



The Governors' Annual Report to Parents

for the Year 2017 - 2018

SUMMARY

“Learning together, working together, succeeding together”

Governors Report 2017/2018

Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have pleasure in presenting you with the Argoed High School Governing Body's annual report to parents and carers, 2017 – 2018.

I'm delighted to report that all of us who care so much for Argoed High School have witnessed the continuing transformation of the school. Within this report you will see evidence of continued academic improvement and some remarkable extra-curricular successes. But what strikes me more than anything during my regular visits to the school is the happy atmosphere enjoyed by students, staff and supporters of the school. This means that when challenged, as we all should be, to aspire to even greater success then this is conducted in a supportive and cooperative environment: whether it's a student being encouraged to achieve an even higher grade; a member of teaching staff being encouraged to undertake greater responsibilities; or indeed a governing body challenging itself to be the best it can possibly be.

Successful schools thrive on successful partnerships. I often think of the analogy of the athlete who has to go out and perform to the best of their abilities at critical times. It can seem daunting. But behind them is a team of coaches, managers, nutritionists, physiotherapists, psychologists and logistics managers who have prepared the athlete for these occasions and given them the best possible chance of performing to the best of their abilities at these critical times.

That's what we're aiming to do here at Argoed: nurture and support our young people so that they can achieve their potential. That's why our motto is 'Learning Together, Working Together, Succeeding Together.'

I hope you agree that there is still much to achieve but that we are well on our way.

Thank you

Mrs Nikki Pearce (Chair of the Governing Body)

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Who were the Governors during 2017-2018

Parent Governors

Mrs Sharon Beresford
Mrs Jill Price
Mr Andrew Doughton
Sharon Eagleton (Vice-Chair)
Vacancy

Office Ends

2021 (November)
2019 (January)
2021 (March)
2020 (January)

LEA Representatives

Mrs Alison Marsh
Cllr Hilary McGuill
Mrs Sue Craig
Sara Parker

2019 (April)
2019 (June)
2018 (June)
2020 (November)

Teacher Governors

Mr Michael Griffiths
Mrs Sarah Hanson

2019 (September)
2017 (September)

Staff Governor

Mr Matthew Morton

2021 (September)

Headteacher

Mr Paul Smith

n/a

Community Governors

Mrs Nikki Pearce (Chair)
Mr Tudor Hughes
Mr Andrew Grime
Mrs Sharon Jeffries

2018 (April)
2020 (November)
2020 (November)
2021 (September)

Clerk to the Governors

Mrs B Davies (Acting)

n/a

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What topics have been discussed by the Governors during 2017-18

Full Governors Meetings were held on: 13 September 2017, 29 November 2017, 7 March 2018, 27 June 2018.

Agenda items included :-

Head Teacher's Report

Action

Each term the Head Teacher's report was presented for discussion and questions on all aspects of school management.

- School Improvement Plan

Action

A revised edition was presented to the Governors. Regular progress reports were presented to monitor improvements.

- Governor Training

Action

Governors attended various workshops/courses.

- External Examination Results

Action

An analysis of results was presented by the Head and discussed by the Governing Body.

- Student Numbers

Action

Students on roll and predicted intake were discussed.

- School Buildings and Maintenance

Action

Health and Safety has been a constant agenda item and a rolling programme of maintenance and replacement work has been implemented.

- Governor Departmental Links

Action

Governors met with their department links throughout the year and reported back to each meeting.

- Headteacher's Targets

Action

The Chair met regularly with the Headteacher to discuss targets and reported back to Governors.

- Curriculum for September 2017

Action

Governors discussed and agreed the curriculum for September 2017.

- School Policy Review

Action

Governors discussed and agreed updated and revised school policies.

- Associate Governors

Action

Welcome to the new Headteacher

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Resources Committee

Meetings were held on: 18 October 2017, 17 January 2018, 18 April 2018.

Agenda items included :-

- Staffing

Action

Appointment of staff to both internal and external posts.

- Health and Safety

Action

Health and Safety reviews carried out throughout the year.

- Building & Maintenance

Action

Works to be carried out throughout the year were discussed, including painting and new wall in DT area making a new Math classroom. Instalment of pupils lockers. New lights in Drama studio.

- EIG/PDG

Action

EIG/PDG Plan discussed and agreed. The PDG is published on the school website.

- Policy Updates and reviews

Action

Scheduled policies were reviewed.

- IT

Action

Website update

Curriculum Committee

Meetings were held on: 18 October 2017, 17 January 2018, 18 April 2018.

Agenda items included :-

- Curriculum Plan 2017/18

Action

Options and curriculum reviewed, curriculum and assessment changes discussed, and the plan agreed.

Change to the Welsh curriculum for September 2017 discussed.

Feedback from student voice.

- School Improvement Plan

Action

The draft SIP was discussed and agreed prior to full implementation.

- Core Data Pack

Action

Governors discussed the Core Data Pack.

- Exam Results

Action

Analysis of exam results was presented and discussed.

- Policy Updates and reviews

Action

Scheduled policies were reviewed.

School Uniform

Action

New uniform available for September 2017

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Finance Committee

Meetings were held on: 18 October 2017, 17 January 2018, 18 April 2018.

Agenda items included :-

- School Budget and Finance Reviews
- EIG/PDG Monitoring
- Staff Absence Insurance
- SLA's
- School Improvement Plan
- Policy Review
- Staff absence insurance
- Feedback from meeting with LEA Finance Officer
- Medium term financial planning
- Capitol schemes
- Voluntary Redundancy
- Update on 106 Monies
- School Fund Constitution
- Appointment of Finance Chair 2018/19

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Attendance statistics 2017 - 2018

Year Group	Percentage attendance for whole year	Target
7	94.7	100
8	94.2	100
9	94.1	100
10	93.9	100
11	93.2	100

Absence data 2017- 2018

Overall unauthorised absence percentage: Total number of student unauthorised absences as a percentage of possible attendances.

Year Group	Percentage unauthorised absence for whole year	Target
7	0.3	0
8	0.3	0
9	0.4	0
10	0.3	0
11	0.3	0

Whole School Targets

- Data Analysis used to raise standards of groups of learners
- Evaluate level of well-being: Pupils
- Effective sharing of excellent practice
- Effective deployment of Education Social Worker

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End of key stage 3 – tests and teacher assessments.

Performance Summary 2017-18	Percentage Gaining Above Level		
	5+	6+	7+
English			
Teacher Assessment (TA)	94.87	66.67	20.51
TA National	90.5	58.7	20.6
Maths			
Teacher Assessment (TA)	94.02	66.67	28.21
TA National	90.8	65.4	30.7
Science			
Teacher Assessment (TA)	98.29	82.05	33.33
TA National	93.5	65.5	26.4

	Percentage Gaining Levels											
	D	N	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	>=8	EP
English	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	27	46	21	0	0
Maths	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	27	39	28	9	0
Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	16	49	33	0	0

Key

D = Students who have been disapplied

N = Students who have failed to register a level for reasons other than absence

W = Students who are working towards Level 1

EP = Exceptional Performance

TA = Teacher Assessment.

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Core Subject Indicator TA

Percentage of students achieving at least level 5 in English, Maths and Science

School	93.7
<i>National 2014</i>	87.4

Argoed High School		SSSP 2017					
Summary of Secondary School Performance							
LA/School No.						664/4042	
Pupils aged 15							
		Number of pupils aged 15 who were on roll					
		In January 2018: 111					
		Percentage of pupils aged 15 who:					
	Entered at least one qualification	Achieved the Level 1 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Achieved 5 or more GCSE grades A*-A or equivalent	Average capped 9 (2) points score per pupil	Average capped 8 (2) wider points score per pupil
School 2017/18	100	98	76	57	12	376	342
LA Area 2017/18	99	95	69	57	17	352	322
Wales 2017/18	99	94	67	55	18	350	324
School 16/17/18	100	99	78	64	12	..	344
School 15/16/17	100	100	79	68	12	..	345

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	Number of boys aged 15 who were on roll January 2018: 60						
	Percentage of boys aged 15 who:						
	Entered at least one qualification	Achieved the Level 1 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Achieved 5 or more GCSE grades A*-A or equivalent	Average capped 9 (2) points score per pupil	Average capped 8 (2) wider points score per pupil
School 2017/18	100	97	67	50	10	359	327
LA Area 2017/18	99	93	63	50	12	337	308
Wales 2017/18	99	92	61	50	14	335	311
School 16/17/18	100	98	72	62	8	..	331
School 15/16/17	100	99	75	69	7	..	333

	Number of girls aged 15 who were on roll In January 2018: 51						
	Percentage of pupils aged 15 who:						
	Entered at least one qualification	Achieved the Level 1 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Achieved 5 or more GCSE grades A*-A or equivalent	Average capped 9 (2) points score per pupil	Average capped 8 (2) wider points score per pupil
School 2017/18	100	98	86	65	14	395	360
LA Area 2017/18	99	96	75	63	21	367	336
Wales 2017/18	99	95	73	61	22	365	338
School 16/17/18	100	99	84	66	16	..	357
School 15/16/17	100	100	83	67	17	..	356

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- (1) For details on approved qualifications, point scores and contribution to thresholds, please see the Database for Approved Qualifications in Wales (DAQW) at <http://www.daqw.org.uk/>
- (2) For information about which syllabuses are included in each subject area see Notes for Guidance.
- (3) Average capped wider point scores are calculated using the best 8 results.
- (4) Entry Level Qualification.
- (5) Used for all Free School Meal benchmarking tables.
- (6) Used in the calculation of the Core Data Set statistical family.
- (7) Note that the denominator for this indicator is the number of 15 year olds who entered Welsh First Language rather than the total number of 15 year olds.

Physical Education Report to Governors

Governors Report

The department strives to engage as many of our students within our school as possible. This is done within lessons, an extensive extra-curricular programme and also links that we make with local clubs in a range of sports. With our Aura link and the sports leaders we ensure that pupils have an involvement in what we offer as an extra-curricular programme to ensure that we involve as many as possible.

Below please see a summary of our achievements over the past year.

South Africa Trip

This summer we took 21 pupils to South Africa where they coached over 300 under privileged children in the townships of Knysna.

Urdd Gymnastics

Again, a very successful year for our pupils in which our team won the local round and finished 4th in the Welsh finals.

Athletics

All athletics competitions were entered this year, although as a team we were unsuccessful in placing we had a number of individuals in both KS3 and 4 who were selected to represent Flintshire in the North Wales athletics competitions.

Cross Country

We have one representative for the Cross Country this year. He was James Jones. He placed high enough in the local county race to be selected to represent North Wales and then finished 21st in the Welsh Championships out of over 80 runners.

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Rounders

This summer our year 7-10 teams have all entered the competitions as we did last year. In 2018 all teams finished in the top 3 of their respective competitions. At the minute no rounders competitions have taken place this year.

Netball

All year groups have entered the netball competitions this year with mixed success. We have also entered all Urdd competitions that were available to us.

Football

All teams entered the Flintshire schools competitions and Welsh Cup games. No year progressed passed the first round in the Welsh Cup. But, our Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 all finished runners-up in the Flintshire Cup finals. One of our most successful years.

Rugby

Rugby continues to grow at the school. Our current Year 11 and 10 teams finished runners up in the Flintshire Cup last year and our Year 11's finished top of their group in the North Wales Cup. With the continued success we now have 6 pupils who represent the RGC and RGC East at their respective age category.

Sports Leaders Level 2 and Other Awards

This year we have 21 Year 11 pupils who are qualified for the Sports Leaders Level 2 award and have a number of 6th formers, who are former pupils, who are coming in to school to coach sessions for our pupils.

Summer Camp

The department are extremely pleased to announce a hugely successful Summer Camp which ran for 9 days over the 6 weeks holidays. We regularly had 20 attendee's per day. The club was ran by the new Aura set up.

Country and Regional Representation	Extra-Curricular Clubs
Tom Sparrow – Stoke City F.C.	Netball
James Jones – UK 1500m Record Holder.	Hockey
Brandon Shaw/Daniel Louw/Ollie Jones – RGC East	Football (girls and boys)
Owen Williams – RGC Under 16s	Rugby
James Sparrow – Wrexham FC	Tag Rugby
Ellis Bateman – Flintshire County Football/ TNS	Dance
Luca Eagleton – Wales Hockey	Cheerleading
Lydia Jones – North Wales Netball Hub	Dodgeball
Holly Durham – British Figure Skating Champion	Badminton
Jessica Ding – Wales Badminton	Cricket
Millie Sigsworth – Wales Under 14s	Softball
Mel Jenkins – Dance World Cup	Rounders

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Emily Ryder – GB MMA

Thomas Green – European Champion, attending Martial Arts World Cup in Gibraltar later in the year.

Amelia Duff – North Wales Netball

Chloe Poynton – Dance World Cup

Grace Green – Swimming

Thomas Ferguson – Under 12's Wales Squad

Joel Eccels/Callum Mallin – Boardroom Academy for Climbing

Tennis

Athletics

Handball

Street Dance

Sports Leaders Level 2

Climbing

Mark Hanson
Curriculum Leader of Physical Education

Argoed High School



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What Next ?

The School is a community and we work together for individual and joint success.

If you have any questions or ideas please complete the reply slip below and return it to Mrs Emma Griffiths, Clerk to the Governors at the school.

I would like to ask the Governors the following questions:

1.

2.

3.

Signed : _____ Parent of : _____

