

Annual Report 2025-2026

YSGOL GYMRAEG DEWI SANT



Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant

Rhodfa Bryndulais,

Llanelli,

SA14 8RS

01554750081

admin@dewisant.ysgolccc.cymru

Website: www.ysgolgymraegdewisant.cymru

**A dedicated Welsh primary school for pupils aged
between 3 and 11 years.**

**Number of pupils at end of 2025-2026 academic year:
474**

As we embark on a new year here at Ysgol
Gymraeg Dewi Sant, it's great to have the
opportunity to look back on last year's
successes and celebrate our development and
progress to date.



A word from the Senior Leadership Team and the Chair of the body

It gives me great pleasure, once again, to present the school's annual report for the 2025/26 academic year to you in my capacity as Chair of the Governing Body.

Reflecting on the year, it is gratifying to note that progress in areas such as numeracy and literacy remains a source of pride. As a Governing Body, we regularly receive reports on all aspects of the school's activities, and we are committed to ensuring progress across the school so that every pupil reaches their full potential, regardless of their ability.

We are fortunate to have members with expertise in various areas of the curriculum, such as language, numeracy, and science. This means that learning walks—including the observation of lessons and the review of pupils' work—are essential for verifying the reports provided by the senior leadership team.

In addition to classroom work, extracurricular activities form an integral part of school life, offering pupils exceptional opportunities both within and beyond the school walls. The pupils continue to enjoy special experiences in the outdoor garden, sowing, tending, caring for, and finally harvesting the produce.

In addition, the pupils visit external organisations and learn about local history at various sites. Not to mention the opportunities provided by trips to Llangrannog, Pendine, and the Urdd centre in Cardiff Bay.

We take great pride in the success achieved by many pupils at the Urdd Eisteddfod, including those who competed at the National Urdd Eisteddfod on Anglesey in May.

We thank all the staff who worked diligently for months, rehearsing to ensure success at every level, and for their support at the local, county, and national (Anglesey) Eisteddfodau.

Indeed, the Governing Body is extremely grateful to all the staff for their enthusiasm, perseverance, and commitment to the school's pupils, ensuring they receive an inclusive education that prepares them for the future.

To conclude, a personal note: this will be the last time I present the introduction to the annual report. I have decided to retire as Chair and as a member of the Governing Body, effective from November. My thanks go to the members of the Body who have been so supportive over the years; it has been a pleasure working with you.

I wish the school every success for the future and thank the staff for their kindness and helpfulness over the past twelve years.

Michael Bassett
Chair
Governing Body
Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant

Members of the Governing Body

Chair: Mr. M Bassett

Vice Chair: Mr. Kevin Roberts

Clerk: Mrs. L Davies

There is a cross-section of the local community on the school's governing body and the Chair is elected at the beginning of each new academic year. The full governing body meets once each term and the headteacher prepares a detailed report for them.

Name	Category
Mrs Helen Garland	Headteacher
Mr. Michael Bassett	Chair
Mr. Kevin Roberts	Vice chair – Parent
Mr. Steven Davies	School Staff Governor
Mrs Rhian Evans	School Staff Governor
Miss Michelle Fisher	School Staff Governor
Mrs. Heulwen Jones	LA Governor
Mrs. Sara Elizabeth Jenkins	Parent Governor
Mr Adam Powell	Parent Governor
Mr. Geraint Kemp	Parent Governor
Mr Stephen Blake	Parent Governor
Miss Claire Mackerras	Parent Governor
Dr. Lauren Blake	Parent Governor
Mrs. Sara Jermin	LA Governor
Parchedig John Treharne	Community Governor
Mr. Euros Jones	Community Governor
Mr David Picken	LA Governor



Parent Governors

When it is necessary to elect a parent governor, digital election forms are distributed to all parents in the school and when there is more than one nomination an election is held. Parents nominate and elect parent governors and represent the views of parents on the body.



Contact

If you have any queries or comments that you would like to share with the governing body, please feel free to write to the Chair by letter or email through the school board. admin@dewisant.schoolccc.wales We always welcome your contribution.

An annual meeting for parents is no longer held, unless parents want to hold a meeting. The right to hold three meetings each year by submitting a petition with 10% of the school's parents signing the petition and stating why they want to hold a meeting.



School Language Policy

Welsh is the official language of Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant. Teaching is taught entirely through the medium of Welsh until the children start in year 3 and English is introduced as part of the Languages, Literacy and Communication learning and experience area at that time. Welsh is the medium of the school's language and all services, meetings or activities are held before, during and after school hours through the medium of Welsh for all pupils and members of staff. Our aim is to ensure that all children are fluent bilingual by the time they leave school and our pupils are expected to continue education through the medium of Welsh after transferring to their secondary schools as well.



School Staff

September 25 - July 26

Headteacher: Mrs H Garland

Deputy: Mrs S Davies

Assistant Head: Miss R Evans

Senior Leadership Team: Mr S Owen, Miss E Roberts, Mr R Llewelyn a Miss H Land

Teachers

Miss E Phelps
Miss R Evans
Miss S Johnson
Miss F Anderson
Miss K Necke
Miss K Evans
Mrs A Lewis
Miss E Roberts
Mr R Llewelyn
Mrs E Owen
Miss C Thomas
Mrs S McCue
Miss K Thompson

HLTA

Mrs C Montinaro
Mrs L Ashford
Mrs G Rees
Miss M Fisher

Teaching Assistants

Mrs S Hanbury
Miss M Davies (A)
Mrs A Osbourne-Yip
Miss J Hopkins (A)
Miss A Morgan
Mrs R Peregrine
Mrs E Griffiths
Mrs K Hillier
Mrs B Pound
Mrs D Phillips
Mrs R Purdue
Miss A James
Miss E Latham
Mrs G Bowen
Mrs C Thomas (A)

Peripatetic Teachers

Mr J Morgan

Miss S Rees

Mr P Shingler

Mr R Walters

Mrs G Conock-Evans

Mrs H Evans

**Administrative
Officers**

Mrs S Arthur

Miss A Rees

Caretaker

Mrs A James

Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs S Hanbury

Mrs J Hopkins (A)

Mrs A Osbourne-Yip

Miss M Davies(A)

Miss A Morgan

Mrs R Peregrine

Mrs K Hillier

Mrs B Pound

Mrs D Phillips

Mrs R Purdue

Miss A James

Miss E Latham

Miss M Fisher



Additional Learning Needs

We are here to support children and young people with additional learning needs by promoting achievement and well-being for all. The system for supporting children and young people with additional educational needs and disability in Wales has changed. The Welsh Government has introduced a more flexible and responsive system of meeting the needs of children and young people with additional educational needs or disabilities and is striving to provide a fully inclusive education system for Welsh learners. The new Additional Learning Needs system has been phased in from September 2021.

Our aim is to give each child the opportunity to develop to their full potential, keeping in mind the needs and abilities of the individual. For most pupils, those needs are met in the classroom. However, we recognise that a small number of children need additional support. We believe that early recognition and appropriate intervention improve the expectations of children with Additional Learning Needs. Our aim is to create a school environment that fosters encouragement, acceptance, respect and sensitivity so that all children with Additional Learning Needs can experience success within their own individual limitations. We have a number of support strategies that can be designed to meet the needs of an individual child, including the needs of Looked After Children. If necessary, we will seek professional support from external agencies to fully meet the child's needs. Miss Elliw Roberts is the school's additional learning needs co-ordinator.



Health and Safety

We follow tight security arrangements on a daily basis. The Local Authority's risk assessments have been adopted and implemented in order to comply with their guidance. Health and safety meetings are attended occasionally. Annual surveys are carried out from equipment and from the site.



Healthy Eating and Drinking

The school promotes the importance of a healthy lifestyle and is included in the educational offer within the classes. We have a Healthy School Council made up of elected pupils who meet regularly to discuss issues on the importance of a healthy lifestyle. We encourage children to bring a healthy packed lunch to school and fruit as a snack, and the school lunch menu is in line with the Local Authority's healthy eating provision.



School Prospectus and policies

Our prospectus can be read on the school's website. The school's policies and strategies were reviewed as necessary in response to national changes.



Toilet Facilities

The school has six blocks of toilets for the pupils and five toilets for staff which includes one disabled toilet. The facilities are cleaned daily by the Education Authority's cleaning service.

Our Vision

Ymdrech a lwyddda

Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant is a happy, vibrant and welcoming school where everyone works together to provide a range of experiences and a range of opportunities with the aim of laying a solid foundation for each child's future.

We inspire our pupils by delivering a broad and exciting curriculum. Our aim is to encourage all pupils to build self-confidence in their personal ability: we have high expectations that put an emphasis on everyone to try their best.

Children learn best when they feel happy and safe so all school staff are committed to supporting our pupils and their families to ensure they are ready and able to learn. We aim to ensure that pupils' learning experiences are relevant, exciting and purposeful and based on the development of basic skills.

Our Vision

We foster a positive ethos and a warm, welcoming environment that supports confident, healthy pupils. Our aim is to nurture lifelong learners who are curious, resourceful, and respectful of the moral values of both our nation and the wider world. Guided by the School's core values—taking pride in their Welsh identity, showing respect, and striving for ambition—our pupils grow into principled, informed citizens prepared for the future.

Our Values

Respect and Trust

Wellbeing and Care

Happiness and Enjoyment

Resilience and Confidence

Wales and Welshness

Community and Habitat

Risk Taking and Innovation

Support and Collaboration



Curriculum

The four purposes are at the heart of all school activity in order to give every child the opportunity to develop into being:

- ❖ Ambitious, capable learners: Learners are supported to be ready to learn throughout their lives, embracing challenges and striving for success.
- ❖ Enterprising, creative contributors: Learners are encouraged to be creative and to contribute to society, ready to play a full part in life and work.
- ❖ Ethical, informed citizens: Learners are guided to be informed citizens of Wales and the world, ready to engage with contemporary issues and values.
- ❖ Healthy, confident individuals: Learners are supported to be healthy and confident, ready to lead fulfilling lives and to be valued members of society.

Pupils are taught primarily through enquiry-based learning and questions, where pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital competence skills, as well as their understanding and knowledge, are developed cross-curricularly. Pupils' well-being is included in planning and the activity is based on the statements within the six areas of learning and experience, namely:

- Expressive arts
- Health and wellbeing
- Humanities (including Religious Education should remain compulsory to age 16)
- Languages, literacy and communication (including modern foreign languages in Wales, which should remain compulsory until the age of 16)
- Maths and numeracy
- Science and technology (including computer science).

We assess and track pupils' progress in all aspects of their work and provide constructive feedback to pupils on their achievement regarding bespoke opportunities for them to respond to teacher feedback in order to improve their work and attainment.

Pupils in the school are educated by curricular year.

School Improvement Plan Targets

The improvement plan addresses the priorities arising from the school's self-evaluation procedures, national and local priorities along with an analysis of pupils' progress and standards. The school follows a robust self-appraisal system to identify strengths, areas for improvement and the way forward and the Governing Body is also involved in monitoring the school's progress.



Priorities for 2025-26

1. Develop systematic approaches to ensure pupils effectively use and apply their writing skills across the curriculum.
2. Improve the ease and effectiveness of reporting and tracking pupil attendance.
3. Further develop whole-school 'Assessment and Feedback' systems.
4. Enhance pupils' understanding of diversity within society in order to develop them into informed, ethical citizens.



Priorities 2026-27

Priority 1: Develop pupils' extended writing skills across the curriculum.

Priority 2: Develop pupils' reading skills.

Priority 3: Develop a clear and progressive range of digital competence skills across the framework.

Priority 4: Strengthen pupils' mathematical fluency and conceptual understanding to ensure progress and consistency across the school.

Priority 5: Further develop whole-school Feedback and Challenge systems to support every pupil's progress.

Child Protection Policy

The school has a child protection policy based on national guidelines. The designated members of staff for child protection are: Mrs H Garland, Mr S Davies Miss E Roberts, Miss R Evans and Mrs G Rees. There are also designated members of the governing body with responsibility for safeguarding and protecting children.

Year 6 Leavers

There is one secondary school in the catchment area of the school where our pupils continue their education at the end of year 6 which is Ysgol Gyfun Y Strade. Pupils are given transition sessions during Year 6 in order to familiarise themselves with their new school. Your child needs to apply online for a place in a secondary school. Full details can be found on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.

The School and the Community

The school has close links with the community which have been further developed again this year through various activities including:

- Presentations by 'Walk the Bible'
- Monthly services from Tabernacle
- Yr 10 Stradey pupils on work experience at school
- Rugby sessions by the 'Scarlets'
- Sport and skills sessions from Coleg Sir Gar
- Yr 6 visits to Ysgol Gyfun Y Strade
- Visits to Llanelli Library
- Pupils visit Ty Mair home
- Numerous trips to the Local area to enrich our classroom work



- Governing Body termly Meetings
- Governing Body sub-committee meetings
- School visits by members of the Governing Body
- Attendance of governors at school activities
- Reports submitted by governors



Termly open evenings are held to:

- Open evening at the start of term to meet the teachers
- Setting individual targets for pupils
- An opportunity for parents to see their child's schoolwork
- Discuss progress and progress reports

A termly open evening will be held for new parents with children starting in the Nursery Unit in order to introduce them to the school.

Remember that you are always welcome to contact a school if you have any concerns about your child's educational development or well-being.



Achievements and Events

Community Links:

Big Bocs Bwyd
STEM Cymru
Visits to Tŷ Mair care home
Rugby skills sessions by the
Scarlets
Visits from PC Ali
Visits from the Fire Brigade
'Dim Clem' Quiz
Fundraising for Children in
Need, the Poppy Appeal,
and Red Nose Day
Junior Traders Project -
Llanelli Town
Action for Children
Book Quiz

Trips / Residential Tours:

Cardiff
Manor Wildlife Park
Botanic Gardens
Pembrey Country Park
Llanelli Wetland Centre
Fonmon Castle
Gorslas School
Swansea Theatre
Pendine
St Fagans
Margam Park
Green Meadow Farm
Trip to the forest
(Brynaman)

Sporting Events:

Cross-country (Penygaer and
Nantgaredig) Netball Athletics
Football tournament Rugby
tournament Cricket competition
Friendly sports matches with local
schools Rugby skills sessions led by
the Scarlets Swimming lessons
School sports day Scarlets Park

Experiences:

Harvest Service
Ffa-la-la
Cyw Show – Martin Geraint
Christmas Show
Cycling Training
Scooter Training
Urdd Eisteddfod
Class Assemblies
Leavers' Service
Language Journey
Working with CISP
Lowri Sion - Storytelling

After School Clubs:

- Clwb Hwyl Dewi
- 'Mad Science'
- Clwb Yr Urdd Club
- Sports Club
- Reading Club
- First Aid
- Gardening
- Board games

Financial Statement 2024/2025

Net Expenditure 2025/26: £1,944,522

Funding allocation by formula 2025/26: £2,014,589

Reserves brought forward from 2024/25: -£52,301

Cash reserves carried over to 2026/27: £122,367

Dates for the Academic Year 2026/27

Term	Term begins	Half Term Holidays	Term ends
Autumn 2026	Wednesday 2nd September	26/10/26 – 30/10/26	Friday 18th December
Spring 2027	Monday 4th January	8/2/27 – 12/2/27	Friday 19th March
Summer 2027	Monday 5th April	31/5/27 – 4/6/27	Tuesday 20th July



A Final Word

It is a pleasure to present this annual report, which provides an insight into some of the events, activities and achievements that have made this another busy and exciting year at our school.

Once again, we have worked hard to ensure that our pupils have access to a wide range of experiences and opportunities that enrich their learning and enable them to develop their talents, confidence and independence. We are extremely proud of the way our pupils have embraced these opportunities, showing enthusiasm, perseverance and pride in their school.

The year has been filled with activity, both within and beyond the classroom. Our pupils have taken part in a wide variety of sporting, musical, artistic, performance and competitive activities, providing them with opportunities to showcase their talents and represent the school both locally and nationally. It is wonderful to see their confidence grow as they try new experiences and challenge themselves.

Developing our links with the wider community and creating opportunities for our pupils to contribute beyond the school gates continues to be very important to us. Through these connections, our children develop a deeper understanding of their community, their culture and their place in the wider world.

None of this work would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our staff. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to every member of staff for their commitment, care and continued efforts to provide the very best for our pupils. I would also like to thank our governors and the Parents and Teachers Association for their valuable support throughout the year. A very special thank you must also go to Mr Bassett, our Chair of Governors, for his continued support, guidance and commitment to the school. His time, dedication and contribution are greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to extend a special thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your continued support and cooperation. The strong relationship between the school, home and wider community is an essential part of ensuring that our children thrive and enjoy their time at school.

As we reflect on the year, we can be very proud of all that has been achieved. We now look forward to another year with the same enthusiasm and ambition, continuing to provide the very best experiences and opportunities for every one of our pupils.

Warmest wishes,

Helen Garland
Headteacher

YSGOL GYMRAEG DEWI SANT

Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant

Rhodfa Bryndulais,

Llanelli,

SA14 8RS

01554750081