



Create Your World

Cardiff West Community High School
Governors' Annual Report to Parents
2020-21



Headteacher – Mr Martin Hulland

Cardiff West Community High School/Ysgol Uwchradd Gymunedol Gorllewin Caerdydd

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Introduction from the Chair of Governors – Karen Dell’armi

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Annual Report for the academic year 2020/2021. It is always a useful chance to take stock and reflect on the previous year. Having just taken over as Chair of Governors, we were settling into our new school building and attendance was strong, behaviour was improving, and we were focussed on ensuring we raised the aspirations for all our students. Then in March 2020, the pandemic struck, and we all entered uncharted territory.

The disruption was felt acutely by all in our school community, and we prioritised checking in on student welfare and wellbeing first and foremost. We worked hard with the Local Authority to ensure our families had the most support available and as soon as possible. The staff teams were focused on getting as many resources as possible out to where it was needed the most. The school still met with parents wherever possible and made thousands of phone calls home. It was a herculean effort.

I’d like to thank Martin, the leadership team and estates staff for the agility and perseverance they showed in responding to frequently changing rules and needs throughout the pandemic. Once back in the school building, staff worked hard to engage students with their learning, and this is an ongoing priority for us.

As governors, we commend Natalie and team for the Centre Determined Grades process – ensuring all evidence we held was collated to give students the grades they deserved. This was commended by WJEC – the exam board too. We wanted to minimise the adverse effects of the pandemic on our students. You will see within this report that the progress our students make and the outcomes they achieve have improved since the last year. We continue to hold school leaders to account on the quality of the teaching and learning to drive this progress for the benefit of all our students.

We have lobbied to strengthen our provision for emotional wellbeing as we understand that before children and young people can be ready to learn, they need to have their basic needs taken care of and feel happy and safe in life and in school. This is an ongoing clamour for scarce resources, but we will continue to make a case for our school and local community.

We have strengthened the governing body, changed our committee structures and remits to better support the School Improvement Plan and as Chair, I’ve engaged with the ESTYN Review Process. We have a 5 year Strategic Plan which keeps our focus on developing further as a community school. I would like to thank my fellow governors for their time, energy, and commitment over a very difficult year.

I am keen to develop better communication between governors and parents/carers so watch out on Classcharts and on the website for further details. I attend the School Council meetings to ensure I’m hearing direct feedback from students too. This is an area we will also develop further now Covid regulations allow. I want to work with you and the school to ensure your children and young adults have the very best experience, progress, and

outcomes whist at Cardiff West to be the best they can possibly be - to open up opportunities for them in later life.

I would urge you to keep communications open and polite and courteous with all members of staff – Classcharts makes this two way and more immediate communication easier – so please do sign up if you haven't already. This way any issues or concerns can be dealt with in a calm and respectful way to everyone's satisfaction.

Thank you too for your patience and goodwill during the pandemic. As a self-employed single working parent myself, I know how hard, and frankly, exhausting, the juggling act was. We appreciate your cooperation and support with settling students back into the school environment and engaging with their studies in a positive way. We're all on the same team and want the same thing – which is the best for your children.

With very best wishes

Karen Dell'Armi
Chair of Governors



2. Headteacher's Introduction

The Academic Year was once again drastically affected by the impact of COVID-19. The students returned to full time in-school learning from September. We supported this return with some enhanced wellbeing support during the Autumn Term. It became apparent that normal learning was again under threat due to C-19 and prior to Christmas most year group "bubbles" had been sent home due to positive cases. The period from mid-December through to the summer term was challenging for many members of the school community and, as a school, we reacted quickly to return to a "blended learning" approach distributing over 250 laptops and WIFI dongles to support home learning. In addition, we distributed 75 food hampers to our school community following staff donations.

During the lockdown from December to April we ran a hub for "critical worker" children and arranged for cohorts of more vulnerable students to work in school each week. Online learning was more effective than the previous year with a higher percentages of pupils engaging online through a combination of live and pre-recorded lessons on MS Teams. We worked tirelessly to support pupil and family wellbeing with over 3000 phone calls made and a number of home visits.

Students returned full time in April 2021 and we worked very hard to support wellbeing and ensure that all were supported in their learning. Many students struggled in terms of regulation post lockdown and it took time to re-establish routines. Our main challenge in the summer term related to awarding grades through the "Centre Determined Grade" process. Staff and students worked tirelessly to ensure that grades were fair and accurate. GCSE and A-Level grades were distributed slightly earlier than normal, and we were pleased to see all students who wanted to access Higher Education secure a place in August 2021.

We thank all parents and pupils for their support and patience throughout the most challenging times.

Martin Hlland
Headteacher

3. School Vision and Strategic Plan

The school refined the SIP in October 2020 following self evaluation work with the LA and the consortium. The 5 headings linked into each of the Estyn recommendations. Governors have created a “Strategic Plan” linked to community engagement. It was completed in 2021. The plan is on the school website. The diagram below summarises the SIP.

The school was working with Estyn, Welsh Government and Central South Consortium as part of a self-evaluation pilot during 2020-21.

The 5 key headings in the School Improvement Plan.

1. Improve Standards.
2. Improve the quality of teaching and assessment
3. Improve behaviour and attendance.
4. Improve the provision for, and standards in skills.
5. Improve Leadership at all levels.



4. **Governing Body**

It has been a very busy year for the permanent Governing Body. With the new school growing rapidly and establishing an essential role in the community, governors have had plenty to manage and lead.

Membership

The Governing Body's constitution is as follows:

Type	Number required	Governor Type	Number
Community	5	Headteacher	1
Local Authority	5	Teacher	2
Parent	6	Support Staff	1
		Total	20

The membership for 2020/21 is as follows:

LA governors

Karen Dell'Armi (Chair)
Zenny Saunders
Janice Lane
Cllr Russell Goodway
Joanne Larner

Parent governors

Joanna Summers
Mr Peter Smith
Ms Deborah Ward
Janine Campbell
Sharon McDowell
Vacancy

Community governors

Kay Martin
Ruth McDonald
Jan Michaelis
Carolyn Mason
Stuart Criddle

School representatives

Martin Hlland
Joanne Howell
Rebecca Chadwick
Sophie Henderson

Clerk

Karen Brown

Student Associate Governors - TBC

Key areas for the Governors in 2020/21.

Budget and Staffing

School Improvement and the Strategic Plan

Estyn

The work of the Committees

Safeguarding

The new site and community use

Exclusions

Cardiff GIG (Governor Improvement group)

The Link Governor system and Learning Walks

Training and Development

5. **Staff List as at 1.9.21**

Britton	Gemma	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Union	Geraldine	TEACHER
Lewis-Chambers	Adele	TEACHER
Drummond	Stephen	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Tuerena	Daniel	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Davies	Naomi	TEACHER
Marsh	Daniel	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Melvin	David	TEACHER
Phillips	Ellen	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Berry	Isaac	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Giamei	Isabella	TEACHER
Tavner	George	RUGBY HUB OFFICER
Pritchard	Rhys	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Stowell	Patricia	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
Rowlands	Maureen	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
James	Sian	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
Goddard	Irma	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
Gibbs	Linda	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
Hodgetts	Jeanette	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Coll	Linda	PASTORAL OFFICER
Hazlewood	Lesley	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Scott	Crystal	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Manuel	Rebecca	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Murray	Noel	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Crosby	Frank	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Bell	Benjamin	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Rowlands	Seren	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Parfitt	Georgia	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Harrison	Rosie	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Hulland	Martin	HEADTEACHER
Richards	Natalie	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER (CURRICULUM & STANDAR
Duggan	Kathryn	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Pritchard	Rhiannon	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Edwards	Gaynor	BUSINESS MANAGER
Wood	Stephen	ESTATES MANAGER
Williams	Clare	DATA MANAGER
Botfield	Sarah	COVER SUPERVISOR
Brito	Jodi	COVER SUPERVISOR
Walters	Marius	COVER SUPERVISOR
Ames	Rebecca	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Griffin	Lesley	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Coughlin	Jayne	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Howells	Karen	WELFARE MANAGER
Carpanini	Gianpaolo	WELFARE OFFICER
Swain	David	WELFARE OFFICER
Evans	Tracy	WELFARE OFFICER

Kenny	Sophie	WELFARE OFFICER
Marenghi	Marcel	WELFARE OFFICER
Latcham	Sarah	EXAMS OFFICER
Coppola	Francesco	SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Martin	Lindsey	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Morgan	Nicola	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Price	Susan	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Younis	Alison	SCIENCE TECHNICIAN
Davies	Gwyn	SCIENCE TECHNICIAN
Miller	Andrew	ESTATES OFFICER
Gauci	John	ESTATES OFFICER
Jenkins	Simon	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Plummer	Kelly	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Burt	Madison	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Burt	Sarah	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Jones	Beth	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Patterson	Kelly	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Brito	Jodi	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Brown	Caitlin	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Andrews	Ryan	TEACHING ASSISTANT
O'Neil	Benjamin	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Faragher-Downes	Susan	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Dale	Rosemary	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Pay	Alexandra	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Owen	Sophie	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Davies	Caitlin	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Murphy	Karimah	HAIRDRESSING TUTOR MANAGER
Stokes	Danielle	TECHNICIAN (HAIR & BEAUTY)
O'Keefe	Jean	RELIEF EXAM INVIGILATOR
Tavner	George	TEACHER
Cox	Christopher	TEACHER
Holgate	Felicity	TEACHER
Cometson	Owain	TEACHER
Henderson	Sophie	TEACHER
Matthews	Ellen	TEACHER
Chivers	Anne	TEACHER
Higgins	Christina	TEACHER
Howe	Tiffany	TEACHER
Sankala	Stefan	TEACHER
Knight	Michael	TEACHER
Woodroffe	Jennifer	TEACHER
Killin	Darcey	TEACHER
Meredith	Nia	TEACHER
Curtis	Timothy	TEACHER
Davies	Ben	TEACHER
Baah-Achamfuor	Nana	TEACHER

Gorman	Siobhan	TEACHER
Cain	Daniel	TEACHER
Morgan	Laura	TEACHER
Wilkinson	Nicola	TEACHER
Groskop	Trudy	TEACHER
Begum	Farhana	TEACHER
Brooks	Paul	TEACHER
Evans	Matthew	TEACHER
Thomas	Sara	TEACHER
Richardson	Hannah	TEACHER
Sullivan-Godfrey	Tracy	TEACHER
Owen	Clare	TEACHER
Ellis	Ceri	TEACHER
Phillips	Victoria	TEACHER
Lane	David	TEACHER
Davies-Cox	Rebecca	TEACHER
John	Rhyddian	TEACHER
Grew	Stacey	TEACHER
Taylor	Sean	TEACHER
Govett	Benjamin	TEACHER
Davies	Abigail	TEACHER
Mudford	Rhiannon	TEACHER
Davies	Lindsey	TEACHER
Lomasney	Samantha	TEACHER
Coombs	Emma	TEACHER
Marindire	Thomas	TEACHER
Rawlings	Matthew	TEACHER
Morris	Alana	TEACHER
Lewis	Esther	TEACHER
Ferguson	Adrian	TEACHER
Donkin	Robert	TEACHER
Ayres	Rebecca	TEACHER
Prosser	Kayleigh	TEACHER

6 .Examinations results 2021

We entered the academic year of 2020-21 knowing that we were about to embark on a year like no other. By September 2020 our new examination years (11 and 13) had already missed a large proportion of face to face learning; it was imperative, therefore, that leadership at all levels had clear strategic direction, access to the constantly evolving information from WG and exam boards as well as given effective support to ensure that staff and pupils had the best chance of securing outcomes for our learners. The Cardiff West way for achieving success with Centre Determined Grades and the English equivalents (TAGS, QTAGS) included:

- Implementing policy and passing QiW and exam board quality assurance to ensure a robust process.
- Delivering effective CPD for leaders and teachers to ensure highest quality of assessment alongside rigorous QA.
- Overseeing a clear system of QA across all subjects at teacher level, dept level and wider leadership level.
- Ensuring that Cardiff West embraced opportunities to be a learning organisation (SLO) by forging links with other centres to undertake marking and moderation.
- To ensure that all stakeholders were kept fully involved in the processes. This included live and video recorded briefings for pupils and parent information updates using our website and social media as well as reporting to parents and offering support through a centralised email channel (cdg@cwchs.co.uk)
- Implementing a policy for appeals and ensuring that we meet all expectations of QiW and WJEC through this. The success of this process meant that we had very few appeals – 3 pupils in year 11 appealed at stage 1. 2 grade changes occurred at this point and we had no further appeals.
- We were also the centre for Cardiff for external candidates.

2021 GCSE data.

Key performance indicator	Target	outcome
Capped points score	340	339
5 GCSEs A*-G	95 %	96%
5 GCSEs A*-C	55%	58.5%
5 GCSEs A*-C inc. Eng/Maths	40%	43%
APS - English	35	38
APS - Maths	35	37
APS – Science.	32	30.4

A-Level.

GCE/L3 A LEVEL	2020-21	2019-20	2018-20
L3 Threshold (2 A*-C)	80%	64%	61.3%
3 or more A*-C	68%	60%	55%
3 passes or better (A*-E)	92%	88%	87.1%

ALPS – ALPS data analysis for 2021 show grade 1 for Cardiff West CHS. This is classed as “Outstanding” performance. The Post-16 curriculum is delivered in partnership with CAVC and St. David’s College.

7. Facilities/estates

The Estates team worked superbly throughout the year to adapt the building to ensure that it was COVID safe for all pupils and staff. Pupils returned to full time learning in Mid-September after a phased start and the following adaptations were made in line with WG guidelines and LA support.

- Hand sanitiser stations around the school
- A one-way system in the building
- New signs around the school
- Fencing outside to create zones for year bubbles
- A rearranged dining hall to create year zones
- Water fountains taken out of use to prevent transmission rates
- Communal furniture removed to reduce the risk of crowds
- Ensuring that mask and LFT supplies were regularly updated
- Additional CCTV to enhance internal security and safety

In the summer of 2021 four open areas inside the school were converted into more traditional classrooms to ensure that we could manage the growth in pupil numbers effectively.

Lettings

As a result of C-19 lettings were not fully operational until the summer term in line with WG guidance. The site team continued to work closely with the LA and Cardiff Met to ensure a smooth return to the use of the facilities.

In late summer and early Autumn 2021 the post 16 building was used by the LA to offer advice workshops in school to the local community. These included housing support, CV workshops and benefits advice.

8. Creative Arts

In academic year 2020-2021 the Expressive Arts team had a lot of work to do to recover post-covid. SOL and extra-curricular activities were adapted to remain in line with government and LA guidance. Confidence and self-esteem has taken a big hit during the pandemic and one of our key aims is to restore confidence and a love of the arts.

Key points

- Strong partnership with WNO continued with the WNO delivering online lessons and providing resources to GCSE Music classes during the Spring 2021 lockdown period. We were unable to visit the WNO or attend events in person but we worked with the WNO to remain engaged in the partnership we have during this time. WNO created supportive videos and resources using industry professionals and an online lesson was led by a WNO creative practitioner.
- We worked with the whole school community during the summer of 2020 to produce 2 choir songs (recorded and filmed at home, individually and then mixed professionally). Both songs received thousands of views and shares on social media. We shared these with the whole school body to promote the arts and what can be achieved remotely.
- 3 of our pupils took part an online choir which sang with Bryn Terfel and are featured singing in the video. (Christmas 2020)
- During the second part of the Autumn term, pupils prepared (in year group bubbles) short items for a Christmas Concert which we filmed in school and then released via our school YouTube channel.
- On our return to school in the Summer of 2021 we organised a live Summer Showcase. In line with LA guidance we performed this to a very small, socially distanced audience and also recorded this to release virtually (via teams) for parents who were unable to attend due to restrictions. Again pupils prepared items in year group bubbles and we maintained year group bubbles throughout the performances. Pupils performed with a live band (piano, guitar, bass and drums) of professional musicians. They got to work with the musicians to prepare their performance. Pupils loved this experience and it really helped to boost confidence and self-esteem.
- Music peripatetic service continued for over 130 pupils throughout the year. The lessons were in person during the Autumn and Summer terms (adhering to government and LA guidance) and during the Spring term we provided this service using video tuition via teams. Our peripatetic teachers filmed videos that pupils could view and work through at home.

Events

- Virtual Christmas Concert December 2020. Over 1000 views – available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uysTGnc1DvU>
- Summer Showcase July 2021 (virtual and in person for a small socially distanced audience)

9. Sport in school

Due to the pandemic, sporting provision was severely effected as you know. However, the running of physical activity and sporting lessons continued as normal where possible. Students were asked to come to school in their PE kit on the days they has PE as changing rooms were not permitted in the summer term.

Lessons included;

- Rugby
- Football
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Fitness

Participation at these clubs was varied as a result of C-19 and the issues linked to staff and student attendance.

The provision for pupils after school was affected but there were after school clubs of

- Hockey
- Rugby
- Athletics
- Football
- Basketball

Given that community sport was banned we were accountable through the governing bodies decision making.

There were only 6 rugby fixtures against other schools as a result of C-19 and the issues linked to transport and staff absence.

10. Clubs and extra curricular activities

The provision for pupils after school was affected but there were after school clubs of

- Hockey
- Rugby
- Athletics
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- Basketball

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Music, Art and Drama.

After school clubs halted in the Autumn term but restarted in May after the lockdown. The annual Xmas concert was an online event.

SHEP

The school was happy to host the summer “food and fun” (SHEP) programme and over 40 pupils were in school for 3 weeks in the summer break. We were delighted to welcome the First Minister and the New Director of Education as visitors during the programme. In addition, we worked closely with our partner primary schools to add a range of positive experiences for the pupils.

11. **Destinations and courses for Y13 leavers in 2021.**

Courses

Computer Science
Maths and Computer studies
Biomedical Science
Community Health and Well-being
Professional Policing
Psychology
Clinical Psychology
Forensic Accountancy
Events management
History
Theatre and Dance
Education
Forensic Investigation
Health and social care management
Law
Business management

Destinations

USW, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff University, Swansea University, Reading University, Plymouth University, Bournemouth University, Gloucestershire University.

In addition, a small number of students took up employment or took a “gap year” at the end of Year 13.

The school is also delighted to receive support from the University of Cardiff through the CAER heritage project, and we have two students in receipt of scholarship funding.

12. **Transition**

We are very proud of the way in which over 230 Year 7 students transitioned into Cardiff West in the Autumn term; the students have displayed a positive attitude to school life and many have embraced extracurricular opportunities available at the school. Throughout the year, the Year 7 cohort have maintained the highest attendance percentage in the school, which consistently exceeds 93%. The Year 7 Pastoral Team has developed positive working relationships and their wellbeing was monitored closely during the Spring Lockdown. Under the guidance of their Progress Leader Mrs Davies, Year 7 student journalists plan, write and produce a Year 7 half termly newsletter sharing news, achievements and events with their fellow students and the wider community.

Our annual Year 5/6 Open Evening in October moved online due to Covid-19 and this proved to be very popular. Feedback in relation to the film was highly positive and we also ensured that some more vulnerable pupils were able to visit the school in July 2020 ahead of their start in September 2020.

The cluster Maths bridging project has developed further; the Cardiff West Maths department are working closely with KS2 teachers in all partner primaries to plan for curriculum continuity. The project provides valuable opportunities to share good practice, develop common approaches and plan for KS2 Maths lessons to be delivered by our Maths teachers.

The Welsh Department are working closely with some of our partner primaries to develop cross phase working; this has included Welsh lessons being delivered to Year 5 and Year 4 students by Mrs Matthews from Cardiff West CHS.

All schools in the cluster are now using the Accelerated Reader programme to support improvements in reading. All students in Key Stage 3 at Cardiff West have dedicated time built into their day to engage with the reading programme they are already familiar with from primary school. A summer term cross-curricular virtual project called "Mission to Mars" was very successful.

13. Community Engagement

The school continued to engage with, and support, the community throughout a very tough year.

- SHEP – the school hosted the food and fun programme for over 40 pupils in Summer 2021.
- The school played a very active role in the support of the local community during the lockdown from December 2020 to April 2021. This included drop-in wellbeing visits, sending food hampers and making in excess of 3000 phone calls to families.
- Distribution of laptops and wifi dongles in the Spring Term
- The use of sporting facilities by the community resumed in May 2021
- The school worked with Cardiff University to develop the design of the new CAER heritage centre
- Members of the school staff sit on local primary school Governing bodies.
- The Headteacher is a member of the leadership board of the local charity ACE
- Fundraising events in school e.g “Children in Need” and “Wear Yellow.”
- A virtual transition project “Mission to Mars” involved all partner primary schools
- The LA used the school building in 2021 to deliver advice workshops for the community
- Partnership work with local charities to promote wellbeing e.g David Cotterill foundation
- Partnership work with the Rotary Club and Access Cymru to reduce levels of digital deprivation

14. **Charity Work**

Events in 2020-21 which had a charitable focus.

- Children in Need Day – November 2020
- MacMillan Coffee Morning – November 2020
- Wear Yellow day – mental health charity – October 2020
- Christmas Hamper collection – November and December 2020. Over 60 hampers distributed following donations from staff and pupils
- PSHCE kindness project – Summer 2021 – food hampers distributed

15. Staff Development and Training

Professional Learning 2020/21

Blended Learning

Throughout the academic year many opportunities were provided to ensure staff were able to access appropriate training related to the development of blended learning.

There were a range of Twilight sessions which were focussed upon remote learning and aimed to be workshop based – this allowed staff the ability to opt into training that was appropriate to their skill level. Workshops were run by the Digital Engagement and Innovation Team and included use of Microsoft Teams, Microsoft Stream, breakout rooms, Class Notebook, On-line marking rubrics, Insights, Book Creator, Developing departmental social media to support pupil engagement.

Friday Focus was re-established in January 2021 (following a successful trial May- July 2020). This allowed staff access to weekly CPD related to Blended Learning. These sessions were led by a number of on-site staff and pitched at a range of skill levels.

On return from lock-down a number of shorter ‘re-establishing classroom routines’ sessions were developed for use within departmental meetings.

Pedagogy

Throughout 2020 we continued our professional learning relating to DRICE. In line with our whole school priorities a number of ALP sessions were delivered relating to role modelling (direct instruction/guided practice), effective challenge and differentiation.

Skills

Our focus upon skills has remained and our professional learning offer for 2020/21 reflected this. A number of ALP sessions were delivered by the literacy team focussing upon Reading Keys (*a range of strategies to help support pupils in accessing text e.g. infer and deduce, visualisation, success strategies, evaluation*). These were based around the RK Inspiration Kit, practical strategies and sharing best practice across the curriculum. Work was begun around mapping writing across the curriculum in preparation for the Writing Keys which will be rolled out during 2021/2022.

Our Digital leader focussed upon the incorporating of digital approaches into KS3 schemes of learning, updating the DCF matrix and sharing examples of best practice to support departments planning for digital rich tasks.

Leadership

3 middle leaders partook in the CSC Senior Leadership Development Programme and 2 middle leaders received coaching/mentoring from CSC Lead Practitioner to develop leadership approaches.

Collaborative school to school professional working

We have continued to work with colleagues in other schools around a range of areas including attendance with Willows and Eastern High Schools, reading and writing keys with Willows HS and action research with Mary Immaculate High School. Furthermore, we have continued our partnership with Lead Creative Schools with a focus 2020/21 upon creative pedagogy led by our lead for Expressive Arts.

Wellbeing

A range of staff have completed Thrive, DSP, ACES and trauma training, emotional literacy, MAPPA and My Concerns training throughout 2020/21.

Induction

A full induction programme has been established for all new staff to Cardiff West Community High School.

16. School Trips and Visits

As a consequence of C-19 this area of school life was drastically reduced in line with WG guidance.

The following visits took place in 2020-21.

- Tesco Superstore to look at Maths and Business Skills
- Encon – Technology and Business
- Caerau Hillfort – History and Archaeology
- The Senedd – PSE and History
- Pen-Y-Fan – Outdoor education and inclusion
- The Millennium Centre – Creative Arts
- Virtual Archaeological dig – Summer 2021.
- USW – Careers trip
- Cardiff City Stadium – Careers and inclusion

Please note – the planned trip to Disneyland Paris had to be postponed.

We are delighted to inform parents that we are arranging to take a group of pupils to Krakow in Poland to visit the site of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp in March 2023.

17. **Events in School**

Children In need Day – 13th November 2020 – raised £564

SHEP – August 2021 – 40 pupils in school during the summer break

Wear Yellow Day – 10th October 2020 – raised £350 for mental health charity

Virtual Christmas concert – December 2020 – over 1000 views

Christmas Hampers collected and distributed – December 2020.

GOT anti-extremism lessons filmed for WG website with LA and Year 7 pupils – July 2021.

All parents evenings were online and the Open Evening moved online.

NB. Most events were adjusted or cancelled as a result of COVID.

18. Looking ahead

We hope for less disruption in 2021/22 and there are many reasons to be highly optimistic. The school has launched the Classcharts App to good effect and we have seen a very positive response from parents and pupils. We think that this will improve communication and allow us to work in partnership to help all pupils achieve their full potential.

In addition, the start of this year has seen a large increase in the range of sporting fixtures. We are committed to providing as many opportunities for our pupils as we can. Over 140 pupils enjoy additional music lessons and more than 90 sports fixtures have taken place in 2021 alone. This is the reality of our motto "Create Your World."

We are looking forward to hosting a live production of "Beauty and the beast" in Summer 2022 and we hope to welcome hundreds of parents into school! In addition, planning is well underway for our first foreign visit in March 2023. Mr. Knight is leading this ambitious and exciting trip and we are taking a group of pupils to Krakow in Poland to visit the site of the WW2 Auschwitz Concentration Camp.

Our new Student Council are in place and they have a wide range of topics that they are keen to work on. One aspect of particular interest is a focus on the environment and how the school reduces its carbon footprint and becomes more sustainable. The council are working on a project with Cardiff University linked to this. The project examines energy usage and how we manage waste in school. In addition, they are working with the Kitchen staff to promote more eco-friendly practice.

Finally, we anticipate that we will return to more normal examinations this academic year. The entire school community worked very hard in partnership in 2021 to ensure that the Centre Determined Grade process worked well and led to our pupils achieving the grades they deserved. We will, of course, ensure that all pupils sitting exams in 2021/22 are fully prepared for this challenge despite the disruption we have all experienced since March 2020.

19. Website and Social Media

Our website address is:

www.cardiffwestchs.cardiff.sch.uk

In 2021 we launched our new parent-school communication app – Classcharts. This has proved to be very successful and we now have 2-way communication meaning parents can directly contact staff at school. All communication home is via Classcharts. We want all parents to contact us directly with questions/concerns. Our social media policy promotes this.

The following social media sites/addresses are linked to the school.

Our main school has a Facebook page:
Cardiff West Community High School

We also have a YouTube channel: CWCHS

Our main school Instagram and Twitter are:

Instagram: @cardiffwestchs

Twitter: @CardiffWestCHS

@cwchsarts

Instagram:

Art - @cwchs_art

Year Group - @missndaviescwchs

Twitter:

Art - @MissNDavies2

Year Group - @

CWCHSEnglish@CWCHS_English on Twitter

@cwchsenglish on Instagram

@CWCHS_PE is the health & wellbeing social media handle

Christmas concert 2020 - over 1000 views

Christmas concert 2021 - 831 views

Lockdown songs in 2020 - over 8,000 views across social media.

Main school accounts-

492 followers on Facebook

1,207 followers on Twitter

499 followers on Instagram

20. **Term Dates and INSET Days 2021-22**

Autumn Term

3rd September 2021 – 17th December 2021.

Spring Term

4th January 2022 – 8th April 2022.

Summer Term

25th April – 20th July

Training Days for 2021/22.

3rd September 2021

1st November 2021

4th January 2022* (to be rearranged after the WG announcement on start of new term)

24th June 2022.

21st and 22nd July (Disaggregated – staff twilight sessions)

Term ends for all pupils on 20th July 2022.

21. **Welsh in School**

Welsh as a Second Language at Cardiff West Community High school.

As we move towards organising our curriculum into the six Areas of Learning and Experience, Welsh, along with modern foreign languages, are now planned for in an extended department under 'Languages, Literacy and Communication'. Pupils will see a raised profile of Welsh in line with English as Qualifications Wales have drafted plans for aligning both subjects. Pupils at Cardiff West will continue to be taught Welsh both discretely and incidentally across the school.

The school secured CSC funding for Cymraeg Campus, this initiative encourages pupils, staff and the wider community to experience a Welsh ethos within the school and give incidental Welsh language along with our heritage and culture the Welsh flavour in a context that is highly anglicised. Welsh word of the week has been developed as well as special Welsh occasions such as 'Diwrnod Shw'mae' and the Eisteddfod on March the 1st have been celebrated.

Welsh GCSE results continued to improve in 2021 and a higher proportion of pupils achieved A*-C.

22. School Policies – continue to be updated and on the website

New policies for 2021.

Social media policy

Updated Anti-Bullying policy

