

**Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council**  
**Governing Body of The Pontypridd High School**



**2017/18**

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of its functions since the last report was published.

**1. Clerk to the Governing Body**

The Clerk to the Governing Body is Simone Delaney  
 Pontypridd High School, Albion Community Campus, Cilfynydd. CF374SF

**2. Chairperson of the Governing Body**

The Chairperson of the Governing Body is Mr Bill Davies

**3. Members of the Governing Body**

The following people are currently members of the Governing Body.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Category of Governor</b>	<b>Appointed By</b>	<b>Retirement Date</b>
Mr Bill Davies Mrs Christine Murray Cllr Stephen Carter Mr Ian McLean Mr Callum Evans	<b>LEA</b>	<b>Council Members</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> December, 2021 21 <sup>st</sup> September, 2020 24 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020 10 <sup>th</sup> July, 2021 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Mrs Susan Bunney Mr John Collins Mrs Catherine Naamani Mrs Sally Moses James Lundregan	<b>Community Governors</b>	<b>Governing Body</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2020 23 <sup>rd</sup> March, 2020 28 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020 6 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020 18 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022
Ms Sally Churchill Mrs Amanda Halling Mr Jonathan Davies Mrs Rebecca Peplow Mr Barrie Allen	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Parents</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020

Ms Claire Angell Mr Alun Thomas	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Teaching Staff</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December, 2019
Mrs Debbie Davies	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Non-Teaching Staff</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2019
Mr Huw Cripps	<b>Headteacher</b>		

When fully constituted this governing body is made up as follows

<b>LEA Representatives</b>	5
<b>Parent Governors</b>	6
<b>Staff Representative</b>	1
<b>Headteacher</b>	1

<b>Community Governors</b>	5
<b>Teacher Governor(s)</b>	2
<b>Minor Authority (if applicable )</b>	-
<b>Total</b>	20

**4. Resolutions**

There were no resolutions passed at the last meeting.

**5. Election of Parent Governors**

Arrangements will be made for an election to be undertaken at the appropriate time.

**6. School Performance Data**

Pupil Outcomes for Key Stages 3 and 4 are included as Appendix 1.

**7. Financial Statement – Period covered : 2017 / 2018**

A copy of the school's financial statement for the Financial Year 2017/18 is included as Appendix 2

**8. School Prospectus**

The School Prospectus is updated annually to include any changes required by the Welsh Assembly Government or other related bodies. A copy of the prospectus is made available to parents / carers whose children are starting Pontypridd High for the first time or transferring from Primary to High School. Parents / carers are informed if any amendments are made to the existing prospectus. The prospectus is available on the School website. There is also a prospectus on the website for Post-16 provision within the Pontypridd Sixth Form, a consortium with Hawthorn HS.

**9. School Improvement Plan**

Governors are responsible for drawing up (in conjunction with staff) the School Improvement Plan. The plan is regularly monitored and revised to take account of progress made and any

changes to curriculum requirements. Progress is reported to different governing body committees.

The School Improvement Plan for the 2018/19 academic year has been considered and approved Targets are regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

### **School Planning Priorities 2018/19**

1. Improve progress and standards for each learner
2. Provide a safe environment in which attitudes to learning are positive
3. Deliver the best learning experiences
4. Provide effective care, support and guidance
5. Lead and manage the school effectively

### **Curriculum 2018/19**

**Key Stage 3** – Both Core and Foundation subjects are arranged in bands so that pupils can be ‘set’ allowing them to be taught in classes that match their ability. Pupils in Year 7 and 8 are able to develop different learning and personal skills through the ‘Discover’ programme which is further enhanced by additional literacy and numeracy support. Homework in Years 7 and 8 is covered through our ‘Discover More’ assignments.

All Year 8 pupils make option choices for GCSE and vocational subjects which they undertake from the start of Year 9.

**Key Stages 4 and 5** – All pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 study core subjects as well as statutory courses in Welsh and Religious Education. All pupils also follow the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification in Years 12 and 13. In Years 9, 10 and 11 elements of the Skills Challenge Certificate are covered. As well as this pupils will study the option courses they chose for GCSE and vocational.

All pupils in Years 12 and 13 choose subjects offered within the Pontypridd Sixth Form, a consortium with Hawthorn HS. Every pupil also completes the WBQ at Advanced level.

At Pontypridd High it is recognised that all individuals have both strengths to share and potential to improve. Teaching and learning is the business of the whole school and within each faculty, Leaders of Learning have a key role in leading and developing the improvement of the quality of teaching and learning within their teams. At the end of 2017/18, 87% of lessons observed were judged to be good or excellent.

### **10. Use of the Welsh Language : Communication**

Our school is an English medium school. The use of the Welsh language is promoted by the use of incidental Welsh with all pupils throughout the school day. Pupils are encouraged to improve their Welsh and an annual Eisteddfod provides an opportunity for all pupils to achieve success through written, speaking and performing in Welsh either individually or as part of a group. We also have an annual ‘Shwmae’ week in which cross-curricular activities and learning take place across the school with a Welsh theme. 90% of those entered for an examination in Year 11 passed at the level 2 threshold.

Should parents / carers request that their child is taught at this school in a language other than English, the request will be given due consideration.

Pupils for whom English is a second language are catered for according to their needs with input from appropriate personnel.

**Welsh in Key Stage 3** – Year 7 and 8 – 1 hour per week. Year 9 – 2 hours per week.

**Welsh in Key Stage 4** – Short Course GCSE – 1 hour per week. Full Course GCSE – 3 hours per week

**Welsh in Key Stage 5** – A/S and A2 – 4 hours per week

## **11. Post Inspection Action Plan**

The most recent Estyn report is available on the school website.

## 12. School holiday dates 2018/19

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2018	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2018	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2018	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2018	75
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	65
Summer 2019	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019	*Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019	55
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>195</b>

INSET days are as follows and school is closed to all pupils on these days;

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

School will be closed on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019** for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates:	Christmas	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
	Easter	Good Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 Easter Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2019
	May Bank Holidays	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2019

## 13. The School day is organised as follows;

**Morning** - 8.40am to 1.20pm

**Lunch break** – 1.20pm to 1.55pm

**Afternoon** – 1.55pm to 2.55pm

#### **14. 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.

Pontypridd High has a well established 'multi-agency network that meets weekly to ensure the wellbeing of all our pupils is at the centre of our work.

Key staff work closely with a number of partners such as, the Local Authority, Central South Consortium and local and national employers. Pontypridd High has also taken a lead role in sharing practice with the Family of Schools from across Wales. We are also a Pathfinder school, providing support and advice for partner schools within the Central South Consortium.

All pupils in Year 10 and 12 complete a minimum of 1 week work placement and this is arranged through employers in RCT and the wider local area. An advantage of such excellent support is that a number of pupils from Pontypridd High have gained apprenticeships.

The School and its cluster of 7 primary partners plays a significant part in ensuring the transition of pupils from Primary to Secondary school is a positive experience. The cluster includes Pontypridd High, Cefn, Craig Yr Hesg, Cilfynydd, Coed-y-lan, Trehopcyn, Maesycoed and Trerobart. Pontypridd High also accepts a large number of pupils into Year 7 from other primary schools.

#### **14. Review of School Policies**

The school has a large number of Policy documents covering both safeguarding, curriculum and health and safety. These documents are constantly reviewed by staff and governors to incorporate changing trends and legislation. Information can be viewed on the school website.

#### **15. Additional Learning Needs**

The School 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 Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales issued by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The School's Additional Learning Needs co-ordinator (ALNCo) works closely with all members of staff, pupils and parents / carers to ensure that individual development plans are developed and implemented to meet the needs of pupils, appropriate to those who require them. There is a specific staff post that leads and manages more able and talented provision.

The ALNCo liaises with all staff to ensure that the progress of pupils is regularly monitored and assessed and to ensure that each pupil reaches their potential.

During the 2017/18 academic year, on the date of the PLASC census:

- 140 pupils were on School Action
- 84 pupils were on School Action Plus
- 13 pupils had statements of Special Educational Needs
- 237 pupils were on the ALN register

## **16. Access for Disabled Pupils**

The governing body is mindful of the requirements of the 2010 Equality Act (which replaces the 2005 SENDA / Disability Discrimination Act) in drawing up the School Improvement 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 has had an audit of the school site undertaken, as part of an Authority wide brief, to identify any potential barriers and (ultimately) improve the access to the school.

## **17. Fabric of the Building**

The school site and in particular school buildings are generally in a good state of repair. Over the past year the following refurbishment/repairs have been carried out.

- Classroom refurbishment in Upper and Lower Block
- Replacement of most fire doors in the Upper Block
- Full canteen and main hall refurbishment
- replacement of old boilers and new heating system installed
- perimeter fencing erected around the main car park area
- new student café opened – ‘Class Coffee’

## **18. Target Setting**

The implementation and review of the school’s strategies and targets is documented in detail in the School Improvement Plan.

## School targets 2018/19

Key Stage 4	2018/19
Capped 9 Points	360
5 A* and A passes	19%
English L2	70%
Mathematics L2	70%
Science L2	65%

### 19. Attendance Information

Listed below are the pupil attendance figures for the last three completed school terms.

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
93.5%	93.5%	93.5%

**The total attendance at the end of 2017/18 was 93.2% which was 0.9% down on our target. This mirrors a recognised fall in secondary school attendance across most of the LA.**

The School has a newly appointed Leader of Attendance who works closely with the Local Authority and all staff, pupils, parents and carers to maintain a focus on attendance and its significant link to increased opportunities and success in school.

**The Attendance Target for 2018/19 is 93.5%**

Absence from school is a contributing factor in low pupil achievement, so the Welsh Assembly Government is targeting improved attendance. Parents and carers can help this situation by informing the school if they feel that there are any problems that are preventing pupils from attending or causing the pupil to feel that they do not want to attend school.

### 20. Admission / Transition Arrangements

The Local Authority is the admissions authority for all schools (other than Church schools where the schools governing body is the admissions authority) within the LA boundary. The schools admission arrangements are, therefore, operated in line with the Authority's policy on school admissions. The contents of this policy can be accessed on the LA website.

Pupils will usually remain in the school until they complete year eleven and then transfer to the Pontypridd Sixth Form, employment or further education. However, pupils may apply to attend any secondary school they choose subject to compliance with the Authority's admissions policy.



## **21. School Leavers**

**Year 11 Leavers** – (Total Cohort 153) – 54 returned to Year 12

**Year 13 Leavers** - (Total Cohort 67 ) – 54 pupils were accepted on University courses, 13 took up places in College or had confirmed employment and / or apprenticeships

## **22. Sporting Aims and Achievements**

The school takes part in numerous sporting activities throughout the year including football, rugby, athletics, netball, and basketball.

Teams regularly compete against other Schools. The School holds an annual Sports Week, a Sports Day held at Leckwith Stadium in Cardiff, an annual charity 1 mile race around the school site. During registration periods whole year groups will undertake a 'mile walk' as part of their cycle of activities during this time.

A number of pupils represented Wales during 2017/18 and these achievements will be acknowledged and celebrated in the School Awards Ceremony.

## **23. Healthy Eating**

The School has successfully passed Phase 5 of the Healthy Schools program and is working towards successful completion of Phase 6 in 2018/19.

The Cashless canteen system enables staff and parents to monitor every child's eating habits and a number of parents are issued with detailed reports on request.

The Healthy School Committee will discuss the school canteen provision and make recommendations for improvement.

Following the 'School Health Research Network' report, the school has decided to focus on substance misuse.

Staff have attended a conference to reflect and evaluate the school's results. They met with colleagues in RCT to plan and discuss ideas collaboratively and are currently in the process of forming a PLC. Following the conference, it was agreed that regular meetings were due to be held every half term.

## APPENDIX 1

### Key Stage 3

Key Stage 3		Pontypridd High School				Targets 2019
		2015	2016	2017	2018	
CSI	CSi %	87.4%	84.9%	85.5%	85.1%	86.0%
	BMQ		2	3	tbc	
English	Pupils in cohort		159	165	154	
	Achieving L5+ %	90.5%	88.1%	87.3%	88.3%	89.0%
	BMQ		2	4	tbc	
	Achieving L6+ %	58.7%	47.8%	52.7%	57.1%	58.0%
	BMQ		2	3	tbc	
Maths	Pupils in cohort		159	165	154	
	Achieving L5+ %	90.8%	91.2%	90.3%	90.9%	91.0%
	BMQ		1	3	tbc	
	Achieving L6+ %	65.4%	59.1%	60.0%	59.1%	60.0%
	BMQ		2	3	tbc	
Science	Pupils in cohort		159	165	154	
	Achieving L5+ %	93.5%	94.3%	93.9%	93.5%	94.0%
	BMQ		2	3	tbc	
	Achieving L6+ %	65.5%	59.1%	62.4%	64.3%	65.0%
	BMQ	1	2	3	tbc	

## Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 Performance of eFSM pupils	Pontypridd High School				Targets 2019
	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Number of Pupils aged 15 or over	184	170	176	153	155
L2+ %	53.3%	61.8%	50.6%	54.4%	65%
L2 Threshold	92.9%	98.2%	60.2%	64.0%	70%
L1 Threshold %	98.4%	100.0%	97.2%	98.0%	100%
ACWPS per pupil – Capped 9			355	350	360
5 or more A* and A grades	9.8%	8.4%	10.8%	11.8%	19%
English A* to C %	59.2%	71.2%	56.8%	60.8%	70%
Maths A* to C %	62.0%	65.9%	61.9%	64.6%	70%
Science A* to C %	63.6%	87.6%	65.9%	54.4%	65%
Welsh A* to C % (Full Course only)	88%	100%	100%	90.0%	90%

## Appendix 2

### Financial statement for 2017/18

<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>	<b>Total Spent £</b>
TEACHERS (including Headteacher/Supply)	2,561,925
MANUAL WORKERS (Caretaker/Supervisory Assistants/Cleaners)	189,920
A.P.T. + C (School Clerks/Cover Supervisors/Teaching Assistants/Invigilators/Technicians/Apprentices).	732,812
<b>PREMISES RELATED</b>	
REPAIRS TO BUILDING/SITE, (INCLUDING PLANNED MAINTENANCE SLA/GROUNDS/MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/FIRE RELATED FIXTURES)	106,708
ENERGY	92,840
RATES	97,147
CLEANING MATERIALS & REFUSE COLLECTIONS (inc Cleaning Contractor)	50,240
<b>SUPPLIES, SERVICES AND OTHER EXPENSES</b>	
SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE (including Computer Hardware & Software & Capitation)	49,162
POSTAGE, TELEPHONES , PRINTING & PHOTOCOPYING	39,433
EXAM FEES/ EXPENSES & COURSE FEES & TRAINING	125,071
INSURANCES	18,344
GRANT EXPENDITURE	98,437
OTHER HIRED SERVICES	48,626
EDUCATED OTHERWISE	54,363
SLAs (Personnel/Peri Music/ICT/Performance Management/Maternity/School Meals/SSA/Clerking GB)	143,683
USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES	3,100
MISCELLANEOUS	50,557
TRANSPORT	93,198
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>4,555,566</b>
INCOME	420,468
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,135,098</b>