



Create Your World

Cardiff West Community High School Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2021-22



Headteacher – Mr Martin Hlland

Cardiff West Community High School/Ysgol Uwchradd Gymunedol Gorllewin Caerdydd

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Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to our Annual Report to Parents for the academic year 2021-2022.

Firstly, I'd like to thank you for your support in encouraging regular and punctual attendance at school as normal timetables have returned post pandemic. I can't stress enough how crucial it is that your children attend school – there are proven and well-documented links between attendance and attainment and we're all united in wanting the very best for your children in their futures. You can help us enormously by ensuring they attend and downloading the Classcharts App if you've yet to do so – easy, two-way communication between home and school is vital. Behaviour for learning is improving steadily after a difficult transition period post Covid. Any support families can offer in terms of ensuring their children are in school every day, in the correct uniform and importantly, in the right mindset is gratefully received. We need to all work together to help students be ready for learning and give them the opportunity to be their best selves.

I'd also like to thank Mr Hlland for another year of strong leadership and all staff for their dedication and commitment during the year. ESTYN commended the school leadership and acknowledged our strengthened management structure and could see the link to clear benefits for the children – our why. Our professional learning plan was commended and became a case study to share best practice with other schools in Wales. This shows our collective commitment to developing staff at all levels to ensure your children get the best educational experiences as we transition to the new Curriculum for Wales. Quality Assurance processes have become more consistent and robust to help ensure equity of provision and the best progress possible for all students. These are some of the reasons they felt confident in removing us from any follow up category and is real testament to the passion, hard work and tenacity of all involved.

Our new Business Manager, with support from Audit, LFMS, Governors and staff has done an incredible job in reducing the deficit budget and we thank you for this Gaynor. We won't be complacent, there's still a way to go and we can all play our part in reducing running costs and generating more income for the benefit of the students.

Opportunities for students have broadened through the support of Cardiff Commitment and our Partners. The Awards Evening was well attended and a huge success. Thanks are due to all our partners and staff for 'going the extra mile' to create new and exciting opportunities for our students. Beauty and the Beast was a fantastic performance – really enjoyable. I was blown away by the talent on show. A huge well done to all involved. The number and variety of after school clubs and activities has increased, offering great extra-curricular opportunities to our students. Please encourage your children to take part wherever possible and let the school know if there are ways we can help make this possible.

A personal thank you from myself to the School Council for welcoming me along to your meetings. You are inspirational and create real change for your peers and those coming up behind you. The energy you put into being creative, fundraising and organising events is fantastic. The Governing Body looks forward to working more closely with you and we appreciate your honesty sharing concerns and areas you'd like to see improved. I hope you can see the benefits of collaborating in this way, and we will always try to accommodate reasonable requests and support your ideas, so keep them coming! Be the changemakers!

We said a sad farewell to the outgoing Deputy Headteacher Natalie in July as she took up the reins at Croesyceiliog School as Headteacher – congratulations Mrs Richards and we know you'll be brilliant. We also said a very warm welcome to our new Deputy Headteacher, Vickie, who has settled in well and is already contributing positively to school life and ensuring strong pupil progress, focusing on getting exam year students ready for their exams and assessments.

I would like to pass along my gratitude to all fellow governors for their continued commitment and diligence in supporting and challenging the leadership to deliver the best possible provision for the students.

Karen Dell'Armi
Chair of Governors



2. Headteacher's Introduction

The school enjoyed a very busy and productive year in 2021-22. We returned to a greater degree of "normality" despite the ongoing challenges linked to C-19. During the Autumn and Spring Terms we were still badly affected by C-19 cases and had to take the difficult decision to "partially close" at certain points due to staff absence. Thankfully there was no full "lockdown" or sustained absence for a particular year group and the year was far less disrupted than the previous two. First and foremost, we returned to face to face learning and this had a profoundly positive impact on pupil progress and wellbeing. As always, success is built on positive working relationships and we all worked hard to support each other in line with our values of Ambition, Resilience and Trust. Further, we were able to improve communications through the introduction of "Classcharts" at the start of the year. This had a powerful impact and proved to be very popular with both pupils and parents. The use of the "Classcharts" App became our key communication tool with home very quickly.

Following a break of 2 years we returned to public examinations in 2022 and I was delighted to witness the dedication and hard work of all students as they prepared for the exams. Staff worked incredibly hard to ensure that gaps in knowledge and skills were addressed fully and the results achieved in Summer 2022 were the outcome of enormous amounts of resilience and effort from staff and students. It was a pleasure to see pupils receiving their well-earned grades on the results days in August. We should never forget the degree of disruption the class of 2022 endured in gaining those grades. Undoubtedly, the students will grow as a result of the extra skills, and enhanced resilience gained during the "lockdown" periods.

Estyn visited the school in February 2022 and we were delighted to be removed from the list of schools in "Estyn Review." During the course of the monitoring visit inspectors observed lessons, reviewed school plans, met with staff and students and scrutinised pupil work. As a result of the inspection, the team concluded that sufficient progress had been made and the school removed from any follow-up activity from Estyn. In particular, Estyn praised the good working relationships in classrooms, the high-quality Professional Learning for staff and the range of systems in school to develop pupils' skills. In addition, it was recognised that the school had effective quality assurance system in place and that Governors support the school well.

The school continued to emphasise a clear commitment to extra-curricular activities and enrichment despite the challenges linked to Covid-19. We were delighted to welcome visitors back into school in the summer term for our School Production of "Beauty and the beast" in June 2022. This involved pupils from Years 7-13 and the event proved to be hugely successful and very popular. In addition, we held a face to face "Awards Evening" in July featuring our special guest, Jason Mohammed. The event was very well attended, and we received superb support from our business partners who sponsored specific awards.

Finally, we said farewell to our Deputy Headteacher, Natalie Richards, who left us to take up the role of Headteacher at Croesyceiliog High School. We thank her for her efforts and wish her well in the new role. It is always good to see our staff progress and grow further in line with our motto of "Create Your World."

Martin Hullah

3. School Vision and Strategic Plan

Our Vision – Create Your World

What does this mean at Cardiff West CHS?

- We will ensure that every student achieves the academic success necessary to pursue their chosen career
- We have high expectations of our students, staff and the wider community. We celebrate achievement and admire ambition
- We encourage our students and staff to develop resilience, to succeed as lifelong learners
- We will remove any barriers to learning, to ensure all learners can succeed
- We will promote tolerance and respect. We will involve and include everyone in our learning community
- We will help our students, staff and communities to feel happy and engage fully with our school

Our Core Values**Ambition**

- We have high aspirations and know that our future is not defined by our past

Resilience

- We never give up and have the skills and strength to persevere with even the hardest work

Trust

- We are honest. We do what we say and do not make excuses

At Cardiff West Community High School, we work hard, look smart and are kind

Our Mission

At Cardiff West Community High School, we want every student to achieve the academic success necessary to realise their dreams; to help them to develop as considerate, resilient, enterprising, ambitious, trustworthy and employable students who can engage fully with the creative economy and wider world.

School Improvement Priorities for 21-22.

R1 Raise standards

R2 Improve behaviour and attendance

R3 Improve the quality of teaching and assessment

R4 Improve the provision for the progressive development of pupils' skills across the curriculum

R5 Strengthen the effectiveness of leadership at all levels

4. **Governing Body**

It has been a very busy year for the permanent Governing Body. With the 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 2021/22 was 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 Hulland
Adele Chambers
Sophie Henderson
Madi Burt

Clerk

Karen Brown

Key areas for the Governors in 2021-22

Budget and Staffing

School Improvement and the Strategic Plan

The work of the Committees

Safeguarding

The new site and community use

Exclusions

Curriculum innovation as we progress towards the New Curriculum for Wales.

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
Gorvett	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 2022

Post 16.

Cardiff West Community High School has a thriving sixth form in which outcomes for students on all pathways are excellent and at least in line with the achievement of the top 25% nationally. Evidence: ALPS provider 3 year 'T' Score of 3 for A Level and BTEC provision. • Our target is for all subjects (A Level and BTEC) to achieve an ALPS value added score of 4 or below. • Progression of most able to the best universities and higher-level apprenticeships; Oxbridge applicants are identified, encouraged and fully supported. • 87% of students progressing successfully onto post-18 pathways. • Broad curriculum offers with high levels of personalisation, pastoral care and guidance maintained in accordance with the ethos of the school.

A Level results were based purely on A2 examinations BTECS have largely remained the same. There was 81% pass rate with 3 passes or better and 74% gained level 2 threshold (2A*-C). The increase in the percentage of grades awarded A*-A or equivalent to 19% was very pleasing considering it's the first year some of these students would have sat a full exam. 69% of students from the cohort are starting university degree courses this Autumn and it is pleasing that students have opted to study a range of courses. 19 % have chosen to take employment. An emerging trend in terms of post-18 opportunities is the increasing number of students opting for higher apprenticeships or Degree Apprenticeships as a more financially viable and secure route.

GCSE

Formal examinations returned in 2022 and the school ensured that all pupils were fully supported after the extended period of disruption due to C-19. Almost half of the 2022 cohort achieved 5 GCSEs including Maths and English. This was a very pleasing performance and demonstrated the hard work and commitment from students and staff. It is difficult to make comparisons with previous years given the move towards "Centre Determined Grades" during Covid, however, WJEC suggested that the best available comparison is with 2019 prior to the pandemic.

Indicator	2022 Result	2019 Result
Capped Points score	335	288
Level 1 (5 GCSEs A-G)	86%	89%
5 GCSEs A-C inc Maths/English	43%	26%
SCC National Certificate	55%	50%
Points Score Literacy	36	33
Points Score Numeracy	35	31
Points Score Science	24	24
5 GCSEs A*-C	44%	35%
5A*-A	0%	2%

7. Facilities/estates

The Estates team worked superbly throughout the year to adapt the building to ensure that it continued to be COVID safe for all pupils and staff. Pupils returned to full time learning 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

2 new classroom spaces had been created to create additional teaching spaces during the summer of 2021.

Lettings

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

Results

2022 Summer results were pleasing with 87.9% of pupils in Expressive Arts Subjects achieving A*-C.

School Production/Showcase

- Last year's school production was Beauty and the Beast. It was a great success with a fantastic turn out on all 4 nights. Primary schools attended a dress rehearsal on the first day and engaged in activities based on the production for the transition project.
- Pupils from Year 7-13 were involved in the Christmas showcase. This was a wonderful evening showcasing the talent at Cardiff West. We had a range of talent including, singing, dancing and recitals.
- Expressive Arts school show this year will be Mary Poppins. We have around 50 pupils who have parts in the show. We have had a lot of interest and support from pupils and staff to support with the Design Team and Backstage. This year, we have the A Level Production Team leading on the Set Design.
- We will be running a cluster project in the summer term with our feeder primary schools. We are currently in the planning stages and discussing possible projects.

Creative Partners and Trips

- Year 10 pupils were part of Cardiff's ambitious journey towards achieving zero HIV transmissions where they engaged in a project with the WNO.
- The Lead Creative School project – staff collaboration with creative practitioners to plan and deliver an engaging project linked to the new curriculum.
- XL trip to orchestral concert in February 22.
- Art department were involved in the Alienated project – 8 pupils exhibited their work alongside working artists in Cardiff.
- Pupils from year 11 attended a creative careers day at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Pupils had a fantastic day speaking to lots of universities and companies including the BBC and ITV discussing job opportunities for the future.
- Working with Careers Wales to link creative industries into our SOL, such as Set and Costume Design, Music Composition, Actors, etc.
- The Art Department has started an Art Club to create Art Murals for each AOLE. We are working with various partners such as Centregreat and Graffiti Artists to collaborate ideas.
- Rubicon Dance have started working with selected pupils this term in Year 7-11. This is such an exciting opportunity for all pupils involved and they will have opportunity to gain a scholarship through Rubicon Dance.
- Cor Skills (Millennium Centre) will be attending this term to deliver voice workshops with GCSE classes.
- We used 70 spaces for pupils within Expressive Arts to attend the WNO Magic Flute Dress rehearsal on 9th March. There was an opportunity for a focus group with the music pupils regarding feedback on the production.

Peripatetic Music Lessons – delivered by CAVMS

- Peri lessons have been growing in numbers over the last 3 years. We currently have 136 pupils who are receiving lessons.

- CAVMS offer the following lessons to our pupils: Piano and Voice Lessons, Guitar Lessons, Drum Lessons, Woodwind Lessons, Violin Lessons.

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Extra- Curricular

- GCSE Sessions in Art, Drama, Music and Performing Arts each week.
- Guitar club during lunch time.
- Art Mural Club every Tuesday and Thursday.
- School Production – Rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday
- Choir club underway in the summer term.

9. Sport in school

Learning offer

KS3 P.E and games lessons.

We have created and planned a new blend of learning themes that incorporate traditional activities such as gymnastics / football / rugby and trampolining with new fresh activities such as CrossFit / Olympic weight lifting and self-defence.

These opportunities are followed through to KS4 but with additional offers such as;

- GCSE BTEC SPORT
- GCSE P.E

Currently providing pathways for our year 12 cohort for 2023

Extra - curricular activities

Throughout the academic season, we provide after school clubs for the following activities:

- Hockey
- Rugby
- Athletics
- Football
- Basketball
- Weights and fitness
- Baseball
- Dance
- Olympic weight lifting

Each breaktime we host basketball and mixed sports for over 70 pupils every day of the week.

Each lunchtime we offer basketball x3 per week, girls only mixed sports, netball clubs, football and rugby sessions using the 4G. every lunchtime will have at least one activity available.

These options are reviewed termly, and suggestions are always welcomed from our pupils.

Community partners

- **Cardiff MET**- football program for year 9/U14 girls. Aspirational focus and university experience.
- **'Resolve it'** self-defence charity, deliver to year 7 & 8 wellbeing lessons
- **'Set for success'** program is run by the Wimbledon tennis charity. Year 9 and 10 cohort and based on authentic and real-life experiences, aspiring to be better, multi-skill development. This two-year course allows pupils to deliver and present research on employment, visit Wimbledon arena in London and connect with students across the U.K, complete booklets that enhance personal skills like literacy and self – esteem and gain work experience.
- **Cardiff met sport and P.E.** Here we visit the campus with GCSE students and experience excellent facilities and tutorship and take part in taster sessions put on by the university.
- **Glamorgan cricket partners.** Here, taster sessions are delivered at school and based around growing the sport (especially within our refugee cohort) and we take students to cricket matches in the summer evenings.
- **WRU rugby partnership.** We joint employ a rugby officer who targets boys and girl's participation, strengthen primary school connections and links within our community.
- **Cardiff City foundation.** Mentor scheme and tutor programme for some of our more vulnerable students.

Sporting fixtures.

During the course of the year the number of fixtures increased, and the number of pupils involved across all year groups continued to rise. Boys and Girls football fixtures continued to grow, and we also used our WRU hub officer to organise additional rugby fixtures and mini festivals for our school and the cluster as a whole. Football, Rugby, Netball, Basketball and Athletics fixtures took place in 2021-22.

Trelai Primary Sports Day.

Over 200 pupils from Trelai Primary School used our field to enjoy a Sports Day in June 2022. Our Year 9 GCSE students were able to support the day and acted as "Sports Ambassadors."

10. Clubs and extra-curricular activities

The provision for pupils after school was affected by partial closures and sickness but there were after school clubs of

- Hockey
- Rugby
- Athletics
- Football
- Basketball

Sporting Fixtures -

Regular sporting fixtures linked to football, rugby and Netball took place throughout the year.

Music, Art and Drama.

Around 50 pupils were involved in the School Production of “Beauty and the beast” in June 2022. There were four full performances and it was a pleasure to welcome a range of audiences back into school after the pandemic.

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.

Awards evening

We returned to a face to face Awards Evening in July 2022. Our Special Guests were Jason Mohammad and Rhys Priestland. Pupils from all year groups were presented with awards linked to our school values and we were very fortunate to receive sponsorship from our business partners. The Assistant Director of Education, Mike Tate, was also able to join us and the event was a huge success.

Careers week

A Careers Week took place in late June 2022 involving Year 10. This was supported by a range of local business partners who delivered classes linked to their area of work and every pupil in Year 10 was interviewed by a business partner. The feedback from staff, business partners and pupils was outstanding and several pupils received commendations for their performance and attitude.

“Debate Mate”

Pupils from Years 7 and 9 took part in a debating competition and they made it to the local final at the Principality Stadium in June 2022.

Other Extra-curricular activities included.

- Caer heritage archaeological dig in Trelai Park
- Y11 Prom
- Creative Writing competition and “Young Writers” awards
- CAVC Aerospace Engineering challenge

11. Destinations and courses for Y13 leavers in 2022.

Destination	Course
USW	Law, Criminology and Business.
Swansea	Criminology
Cardiff Met	Health and SC, Fine Art, Architecture.
Aberystwyth	Psychology
Bristol - UWE	Accounting
Cardiff	Business
CAVC	Design and Technology
Oxford Brookes	Law
Network 75	Computing, Law.

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 90%. The Year 7 Pastoral Team has developed positive working relationships and their wellbeing was monitored closely under the guidance of their Progress Leader. 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 2022 ahead of their start in September 2022.

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.

A new "Accelerate" provision was set up in September 2022 to support transition providing wellbeing support and additional literacy lessons to 4 groups in Year 7. This is fusion of primary and secondary ideas with one teacher delivering a range of subjects to a specific group. Feedback from staff, students and Estyn was very positive in relation to "Accelerate."

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 2022.
- The school played a very active role in the support of the local community during the year. This included drop-in wellbeing visits, sending food hampers and making regular home visits
- Distribution of laptops and wifi dongles to targeted families
- The use of sporting facilities by community clubs
- 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 2021-2 to deliver advice workshops for the community
- Partnership work with local charities to promote wellbeing
- Partnership work with Cardiff City FC Foundation and WRU
- Active Travel workshops with the LA based in the school and Cluster
- Awards Evening and Careers week supported by many local business groups
- Partnership work with the Rotary Club and Access Cymru to reduce levels of digital deprivation

14. **Charity Work**

Events in 2021-22 which had a charitable focus.

- Children in Need Day – November 2021
- MacMillan Coffee Morning – November 2021
- Wear Yellow day – mental health charity – October 2021
- Christmas Hamper collection – November and December 2021 Over 60 hampers distributed following donations from staff and pupils
- PSHCE kindness project – Summer 2022 – food hampers distributed
- Fundraising for Foreign Trips at CWCHS – Summer 2022.

15. Staff Development and Training

Professional Learning 2021/22

Curriculum for Wales

INSET days were allocated for working upon Curriculum for Wales. A number of these days were planned as cluster inset days which were organised by the Associate Assistant Head for Curriculum and Deputy Head Teacher for curriculum and standards. This allowed for joint working and planning. The remaining time was allocated within Areas and regular opportunities were for cross-curricular thematic planning and sharing best practice.

Pedagogy

Twilight sessions were utilised for a continued focus upon Principles of Instruction (supporting DRICE). Across the academic year we focussed Cognitive Load theory, Sequencing Concepts and Modelling and Differentiation in-line with our SIP priorities. Twilight sessions were run in cross-department groups and facilitated by middle/senior leaders.

Skills

Our focus upon skills has remained and our professional learning offer for 2021/22 reflected this. A number of professional learning sessions were delivered by the Literacy Co-ordinator focussing upon Writing Keys. Writing rubrics were developed by each Area to ensure key assessments had a focus upon the quality and accuracy of the writing regarding meaning and purpose, structure and organisation, language, grammar, punctuation, spelling and handwriting. This ensured clarity around expectations for all staff and improved consistency. Marking for Literacy CWCHS policy was also launched which again improved consistency. The Numeracy Co-ordinator led a CPD session upon graph work across the curriculum and led 2 focus weeks linked to this key area. Our Digital leader continued to focus 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

Three middle leaders (taking on new roles) partook in the CSC Middle Leadership Development Programme and two core subject middle leaders completed the CSC Developing Senior Leadership Programme. One of these colleagues secured a position in a new school and the other secured an Associate Assistant Headship at Cardiff West CHS. Two members of the senior leadership team completed a Thrive leadership course and one member of the senior leadership team completed ESTYN Inspection training.

Wellbeing and safeguarding

Within the wellbeing sector a number of colleagues completed professional learning in a range of areas including Prevent training, Mental Health Awareness, Nurture for Inclusion, Safeguarding, Chaperone Education, MAPPA and Thrive. All staff received My Concerns safeguarding training

Lead Creative Schools Project – Arts Council Wales

This project involved up-skilling five different members of staff in creative approaches to teaching/delivering in their subject area. Colleagues from five different AoLEs were matched with creative practitioners. Teachers in a range of areas worked with specialist partners to develop pedagogy through a variety of techniques including podcasting/live sounds/soundscaping, multi-media/digital art and film and app design. Positive impact was noted by all upon their own teaching practice. This project is being rolled out further in 22/23.

16. School Trips and Visits

The following visits took place in 2021-22 despite the challenges faced in the first half of the year.

- Tesco Superstore to look at Maths and Business Skills
- Encon – Technology and Business
- CAVC – Cardiff Airport and STEM
- 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 2022.
- USW – Careers trip
- Debate Mate – Principality Stadium
- Cardiff City Stadium – Careers and inclusion
- Creative Writing trip - Cardiff Met.
- Trips to sports games at CCFC and Glamorgan CCC

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.

In addition, we are running ski trip to Austria and a trip to Disneyland Paris in 2023.

17. **Events in School**

Children In need Day – November 2021 – raised £564

SHEP – August 2022 – 40 pupils in school during the summer break

Wear Yellow Day – October 2021 – raised £350 for mental health charity

Virtual Christmas concert – December 2021 – over 1000 views

Christmas Hampers collected and distributed – December 2021.

GOT anti-extremism lessons filmed for WG website with LA and Year 7/8 pupils – Spring 2022

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

Awards Evening – July 2022

Careers week – June 2022.

School Sports Days – July 2022

Primary School Sports Days - based at the school. June 2022.

18. Looking ahead

We hope for less disruption in 2022/3 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 2022 alone. This is the reality of our motto "Create Your World."

We are looking forward to hosting another live production of "Mary Poppins" in Spring 2023 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. In addition, there is a ski trip planned to Austria in April 2023 and a trip to Disneyland Paris in July 2023. These exciting opportunities are at the heart of what we do at CWCHS.

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 will continue to prepare pupils fully for the next range of public examinations in 2022/3. It seems that we are continuing our journey back to "normality" in this and other areas. As always, we look ahead with positivity in line with our motto of "Create Your World."

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. 84% of parents have access to classcharts .

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

Main school accounts-

792 followers on Facebook

1,407 followers on Twitter

678 followers on Instagram

20. **Term Dates and INSET Days 2022-23**

Autumn Term 5th September 2022-23rd December 2022

Spring Term 9th January 2023 – 31st March 2023

Summer Term 17th April 2023- 24th July 2023.

Training Days for 2022/23.

5th September 2022

21st October 2022

23rd December 2022 (Disagregated)

13th March 2023

23rd June 2023

24th July 2023 (Disagregated)

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 2022 and a higher proportion of pupils achieved A*-C.

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

New and updated policies for 2021-2.

Social media policy

Complaints Policy

Updated Anti-Bullying policy

Lettings Policy

Performance Management

Charging and Remissions

Equality and Diversity Policy

Updated Health and Safety Policy

