

Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School

Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2022-2023



Empowered

Virtuous

Employable

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY TO PARENTS
ARCHBISHOP MCGRATH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL: 2022-2023

On behalf of the Governing Body of the school, I am pleased to present you with this Governors' Annual Report to Parents for the period 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023. This report is published via the school website and hard copies can be requested by contacting the school.

1. THE GOVERNING BODY – 2022-2023

Chair: Mr K Pascoe
Vice Chair: Mr. A. Cross
Clerk to the Governors: Mrs S Delaney

The following were members of the Governing Body as of 1st September 2022

NAME OF GOVERNOR	Position	Type
Mr. K. Pascoe	Chair	LA
Mrs S. Reynolds		LA
Mrs J. Daly		Foundation
Mr. L. Watkins		Foundation
Mrs. J. Phillips		Foundation
Mrs. C. Beveridge		Foundation
Mrs. C. Emeghara		Foundation
Mrs. A Goldoni		Foundation
Mr. R. Hodgkiss		Foundation
Mrs. C. Jones		Foundation
Mr. A Cross	Vice-Chair	Parent
Mr. D. Doyle		Parent
Mrs. H. Williams		Parent
Miss. N. Lewis		Teacher
Mrs. M. Williams		Teacher
Mrs. H. Scully		Staff
Mr. A. Howells		Headteacher
Vacancy x 4		Foundation

Foundation Governors are appointed by the Archbishop. The Diocesan Director of Schools is Anne Robertson.

Parents will be contacted by the Clerk when vacancies for parent governors arise.

During 2022/2023, the Governing Body returned to in-person meetings for the three meetings of the full governing body. They met remotely each term to review the standards and progress of the school, evaluate our performance and to carry out statutory duties such as setting the school budget and reviewing the performance of the Headteacher. In addition

to this our Wellbeing, Standards and Curriculum and Resources sub-committees have met once per term to review the progress of the school towards achieving its stated aims and to support the school in implementing its Improvement Plan.

OUR 4 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2022-2023



STANDARDS: To further embed provision for the development of skills and to ensure outcomes at KS4 and 5 reflect or exceed the ability profile of each cohort.

WELLBEING, CARE, SUPPORT and GUIDANCE: to continue to develop opportunities and processes that will further strengthen the school safeguarding and wellbeing culture.

CURRICULUM, TEACHING and ASSESSMENT: To develop a curriculum that mirrors the national vision and school mission of all pupils being EVE. To ensure classroom practice engages and develops learner skills, knowledge and understanding. To ensure our assessment processes inform pupils (and parents) how to make further progress in the future

LEADERSHIP: To develop a shared vision at all levels, underpinned by financial sustainability, robust self-evaluation and professional learning.

Having been under Estyn monitoring since 2019, following an inspection visit in November 2022, the school was found to have made sufficient progress.

The school also underwent a successful Diocesan Section 50 inspection in the summer term of 2023.

Summary of key findings from the Section 50 inspection:

- Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School offers an inclusive welcome to all, where students feel valued for who they are and what they achieve.
- Students understand fully how Catholic virtues apply to their everyday lives and articulate this effectively. This is a living example of faith in action and is a strength of the school.
- Chaplaincy is at the heart of the school and provides a variety of meaningful opportunities for all students to grow in faith.
- The religious education department is well lead and all members of the department make a significant contribution to students' spiritual and moral development.
- Relationships between staff and students are strong which creates an environment where students are able to learn in a purposeful way

2. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – end of financial year 2022/2023

Account	DELEGATED BUDGET 2022/23 £	SPENT AS AT EOY 31.3.23 £	VARIANCE £
Employee costs - teaching	£3,656,582.00	£3,526,182.46	£130,399.54
Employee costs- other staff	£808,122.00	£807,345.40	£776.60
Repair & Maintenance	£35,741.00	£32,588.46	£3,152.54
Energy costs	£114,240.00	£88,426.24	£25,813.76
Rent & Rates (Inc. water)	£43,355.00	£38,960.01	£4,394.99
Other Premises Related Costs	£100,295.00	£98,408.74	£1,886.26
Transport Related Costs	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Capitation Costs	£71,500.00	£67,238.50	£4,261.50
Other Running Costs	£254,497.00	£158,025.13	£96,471.87
Service Level Agreements	£265,099.00	£187,285.00	£77,814.00
Central Recharges	£109,350.00	£100,617.61	£8,732.39
Grant Exp	£0.00	£82,916.91	-£82,916.91
Revised Delegated Budget	£124,412.48	£0.00	£124,412.48
Income	-£490,980.28	-£575,850.27	£84,869.99
Total:	£5,092,213.20	£4,612,144.19	£480,069.01

Due to a change of administrative staff, the audit of the 2022/2023 Private school accounts has been delayed. The summary below is from the 2021/2022 audit. This document will be amended to show the 22/23 update once the audit has been finalised.

**ARCHBISHOP McGRATH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE FUND**

2021/2022

		Actual Bank Statement	Cashbook Statement
SUMMARY			
Opening Balance as at 1st September 2021	Barclays	24,045.91	24,045.91
	Natwest	1,831.80	1,831.80
		<hr/>	<hr/>
ADD: Receipts during year	Barclays	6,604.99	6,604.99
	Natwest	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		6,604.99	6,604.99
LESS: Payments during year	Barclays	5,034.03	5,034.03
	Natwest	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		5,034.03	5,034.03
Closing Balance as at 31.08.22	Barclays	26,314.30	25,456.87
	Natwest	1,831.80	1,831.80
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Private Fund Closing Balance as at 31.08.22		28,146.10	27,288.67
Less unrepresented cheques:			
		100396	80.00
		100561	10.00
		100549	10.00
		100548	10.00
		100545	10.00
		100541	10.00
		100537	10.00
		100536	10.00
		100526	10.00
		100523	10.00
		100521	10.00
		100595	547.43
		100590	80.00
		100602	50.00
			<hr/>
			857.43
		Barclays bank statement	26,314.30
		Less unrepresented cheques	857.43
		Natwest bank statement	1,831.80
			<hr/>
Total Private Fund Cashbook Balance as at 31.08.22			27,288.67

No gifts or hospitality were received by staff or governors of the school during 2022/23. No travel, subsistence or allowance payments were made to any members of the Governing Body in 2022/23.

3. SCHOOL COMPARITIVE DATA

Data will be available on <https://mylocalschool.gov.wales/>. This had not been published at the time this report was written.

4. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

% Attendance during the year (Secondary only)

Percentage of half day sessions attended by pupils of statutory school age during the academic year

	2017	2018	2019	2023
School - Total	95.0%	94.6%	94.0%	89.6%
Family - Total	94.6%	94.1%	94.4%	88.5%
Wales - Total	94.1%	93.9%	93.8%	87.5%
School - Male	95.4%	94.4%	93.5%	90.7%
Family - Male	94.6%	94.1%	94.4%	89.0%
Wales - Male	94.2%	93.8%	93.8%	88.0%
School - Female	94.6%	94.8%	94.3%	88.6%
Family - Female	94.5%	94.1%	94.5%	88.0%
Wales - Female	94.0%	93.9%	93.8%	87.0%

5. DESTINATION OF YEAR 11 SCHOOL LEAVERS 2022/23

	Yr11
Further Education	37
Other School Sixth Form	9
Employment	9
Training	2
Other / Unknown	13
Archbishop 6 th Form	67

A significant number of our pupils continue their studies at at our 6th form whilst others moved directly into the world of work via apprenticeships or to further education colleges.

6. COMMUNITY LINKS

Despite the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic since 2020, the school has made great progress with re-engaging with the local community.

Brackla Community Council use the school to host their annual fireworks display and the Brackla Tabernacle Church use the school hall every Sunday for their weekly services. The school is grateful for the occasional use of the Tabernacle building for meetings and some lessons and exams.




The school continues to have excellent links with local charities. Year 7 pupils take part in the First Give scheme raising funds and awareness of local charities. The Gideons visit annually to give all year 7 pupils a copy of the New Testament. Bridgend Food Bank are provided with regular donations during the year.

The school Pupil Opportunity Fund, set up in September 2022 has received over £1000 in donations and these have been used to support some of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged learners.

The School Community Police Liaison Officer PC McDonald comes into school to take PSE Lessons and to support the Wellbeing team.

The school has an active social media presence via Twitter/X and community links are regularly promoted using this. Wherever possible, the school supports local businesses

7. TERM DATES FOR 2023-2024

 Autumn Term 4th September 2023 - 22nd December 2023	 Spring term 8th January 2024 - 22nd March 2024	 Summer Term 8th April 2024 - 22nd July 2024
 Half term 1 & Christmas 2023 30th October- 3rd November 25th December - 5th January	 Half term 2 & Easter 2024 12th February - 16th February 25th March - 5th April	 Half term 3 27th May - 31st May

Lunch times have been staggered from 12.15 during this year in order to help with social distancing in the main hall. This will be reviewed in September 2021. Governors are grateful to the Technology department for making perspex safety screens for use in the main hall.

8. CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

The School's prospectus is updated annually in order to take into account any adjustments as necessary. The latest copy of the prospectus can be found on the school website.

9. CURRICULUM PROVISION

We have developed a curriculum to fully address the requirements of the Welsh Government whilst ensuring, we keep "Christ at the Centre" at all times. Our core purpose is to ensure that all pupils reach or exceed their potential by using their God-given talents to develop as healthy, ambitious, life-long learners ready to live as valued members of our local community, Wales and the world. We aim for all our pupils to leave our school as Empowered, Virtuous and Employable individuals. (EVE) Our work in developing our curriculum has ensured learners will experience an authentic, broad and balanced curriculum covering all Areas of Learning and the cross-curricular themes. In addition to literacy, numeracy and digital skills, there will be six areas of learning and experience. Everything our children learn will be connected to these areas: Humanities Expressive Arts Health and Well-being Languages, Literacy and Communication Science and Technology Mathematics and Numeracy The curriculum also covers: human rights diversity and respecting differences experiences and skills for careers and the workplace learning about local, national and international contexts developmentally appropriate relationships and sexuality education.

In the first term, all year 7 pupils sit an online Cognitive Ability Test (CAT). This has proven to be a very reliable indicator of pupil potential and this measure underlies many of our key principles in terms of pupil performance.

Most year groups have five teaching classes. Some specialist subjects such as Design Technology are taught in smaller groups for safety reasons. Classes are arranged in broad ability based bands with some subjects able to set by ability. We believe in having high expectations for all our learners and outcomes at GCSE and 'A' -Level are consistently very strong.

In Years 10 and 11, all pupils study the core curriculum of RE, Welsh, Science and Maths. Pupils choose three additional option subjects. The school has a two week timetable cycle of 50 periods.

We have excellent opportunities for our more-able and talented pupils including access to the SEREN programme. We also enjoy strong links with the prestigious Wellington College, Berkshire and every year a small number of learners are enrolled onto their Wheeler Programme. We realise that not all learners make progress at the same rate and some will need extra support in order for them to be able to fulfill their potential.

Some of our learners have access to a wide range of interventions including literacy and numeracy support. For others, we link in with outside agencies in order to provide them with emotional and behavioural interventions. Our therapy dog, Ice, has been a welcome addition to the school support team and his visits are hugely popular with pupils and staff. Our ALN department is staffed by a dedicated team of support staff and is led by our ALNCo. They are located in a designated suite of rooms which includes our pupil progress centre.

10. WELSH LANGUAGE

Whilst Archbishop McGrath is an English medium school, we strongly encourage the use of Welsh in lessons and around the school by both pupils and staff. All pupils study for a full GCSE in Welsh second language. Some more able learners are entered to sit this exam before the end of Year 11. We realise that pupils enter the school with a range of competency in the Welsh language. Our policy is to ensure Welsh is available and accessible for all. The Welsh dimension of the curriculum continues to be an important feature of the school. As well as the annual Eisteddfod, there are regular visits and residential trips to Urdd camps.

11. TOILET FACILITIES

There are sufficient toilet facilities for the number of pupils in the school. Toilet blocks for pupil use are available in the following locations:

Ground Floor

Middle Floor

Top Floor

PE changing rooms

Accessible toilets are located on all floors.

12. ACTION TAKEN TO REVIEW SCHOOL POLICIES

There is a continuous process of review of school policies and these can be viewed on our school website. All school policies due for annual review have been completed and have been

amended to reflect new legislation (where applicable), guidelines and good practice. Implementation of all policies is monitored by the person responsible.

13. PROVISION FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school aims to instil a positive attitude towards physical activity and to encourage the participation and enjoyment of sport by all. The school recognises the importance of physical activity and its contribution to promoting the wellbeing and health of all pupils. A wide range of sporting activities are offered through time-tabled PE lessons and through extra-curricular activities. Regular fixtures are held with local schools for Netball, Basketball, Rugby and Football. Wherever possible, pupils are encouraged to compete at school, local, regional or national levels. Our Music department hosts three concerts per year with all those in receipt of peripatetic lessons expected to take part. The school has a growing orchestra, wind band, choir and various other ensembles depending on the talents available each year. There are a vast array of leadership opportunities available for pupils of all abilities. They include Prefects, Sports Leaders, Food Ambassadors, Chaplaincy team and Cyber Ambassadors.