wales Club Championships.**

Conor O'Regan and Owen Keyworth played for Colwyn Bay's U18 team in the final of the All Wales Hockey Club Championships in



Newtown coming away with a convincing 3-1 win over Whitchurch from South Wales.

Aodhán O'Regan, Robert Glasser, Ruadhán O'Regan and Josh Gwynne all played for their local team, Dysynni in the U15s age group of the All Wales Hockey Club Championship held in Newtown and came away with 3-0 winners over Swansea to win the Welsh title.

Ruadhán O'Regan and Josh Gwynne have both been selected to play for the Welsh Dragons U13 hockey squad which will go forward to represent Wales at the forthcoming tournament in Manchester – we wish them luck.



Órla O'Regan also played for her local hockey team, Dysynni and helped to win the North Wales Club Championship at both the U13 and U15 age groups. These teams went forward to the All Wales Hockey Club Championship in Newtown where the U15 team came 3<sup>rd</sup> and the U13 team came 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Rugby

### Schools U15 Final

Tuesday 1st May was a significant day for three County players from Penglais; Josh Hathaway (year 9), Josh Cox (year 10) and Josh Balla (year 10) who celebrated an unforgettable and thrilling experience playing at the Principality Stadium, Cardiff in the Schools U15 final. Ceredigion came head to head with Rhymney Valley who proved to be very tough opponents. Despite a 26-7 defeat, it is a huge achievement for both Penglais players and the Ceredigion team to reach the final and play where Wales have won the Six Nations.

### Ceredigion Athletics

The school is very proud of the many pupils from Penglais who represented the school and were selected to take part at the Dyfed

Championships on Saturday June 16th at Johnstown athletic track in Carmarthen. The pupils were selected having come within the first three places in their individual events. Congratulations to:

#### Year 7

Sam Johnston – 100m  
1st; Shot - 1st  
Luke Bowen – Hurdles  
– 2nd  
Angelina Davies –  
100m 1st; Long jump –  
1st  
Tia Wicks – 1500m -  
1st  
Divine Odual – Hurdles  
– 1st



#### Year 8

Somachi Nwosu – 300m – 1st  
Yoyo Barron – 100m - 3rd  
Orla O'Regan – 800m 2nd  
Kitty Heidt -1500m - 2nd  
Freya Young – Hurdles – 2nd  
Catrin Morris – Javelin – 3rd

#### Year 9

Harbhi Cooper - 1500m - 2nd  
Mia Terry - 800m – 3rd  
Josh Hathaway - 100m – 1st; Long jump - 3rd  
Alastair Donnison - 300m – 1st  
Joshua Williamson Evans – Javelin – 3rd

#### Year 10

Ffion Duckett – 100m - 2nd  
Ceris Richards – 200m - 2nd  
Siwan Richards – Hurdles - 3rd  
George Thurston – Long jump - 1st  
Deri Cairns-Howarth – 800m – 2nd  
Ifan Phillips – 1500m – 3rd

### Dyfed Schools Representatives in the Welsh Championships, Cardiff:

Joshua Hathaway represented Dyfed at the Welsh Championships on Saturday July 7th in Cardiff. Josh came an impressive 6th place throughout Wales in the long jump and the Dyfed relay team that Josh was a member of came 4th.

## ROUNDERS

The annual Ceredigion rounders tournament was hosted by Ysgol Henry Richard in Tregaron. A squad of 13 girls from year 7 had been training religiously with the year 8 girls team who were last years' champions. The

team, captained by Angelina Davies won 6 of their 7 matches but lost against the host team, Tregaron and came a worthy 2nd place. This is a great achievement for the girls and Penglais are very proud of them.

### **Welsh Representatives:**

#### **Football:**

Harri Horwood (yr.13) and Harri Rowe (yr.12) were presented with their Welsh Schools U18 International Caps by Welsh International Connor Roberts following a highly successful season. The team finished second behind the Irish Republic in the prestigious annual Centenary Shield and beat England (1-0) and Scotland (2-3) along the way.

#### **Fishing:**

Tania Morgan

#### **Gymnastics:**

Alyse Goffin

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES GROUP**

Throughout 2017-18 our Sixth Form students have continued to support our school and wider community through extra-curricular activities and fundraising events. All students complete a minimum of 30 hours of Community Participation as part of the Welsh Baccalaureate and many choose to exceed the requirement. We are very proud of the contribution and achievements of our students. These extra-curricular activities foster an awareness of the needs of others, a collaborative approach and create a very positive ethos within the Sixth Form and indeed the whole school.

Students have contributed to our community through:

**School assemblies** – feedback from both staff and pupils remain positive on the assemblies that members of our Sixth Form have delivered on a broad range of topics. Some have been linked to fund-raising activities in order to increase participation throughout the school and to raise awareness of the charities being supported, others have been to promote extra-curricular initiatives such as the debate clubs. Other assemblies have followed the theme of the week.

**Student support in the classroom** – Sixth Form students have successfully contributed to the support of pupils in Art, French, Welsh and Maths lessons and within the Learning Support Centre. The students played a key role in the Year 6 induction process in the summer term, acting as both form buddies and leading induction lessons. We are looking to develop this supportive role further in the future in collaboration with the current proactive and altruistic Prefect Team.

**Students support others to prepare re-sit GCSE and AS examinations.** Some of our gifted and talented students have offered to support their peers experiencing difficulties. They have supported those students being mentored or those with re-sits during free periods. This is done under the guidance of the Head of Year.

**Charity fund raising activities** are initiated and organised by members of our Sixth Form for example own clothes days and cake stalls. In total, students have raised over £2000 to date which has gone to support national, local and international charities.

**Voluntary work** is something that many of our students are involved with. They volunteer at Hafan Y Waun, in the town's charity shops, Ceredigion Museum, help to run local sports, Cub, Beaver and Scout groups, and they help to improve Welsh language skills on residential courses held at Llangrannog.

**Sports Sessions.** The Sixth Form help with the running of sporting activities through 5x60. They also support the Head of Sixth Form in maintaining close links with the university sports centre with the Gym inductions for the new intake of Year 12s.

**Continued links with external organisations** which have provided training opportunities for our students. Amnesty International and Debate Groups are thriving at Penglais. These Groups are under the control of the Sixth Form. The Rotary and Aber Instruments are very supportive of our school community as is the University.

**Supporting the work of the PTA** through organising and running stalls for the Autumn Fair and selling raffle tickets. They have also participated in the popular Curry and Quiz Night.

**Supporting the fund-raising activities of local groups**, for example, by bag-packing at Morrisons.

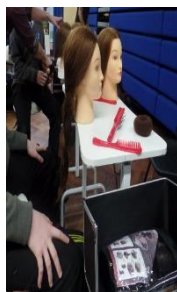
**Supporting events within school.** The Sixth Form students have been excellent ambassadors for the school, not only at its Open Evening but also at Careers Fairs, information evenings and of course the celebrating achievement event.

**Enrichment activities.** The Sixth Form run two weekly debate groups. Both groups are very well attended and run completely by the sixth form. They also run 'open debates' and debates specifically for the lower school. The team were the Wales School Debate Champions.

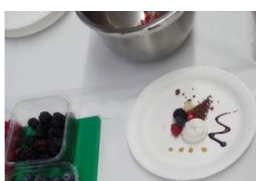
## **WORK RELATED AND ENTERPRISE EDUCATION**

There have been many activities and opportunities for the pupils to cover the PSE and WRE curriculum in Penglais. The information for the visits and PSE sessions has been decided on after using the SHRN report and a subject audit.

Year 7 had sessions with PC Hannah Evans for PSE. Thinking About Drinking, Sexting, New & Nasty. They covered alcohol abuse, using mobile phone and internet responsibly and drugs education. This covered the sessions that they would normally have in the Crucial Crew event, however it was not running last year but is back in place and has already been this year.

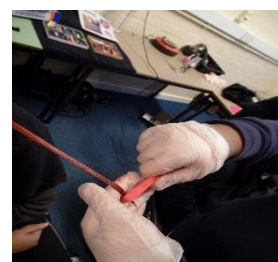


Year 8 covered sexual exploitation on the internet and social media during the session 'Look Who's Talking and Rue the Day' which was drug and alcohol related with PC Hannah Evans also.



Year 9 also had three sessions with PC Hannah Evans on Double Trouble, which covered drugs and alcohol; Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Abuse.

Due to beach parties and gatherings after exams at the end of the year PC Hannah Evans also came in to speak to Year 10 regarding personal safety and what to do in an emergency. She covered how to get home safely whether it be in a taxi or how to refuse a driver who had been drinking; to let someone know where you are and how to contact the emergency services if necessary.



Year 9 have also had the opportunity to see how their choices can affect their future career opportunities through Your Future Your Choice. This was held on 27<sup>th</sup> November before the pupils chose their options for Year 10. They learnt about being an entrepreneur, higher education and Welsh in the workplace. This takes place over a whole day and the pupils get to find out information and ask questions to guest speakers from local companies, colleges and universities. This will help them to think about what they need for the future and what qualifications or skills they need to get the job or career they want. In the Higher Education or Further Education (HE/FE) workshop, they gave the pupils an understanding of HE/FE after school; what college life is like / Grants / Applications process / variety of courses / costs / funding and to help them consider if this is the route they would like to take. Also, to consider HE/FE courses and the importance of subject choices moving into year 10.

The Entrepreneur groups explained their career paths to where they are today. They



also explained how they set up their business including costs / customers / marketing / budgeting / funding / advantages and disadvantages of being self-employed. Coleg Ceredigion showed the pupils the opportunities they had in college and FE by bringing in a range of simulators and hands on activities for the pupils to interact with. They had a JCB simulator, tyre changing, gourmet cooking and first aid stands for them to try out.

Welsh in the Work Place helped the pupils to understand the importance of Welsh in the Work Place and how the Welsh language can open up potentially more work opportunities. The feedback from the pupils was extremely positive and they found it very worthwhile. This year there will be more focus leading up to the event during Wellbeing Tutor Time to prepare the pupils in advance for questions they might want to ask.



## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

During the academic year 2017-2018 the Music Department has maintained the extra-curricular music opportunities offered to all students at Penglais.

The Music Department runs a variety of ensembles: School Choir, Main Wind Band, the Jazz Band, School Brass Band, School String Group, and a String Trio. All these participate in many community events annually and also compete in competitions such as the Urdd Eisteddfod and Music for Youth. The whole music department participated in the Christmas service, which was held in Llanbadarn Church in December and contributed to many other performances with the Celebration Assembly and the Prize Giving and Caroling in Llanbadarn community. A large group of students also visited London.

Richard John

## **CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

## Penglais School Examination Officer's Report 2018

### **GCE EXAMINATION STATISTICS**

There were 94 pupils on roll in Year 13 on PLASC day in January 2018.  
(42 boys and 52 girls). 91 were entered for 2 or more A Levels (or equivalent)

**Table 1: Penglais School A2 Level performance in 2018**

Subject	Total entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U/X/Q
Art	8	2	-	3	2	-	1	-
Biology	24	5	6	5	2	4	1	1
Chemistry	19	3	7	2	5	1	1	-
Design and Technology	7	-	-	3	1	2	1	-
English Literature	11	2	1	6	1	-	1	-
French	6	2	-	3	-	-	1	-
Geography	17	2	8	3	1	3	-	-
Geology	6	-	-	3	-	2	1	-
Health and Social Care	10	-	1	6	2	1	-	-
History	28	3	4	11	6	2	2	-
Mathematics	22	7	7	1	4	-	1	2
Mathematics Further	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Media Studies	18	-	-	2	3	8	4	1
Music	4	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
PE	5	-	1	2	1	1	-	-
Physics	20	7	6	1	2	1	1	2
Psychology	11	1	1	1	2	2	1	3
RE	7	1	2	1	-	2	-	1
Sociology	9	-	2	4	1	1	1	-
Spanish	4	1	-	2	1	-	-	-
WBQ Skills Challenge	87	4	21	24	19	5	5	9
Number of grades*	328	40	73	84	55	35	22	19
% of Total*		12.20	22.26	25.61	16.77	10.67	6.71	5.79

**Table 2: Welsh Baccalaureate**

Entry	Pass	Fail / Work not submitted
87	72	15

**Table 2: Sixth Form BTEC results by subject.** (Only Level 3 subjects count towards Level 3 threshold: Certificate = 1 AS grade, sub diploma = 1 A2 grade, diploma = 2 A2 grades)

	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass
Business Level 3 Sub Diploma	-	-	0	8
Travel and Tourism Level 3 sub diploma	3	-	3	-
Vehicle technology Level 3 Sub Diploma	-	-	2	2

Level 3 threshold (Year 13 and on roll on PLASC day in January 2018 and entered for 2 or more A Levels/ equivalent and passing 2 or more A Levels/ equivalent): **94.68%**

Level 3+ threshold (Year 13 and on roll on PLASC day in January 2018 and entered for 3 or more A Levels/ equivalent and passing 2 or more A Levels/ equivalent at A\* - C): **61.70%**

**The reported exam results are age specific – students aged 17, on roll on PLASC day, entered for 2 or more A Levels and passing 2 or more A Levels/equivalent**

**Provisional Welsh Government statistics are 98% Level 3 threshold, 60% Level 3+**

**The age specific requirements of Welsh Government statistics makes the published figures different from the Year group results.**

## GCSE EXAMINATION STATISTICS

**Table 4: Examination results at GCSE by subject**

There were 162 pupils on roll in Year 11 in January 2018.  
(87 boys and 75 girls)

This was the second year for new GCSEs in Mathematics, Maths Numeracy, English Language (linear), Cymraeg and new WBQ skills challenge and WBQ grade. First year for Double Science award and several new non-core specifications.

Subject	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	X
Arabic	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art	52	5	7	13	10	3	4	6	1	3	0
Business	21	0	0	1	4	7	4	4	0	1	0
Child Dev	10	0	0	2	4	2	1	1	0	0	0
Chinese	12	1	2	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Classical Civ	17	1	3	3	6	2	1	0	0	1	0
DT Food & Nutrition	4	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
DT Graphics	37	3	3	10	10	4	3	0	0	4	0
DT Resistant	10	0	0	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
English Lang	159	12	20	35	37	37	6	7	4	0	1
English Lit	141	10	19	42	42	19	6	2	1	0	0
French	12	4	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Geography	47	18	10	6	10	1	1	0	0	1	0
German	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health & Social	13	1	2	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
History	68	10	11	17	10	7	6	6	0	1	0
ICT	13	0	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mathematics	159	28	15	24	36	28	11	4	4	7	2
Maths Numeracy	159	32	19	31	31	25	12	5	2	1	1
Music	4	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
PE Full course	40	0	6	12	13	7	1	1	0	0	0
RE	17	0	2	2	1	4	4	3	0	0	1
Science	153	27	24	43	26	13	12	5	3	0	0
Science	153	26	18	18	50	18	8	8	7	0	0



Spanish	20	5	4	2	3	4	2	0	0	0	0
Welsh 2nd Language (full)	89	19	15	28	20	3	2	2	0	0	0
Welsh First Language	34	0	2	12	11	7	0	2	0	0	0
WBQ Skills Challenge	139	1	10	37	64	23	4	0	0	0	0
Total	1588	208	207	361	403	219	88	56	22	19	5
% of Total		13.10	13.04	22.73	25.38	13.79	5.54	3.53	1.39	1.20	0.31

WBQ skills challenge is reported as National A\*-C, Foundation P\* and P.

**Table 5: Short course entries and grades (equivalent to half a GCSE)**

Subject	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
Welsh 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lang short course	33	0	0	2	5	8	4	4	5	5

This is the final year short course runs – next year all pupils take full course

**Table 6: Welsh Baccalaureate (New this year)**

Pass is either at National (equivalent to A\*-C) or Foundation (equivalent to D-G)

Entry	Pass National	Pass Foundation	Fail / No work submitted
150	75	64	11

**46% of Year 11 students passed the WBQ measure at National level**

**Table 7: FSMQ (Additional Mathematics) – This is an OCR AS Level qualification Year 11 pupils have opted to study in their own time.**

Subject	Entry	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	X
Maths Additional	12	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	2	2

**Table 8: Year 11 Vocational Course results by subject**

Subject	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Worth in GCSE
					Equivalent
NVQ Level 2 Engineering	0	0	0	13	2 (A*-C)
NVQ Level 1 Engineering	0	0	0	1	2 (D-G)
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Hair Services	0	0	0	5	2 (A*-C)

**Table 9: Year 11 BTEC results**

(GCSE equivalent is shown in brackets. A maximum of 40% of the threshold figures for level 1,2 and 2+ can be from non-GCSE subjects. All subjects can be included in the 'best 9' figure)

Several pupils on alternative curriculums now follow some BTEC courses out of school

Subject	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Equivalent
Level 2 extended certificate in Workskills	0	0	0	7	2 (A*-C)
New Level 2 certificate in Workskills	0	0	0	1	1 (A*-C)
Legacy Level 2 certificate in Workskills	0	0	0	2	0.5(A*-C)
Level 2 Award in Home Cooking Skills	0	0	0	7	0.5 (A*-C)
Level 1 diploma in Vocational Studies	0	0	0	5	2 (D-G)
Level 1 extended certificate in Vocational Studies	0	0	0	1	2 (D-G)
Level 1 award in Land-based Studies	0	0	0	1	0.5 (D-G)
Level 1 certificate in Land-based Studies	0	0	0	4	0.5 (D-G)
Level 2 certificate in Personal & Social Development	0	0	0	22	1 (A*-C)
New Level 1 certificate in Personal & Social Development	0	0	0	1	1 (D-G)
Legacy Level 1 award in Personal & Social Development	0	0	0	7	0.5(D-G)

**Table 10: Year 11 Examination results at Entry Level by subject**

Subject	Entry	3	2	1	Absent
New mathematics numeracy	3	0	1	1	1
Legacy English	1	0	1	0	0

**Table 11: Examination statistics at GCSE by subject for Year 11 in 2018**

	Number	%
Number of pupils on roll in Year 11	162	
Number and percentage entered for at least one GCSE	160	98.77
Number and percentage achieving A*-G in at least one GCSE	159	98.15
Number and percentage entered for Entry Level only	0	0
Number and percentage without a GCSE, Vocational or Entry Level Certificate	2	1.23
Number and percentage not entered for any qualifications	2	1.23
Number and percentage passing the Level 2 threshold <b>including Mathematics / Maths Numeracy and English Language / Cymraeg</b>	90	<b>55.55</b>
Number and percentage passing the Level 2 threshold	125	<b>77.16</b>
Number and percentage gaining Level 1 threshold	154	<b>95.06</b>

Two Year 11 pupils in the Learning Support Centre were not entered for any Entry Level, BTEC or GCSE exams

A student from the Hearing Centre was entered for, and passed, art GCSE and BTEC Home Cooking and Entry Level English and maths numeracy.

A student who arrived from Germany during Key Stage 4 will not be counted in the official exam statistics.

**Provisional Welsh Government statistics**

Achieved 5 or more GCSE grades A\*-A / equivalent 26% (22% Local Authority, 18% Wales)

Average capped 9 points score per student 377 (375 Local Authority, 350 Wales)

## SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19

<b>Half Term</b>				
Autumn 2018	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2018 - Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2018	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2018	<b>74</b>
<b>Half Term</b>				
Spring 2019	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 - Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	<b>65</b>
<b>Half Term</b>				
Summer 2019	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	<b>54</b>
Directed teachers' closure days (may be arranged as twilight sessions)				<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>198</b>

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2017-18

<b>Monday 3rd September 2018 (INSET Day) pupils only</b>	<b>1 day</b>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2018 to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 2018	5 days
<b>Friday 16th November 2018 (INSET DAY) pupils only</b>	<b>1 day</b>
Monday 24th Dec 2018 to Friday 4th January 2019	10 days
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (INSET Day) pupils only</b>	<b>1 day</b>
Monday 25th Feb 2019 to Friday 1st March 2019	5 days
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 to Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	10 days
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (INSET DAY) pupils only</b>	<b>1 day</b>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 (Bank Holiday)	1 day
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019	5 days
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 (INSET DAY) pupils only</b>	<b>1 day</b>
Tuesday 23rd July 2018 to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	29 days

*Please note that this calendar is subject to any changes which may arise as a result of government policy decisions. Ceredigion County Council does not accept liability for any losses incurred in respect of altered holiday arrangements following such changes.*