

Cardiff West Community High School

Governors' Annual Report to Parents

Headteacher - Ms. V. Evans

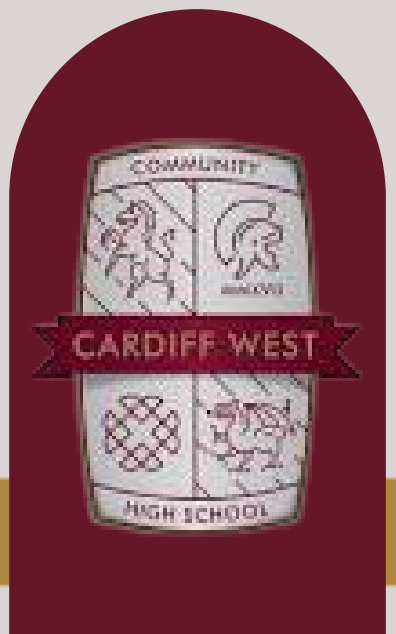
Chair of Governing Body - Mrs. A. Batten

Cardiff West Community High School

Penally Road

Cardiff

CF5 5XP



Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I am very pleased to share our 2024/25 report with you.

This report will give you an overview of the school's work over the past year, our successes, and the priorities for the coming year. It has been a successful and rewarding year for our students, staff and Governors as we continue to develop the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales, work on the priorities set out our School Development Plan and provide the best educational experience and opportunities for our students.

Firstly, on behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our fabulous students that have worked so hard and achieved excellent examination results in the summer of 2025. It has been a pleasure to hear about the many students who have entered further education at elite universities across the county. Furthermore, the growth of our own 6th form shows the value the pupils in year 11 are placing on education. Our students have also positively embraced changes we have made to our ethos and culture, such as Manners Matter and the Punctuality Initiative. The positive data that is coming from these shows that Cardiff West Pupils are embracing the high standards being set for them.

We are grateful to you, our parents, carers and guardians who have worked in partnership with us and provided support during the year. We want to make sure that our learners have the best possible opportunities in life, and key to this is getting the most out of their education and attendance is therefore a priority. We therefore ask for your help by ensuring your children attend school every day, arrive on time, and attend all lessons once in school.

Cardiff West Community High School is here to help – so if you or your children have any concerns, please speak with members of staff so that we can work together to resolve your concerns. We share the common goal of wanting what is best for every one of our students.

In this last year we have bid farewell valued members of staff and the Governing Body who have retired or moved on to new opportunities. In particular, we said a fond farewell to our Headteacher Mike Tate who retired at the end of the summer term. Under Mr Tate's leadership we made significant progress as a school particularly in our work as a Community Focussed School and being at the forefront of banning mobile phones in schools within Wales. We are also grateful to our previous chair of Governors Ms Karen Dell'Armi for her immense contribution to the work of the Governing Body.

As we reach the end of this spring term, on behalf of the Governing Body wish to thank the school's Senior Leadership Team, all staff, all students and all families and carers/guardians, and our many partners, for your support.

Finally, I extend to you my best wishes for the Easter Holiday..

Anita Batten

Chair of Governors

Governing Body Membership 2025-26

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

Forename	Surname	Position	Category	Start	End
Anita	Batten		Comm	01/09/2023	31/08/2027
James	Healan		Comm	10/09/2024	10/08/2028
Stuart	Criddle		Comm	02/07/2021	01/07/2025
Ruth	McDonald		Comm	16/11/2021	15/11/2025
			Comm		
Mike	Tate	Head	Head	01/09/2023	
Karen	Dell'Armi	Chair	LA	23/10/2021	22/10/2025
Katie	Berrisford		LA	27/09/2024	26/09/2028
Joanne	Larner	V/Chair	LA	19/03/2021	18/03/2025
Justine	Swainson		LA	27/06/2025	26/07/2029

Governing Body Membership 2025-26

Forename	Surname	Position	Category	Start	End
			LA		
Marc	Heatley		Parent	26/10/2022	25/10/2026
Peter	Smith		Parent	23/09/2022	22/09/2026
Deborah	Ward		Parent	23/09/2022	22/09/2026
Tracey-Jane	Davidson		Parent	20/12/2024	19/12/2027
			Parent		
			Parent		
Madison	Burt		Staff	06/10/2021	05/10/2025
Sara	Thomas		Teacher	06/02/2025	05/02/2029
Bella	Giamei		Teacher	25/09/2023	25/08/202

Clerk :Claire Jones

Vacancies for the Parent and Community Governor posts have now been filled for the year 2025-26.

Staff List 2024-25

Last Name	First Name	Position
Ackerman	Michelle	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Andrews	Ryan	COMMUNITY FACILITIES MANAGER
Ashford	Victoria	TEACHER
Avenell	Louise	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Baah-Achamfuor	Nana	TEACHER
Begum	Farhana	TEACHER
Bell	Benjamin	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Birt	Lloyd	TEACHER
Blackburn	Vickie	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Botfield	Sarah	COVER SUPERVISOR
Bradley	Tristan	TEACHER
Brennan	Mary	ATTENDANCE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Bridgeman	Luke	TEACHER
Brooks	Paul	TEACHER
Budd	Lindsey	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Burns	Claire	TEACHER
Burrowes	Misha	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Burt	Sarah	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Burt	Madison	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Cain	Daniel	TEACHER
Cairns	Katey	SENIOR FINANCE & ADMIN OFFICER
Carpanini	Gianpaolo	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Castley	Rhys	DT TECHNICIAN
Chivers	Anne	TEACHER
Chow	HeiTing	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Cody	Gemma	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Coughlin	Jayne	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Cox	Christopher	TEACHER
Cross	Sarah	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Curtis	Timothy	TEACHER
Dacruz	Ceri	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Dale	Rosemary	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Davies	Lindsey	TEACHER
Davies	Naomi	TEACHER
Davies	Gwyn	SCIENCE TECHNICIAN
Davies	Abigail	TEACHER
Davies	Jonathan	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Davies	Julie	TEACHER
Davies-Cox	Rebecca	TEACHER
Deshpande	Yug	IT TECHNICIAN
Donald	Ellie	TEACHER

Staff List 2024-25

Donkin	Robert	TEACHER
Duggan	Kathryn	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
Edwards	Gaynor	BUSINESS MANAGER
Evans	Matthew	TEACHER
Evans	Tracy	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Evans	Victoria	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
Evans	James	TEACHER
Evans	Ffion	TEACHER
Everitt	Anna	TEACHER
Faragher-Downes	Susan	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Fletcher	Edward	TEACHER
Ford	Taylor	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Frowen	Donna	DATA MANAGER
Gauci	John	ESTATES OFFICER
George	Camron	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Giamei	Isabella	TEACHER
Godden	Rhiannon	TEACHER
Grew	Stacey	TEACHER
Hamed	Joanne	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Handley	Guy	ESTATES MANAGER
Harry	Luke	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Hayes	Demi-Louise	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Hazlewood	Lesley	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Hernando-Sanchez	Carlos	TEACHER
Hicks	Abigail	TEACHER
Hill	Daniel	RUGBY HUB OFFICER
Hill	Terri	TEACHER
Hiscocks	Alexandra	TEACHER
Hodgetts	Jeanette	ATTENDANCE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
House	Cian	TEACHER
Howells	Karen	WELFARE MANAGER
Jenkins	Simon	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Johns	Sarah	TEACHER
Jones	Tristan	TEACHER
Kapdee	Giten	NETWORK MANAGER
Kelly	Carmen	FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER
Killin	Darcey	TEACHER
Knight	Michael	TEACHER
Lewis	Lindsay	TEACHER
Lewis	Bethan	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Light	Kelly	ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Lomasney	Samantha	TEACHER
Malton	Ryan	TEACHING ASSISTANT
March	Taylor	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Marindire	Thomas	TEACHER
Marsh	Daniel	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Martin	Lindsey	PUPIL DATA & POST 16 OFFICER

Staff List 2024-25

Miller	Andrew	ESTATES OFFICER
Mitchell	Felicity	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Mitchem	Hannah	TEACHER
Mohamed	Sallyann	ATTENDANCE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Morgan	Laura	TEACHER
Morgan	Nicola	ADMIN SUPPORT OFFICER
Morris	Alana	TEACHER
Murphy	Karimah	HAIRDRESSING TUTOR MANAGER
Murray	Noel	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Nation	Rebecca	TEACHER
Nazzal	Essam	COVER SUPERVISOR
O'Keeffe	Gerard	TEACHER
Owen	Clare	TEACHER
Patterson	Kelly	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Phillips	Victoria	TEACHER
Pritchard	Rhiannon	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Pritchard	Rhys	ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
Prosser	Kayleigh	TEACHER
Radford	Donna	ADMIN ASSISTANT
Rawlings	Matthew	TEACHER
Rhys-Harris	Deborah	SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT
Rozario	Elizabeth	TEACHER
<u>Sankala</u>	Stefan	TEACHER
Sartain	Andrew	TEACHER
Sattar	Hamara	TEACHER
Shepherd	Suzanne	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Simmonds	Rhiannon	EXAMS OFFICER
Smyth	Jack	TEACHER
Stanwyck	Louise	TEACHER
Stokes	Danielle	TECHNICIAN (HAIR & BEAUTY)
Stubley	Emma	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Sullivan-Godfrey	Tracy	TEACHER
Tate	Michael	HEADTEACHER
Thomas	Sara	TEACHER
Thomas	Ellie	TEACHER
Turner	Matthew	TEACHER
Union	Geraldine	TEACHER
VANVEEN	AGNIESZKA	TEACHER
Walters	Marius	COVER SUPERVISOR
Wilkins	Sarah	TEACHER
Williams	Katy	TEACHER
Windels	Luke	LEARNING & ETHOS OFFICER
Younis	Alison	TEACHING ASSISTANT

Finance 2024-25

The Pupil Deprivation Grant allocations for 2024-25 are outlined in the following table:

Grant Spend	Provision	Success criteria
£67,371.00	Staffing cost for a skills coordinator	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve reading and writing ages across the full age range. 2. Ensure pupils have access and opportunity to engage with literature. 3. Ensure pupils are operating at the functionally literate age as a minimum. 4. To develop a learning continuum for literacy across the cluster.
£161,222.00	Staffing costs for 'Accelerate' teachers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve reading and writing ages across the full age range. 2. Improve numerical ability in years 7 and 8. 3. Provide a 'bridging' model in the transition from primary to secondary phase of education. 4. To embed thrive approaches in the classroom for vulnerable learners.
£326,209.00	Staffing costs for mainstream teachers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand provision in the mainstream. 2. Greater access to a range of curriculum specialists. 3. Reduce maximum class sizes. 4. Improve outcomes and progress of learners in years 7-11.
68,644.00	Staffing costs for BESD teachers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved emotional health and wellbeing support for pupils. 2. Improved curriculum provision for pupils with BESD needs. 3. Reduction in maximum class size for pupils with BESD needs. 4. Implementation of ALNET principles to support pupils with BESD needs.
£59,765	Staffing costs for 'Outreach' provision and ALN support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve engagement for pupils who are unable to attend school. 2. Provide emotional health and wellbeing support for pupils who are struggling with anxiety in relation to school. 3. Ensure specific pupil needs are met within an ALN provision to pupils in years 9-11. 4. Secure a minimum of 5 GCSE passes (or equivalent) for all pupils.
£62,162	Staffing costs for attendance and safeguarding officers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve attendance for pupils who fall below 90% 2. Ensure hard to reach pupils are sighted and safe. 3. Ensure pupils attending school are in lessons and flourishing.
£13,607	Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve opportunity for pupils to access music lessons. 2. Pupils have access to intervention programmes. 3. Pupils progress in lessons is improved due to access to necessary resources.
£759,000.00	Total PDG projected spend	
£759,000.00	Total grant allocation	

Finance 2024-25

The Professional Learning Grant allocations for 2024-25 are outlined in the following table:

Grant Spend	Provision	Success criteria
£18,271	Staffing costs for TLR3 professional learning development opportunities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of future middle and senior leaders. 2. Development of collaboration across the cluster. 3. Development of appropriate curriculum pathways for learners. 4. Development of CfW.
£145,314	Allocated for wider professional development opportunities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of staff knowledge of curriculum and Made for wales GCSEs. 2. Development of knowledge or skills linked to performance management. 3. Opportunity for collaborative work within cluster. 4. Opportunity for collaborative work with outside agencies and partners.
£163,585.00	Total PLG projected spend	
£163,585.00	Total grant allocation	

The school finished the financial year 2024-25 with a £364,798 surplus which has been carried forward into the financial year 2025-26.

Exam Results Summer 24

Post 16.

% Pupils achieving 3 A*-C – 50%

% Pupils achieving 3A*-E – 58%

%Pupils achieving 2A* -E – 83%

All pupils were accepted into their first-choice university and we are delighted to hear so many stories of them now flourishing in the next steps of their education.

GCSE

Year 11 results this year were above expectations and improved from the last academic year.

	Average capped 9 points	% of pupils achieving A*- C in Literacy	% of pupils achieving A*- C in Numeracy	% of pupils achieving A*- C in Science	% of pupils achieving A*- C in Skills Challenge	% of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C inc. Eng and Maths	% of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C	% of pupils achieving 5+ A*-G
2025	336.51	37.98	34.13	29.32	25.08	25.12	56.6	95.1
2024	314	30.2	27.5	25.7	15.7	26.32	47.82	85.17

There were no pupils that left Cardiff West Community High School without a qualification.

Community Focussed School

The action plan for Caerau and Ely has now been completed. The school have played a pivotal role in the creation and implementation of the plan. Our participation in this project has allowed us to build strong working relationships across the community. Action for Caerau and Ely, the police, the Caer Heritage centre and various charities such as Barnardo's, Action for Children and Fighting Homelessness as well as services such as Flying Start, Cardiff Parenting and Citizen's Advice regularly look to work in collaboration with the school and seek our counsel on community matters. Whilst the initial plan has ended the school is already part of the next steering group to ensure that the good work continues in helping the community. Funding obtained through the community plan has enabled to offer our facilities free of charge to local groups who are just starting off and reduce initial start-up costs.

Throughout the school year we have held a number of events for the local community. In November, Caer heritage in collaboration with Cardiff University held a 'Being Human' event at the school which saw 160 members of the public attend from as far afield as Gloucester. The success of this event has led to further opportunities with the Caer heritage centre and we are currently working with them on a lottery bid to create a new educational environment on the school grounds in relation to the archaeological dig on Trelai fields.

As a community focused school, we have continued to promote learning opportunities for the wider community throughout the year. We have held jobs fayres, vocational opportunities fayres and recently with CAVC held a family engagement evening, where families could meet with services such as Citizens Advice and Welsh Water to raise concerns as well as companies and industries that are offering employment opportunities. We have continued to hold various groups during the school day and after school and we continue to have a positive impact on the local area. Groups that have used the school facilities this year include; Flying Start (20 families), Cardiff Parenting (5 families), Learner Ambassador Programme (20 participants), Staying safe on our streets (12 participants) and a Police talk on exploitation. As we have increased awareness of the facilities that the school has to offer we have had more diverse groups use the facilities at our disposal. Amateur dramatic societies have used the main hall and we were fortunate to host a Male Voice Choir in collaboration with Trelai Primary School.

We are fortunate to possess first class sporting facilities and it is pleasing to see the local community also benefitting from them as well. Over 20 local sports teams currently use our facilities and have benefitted from the reduced rates that we offer to local teams. Throughout the school holidays the facilities continue to be used through various sports camps and the Youth Service.

Pupils have played a key role in identifying areas of the community that need developing. Our pupils have worked with the Child Poverty Action Group on what they felt were financial barriers to overcome in pupils attending school. They surveyed over 200 pupils, parents and staff and fed back their findings to members of SLT. This work was continued with Citizens Wales primarily looking at transport to school costs and the price of school dinners. Our pupils played a key role in the introduction, nationally, of £1 bus fares for children under 16. Cardiff University ran a project on safe spaces for girls in the local community. 14 of our pupils researched and helped them with the project in the surrounding area and their findings and presentation were then take to a national audience. We are also working with Action for Children on their embedding voices project and Action for Caerau and Ely's Camau bach voices project.

The school is aware of the challenges that face the community and have been creative in finding ways to combat these issues. We have installed a washing machine for community use at the front of the school, that is able to be used 24 hours a day, and we have opened our school food bank. Over the summer holidays the school gave out food bags to over 100 families and the food bank continues to be open every Wednesday morning for public use. We have purchased a poly tunnel to grow fresh vegetables that will then be distributed through the food bank.

The community room at the front of school is now complete. This has enhanced our relationship with the Youth Service and a Youth Club is now ran from the space two nights a week, allowing young people in the area and opportunity to have a safe space where they can try new things and meet friends. Once a week a Welsh medium Youth club also use the facilities.

As a school, we are receiving a lot of recognition for the community work that we are undertaking. The school plays a prominent role in the Local Authorities training video on Community Focussed Schools for Governors and we have been featured in the Big Issue magazine on how we support the community.

We have continued to work closely with our cluster primary schools. They make regular use of the facilities that we have on offer and this is creating a greater awareness for their pupils and parents of the opportunities that we have on offer at Cardiff West.

The Business forum continues to go from strength to strength. We have successfully completed a second year of the engineering project and the Junior Chef Academy. These give valuable insights to our pupils on the world of work. Through the business forum, two of our pupils have been offered apprenticeships following the courses they undertook at Cardiff West.

In addition to this, over the course of the academic year we have worked closely with Careers Wales. Pupils have been able to participate in science shows, talks with solicitors and lawyers, Welsh in the work place sessions and maths in the world of work lessons.

The school plays a prominent role in the local area Learning Partnership Board, this has enabled us to work with a number of different agencies to help families in the area, this can be through parenting advice, help with utility bills or advice on where to go for help with mental health and wellbeing issues.

School trips and visits

It was fantastic to see a large number of pupils in 2024-25 having enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities through trips and visits. These included:

- A Modern Foreign Languages trip to Paris
- Theatre visits
- Art gallery visits
- Live TV recordings in the studio audience
- Cardiff Castle
- The Senedd
- Careers fayres
- University visits
- Techniquest
- St. Fagans
- Cardiff City Stadium – Junior Chef Academy
- BBC Wales studio tour

At Cardiff West, we believe that education goes beyond the classroom. These experiences are memories that the pupils will have for life. Our educational visits and trips will continue in 2025-26. All educational visits are evaluated to measure the impact on the pupils' wider education and wellbeing.

Policies

All school policies are ratified by the Governing Body of Cardiff West. These can all be found on the school website or requested from the school.

New and updated policies for 2024-25:

- Anti-bullying policy
- Curriculum policy
- Charging and remissions policy

Term Dates

For information, please find below inset days and term dates for the 2025/26 academic year:

Inset days:

Monday 1st September, 2025

Tuesday 2nd September, 2025

Monday 3rd November, 2025

Monday 5th January, 2026

Monday 9th March, 2026

Monday 20th July, 2026

Term Dates:

Term	Start Date	Half-Term Break	End Date
Autumn Term 2025	Monday, 1 September 2025	Monday, 27 October – Friday, 31 October 2025	Friday, 19 December 2025
Spring Term 2026	Monday, 5 January 2026	Monday, 16 February – Friday, 20 February 2026	Thursday, 26 March 2026
Summer Term 2026	Monday, 13 April 2026	Monday, 25 May – Friday, 29 May 2026	Friday, 17 July 2026

School Prospectus

Cardiff West Community High School's prospectus was updated in summer 2025 (ready for September 2025) to reflect some changes in our curriculum for the upcoming year 2025-2026 and ensure the prospectus is the best possible quality to market the school to prospective pupils, parents and guardians. We have worked with Colorfoto to change some of the branding used to make the prospectus more appealing. Copies can be requested from reception and will be disseminated to the new Year 7 cohort





AMBITION | RESILIENCE | TRUST

OUR SCHOOL EIN HYSGOL

Our vision at Cardiff West is 'Create Your World' and this embodies everything we do in the school. We want to ensure that all our pupils have the opportunities and support to enable everyone to achieve their potential and go on and play a meaningful role in society. These opportunities extend well beyond the school curriculum and can be seen in the broad range of extracurricular and enrichment opportunities available to our pupils.

We have high expectations of our pupils to be their very best and we ensure that there are high levels of support in place to allow them to reach success. Beliefs, attitudes, guidance and support are the key pillars to success for all pupils and the partnership between home and school to support them is crucial.

Our core values of **AMBITION | RESILIENCE | TRUST** are at the centre of what we do at Cardiff West.

We aim to be a truly community focused school, one that opens its doors to our community and supports them in sharing our values and ethos. Our excellent facilities are

OUR VALUES EIN GWERTHOEDD

AMBITION

- At Cardiff West the possibilities are endless.
- At Cardiff West we enable our pupils to exceed their own limits.
- At Cardiff West we work hard to achieve our dreams.

RESILIENCE

- At Cardiff West we do what it takes for as long it takes.
- At Cardiff West we always give 100%.
- At Cardiff West we know we only fail if we give up.

TRUST

- At Cardiff West we do the right thing.
- At Cardiff West we are kind and tolerant towards others.
- At Cardiff West we play by the rules.



Teaching and Learning

A key focus of teaching and learning over recent months has been ensuring a strong, purposeful start to the new academic year. Time has been carefully invested in researching best practice, learning from other schools, and reviewing educational research to ensure that developments are evidence-based and carefully matched to the needs of our pupils. This thoughtful preparation means that improvements have been planned with care, rather than rushed, so they will have the greatest possible impact in the classroom.

Central to this work is the introduction of the CWCHS Five Fundamentals Framework. Drawing on established research, including The Learning Rainforest and Doug Lemov's work, as well as effective practice already seen in our classrooms, the framework sets out a clear, shared understanding of what high-quality teaching looks like at CWCHS. Its aim is to ensure greater consistency across the school, so pupils experience clear expectations and high-quality learning in every lesson. The framework will be fully introduced this year, supported by practical resources and staff training to ensure it is embedded effectively.

Another important development is the launch of a new Form Time Reading programme. Informed by national best practice, bespoke reading booklets have been created to make reading purposeful, engaging, and enjoyable. These include carefully selected texts linked to our DACW themes of the week, which are designed to spark curiosity, broaden pupils' understanding of the world, and help them engage with current issues. The programme also includes opportunities for staff to model fluent reading and for pupils to develop their vocabulary through structured activities. As reading is fundamental to success across all subjects, this initiative is a key part of strengthening learning across the curriculum.

To further support vocabulary development, pupils will take part in an Academic Vocabulary Bee at the end of every other half term. This fun and competitive event will help pupils revisit and consolidate key vocabulary they have encountered in their reading, encouraging them to use new words confidently in lessons.

Finally, three whole-school priorities have been identified for the year ahead: Modelling, Feedback, and Reading. These areas have been chosen because of their strong impact on pupil progress. By focusing on them consistently, lessons will be clearer, pupils will better understand how to improve their work, and all children will be supported in accessing increasingly challenging texts.

This careful groundwork means the school begins the academic year with clear priorities and strong foundations. These teaching and learning developments are designed to support pupils in becoming confident, independent learners and to ensure high-quality learning experiences across the school.

Expressive Arts

Peripatetic Lessons

Cardiff West Community High School were partnered with CAVMS (Cardiff and Vale Music Service) to provide a peripatetic service to pupils at Cardiff West. We have transitioned to Cardiff Music Teachers for 2025/26 academic year. Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals are able to access lessons for free and non-FSM pupils are able to access a range of different lessons at a very reasonable and affordable price through CAVMS.

The school is billed directly by CAVMS for any school-funded lessons and parents who are paying for lessons pay CAVMS directly.

We offer traditionally "classical" instrument lessons as well as the more popular options.

- Voice and Piano
- Guitar
- Strings
- Woodwind
- Drums
- Whole School Choir

School Production and Showcases

Last academic year was an incredible celebration of the arts at our school. Our annual production, Annie, was a standout success, bringing together pupils from every year group. We proudly staged five performances, including a special transition show for our cluster primary schools. The response was overwhelming; primary pupils even wrote heartfelt thank-you letters during their lessons and sent them to us, which was a wonderful surprise for both the cast and staff.

Our Christmas showcase was equally impressive, filling the hall with a full audience and featuring a diverse range of performances. In addition, our yearly fashion show was a highlight, showcasing exceptional textiles work and creativity. The energy, talent, and enthusiasm on display made a truly memorable celebration of the expressive arts at our school.

Creative Partners and Trips

Last academic year offered exceptional enrichment opportunities across Expressive Arts and the wider curriculum. Pupils attended an educational performance of Hamilton at the Wales Millennium Centre, where they experienced a behind-the-scenes demonstration of set and technical operations and took part in a Q&A session with the actors.

The National Youth Theatre of Wales delivered an engaging workshop for Year 9, developing performance skills and confidence.

Year 13 Performing Arts pupils undertook a powerful project on County Lines, drugs, and grooming, partnering with South Wales Police and Fearless to create a performance aimed at educating peers and the community. To extend the impact, a community awareness day was organised, featuring stalls from external organisations, including mental health charities and South Wales Police, with police dogs present to demonstrate their work. This initiative successfully raised awareness of critical safeguarding issues while showcasing the pupils' creativity and social responsibility.

GCSE Art pupils visited the National Museum Cardiff as part of their preparation for the art examination. The trip provided valuable opportunities for pupils to engage directly with a wide range of artworks and exhibitions, supporting their research and development of ideas for their exam projects. This experience enriched their understanding of artistic techniques and contextual influences, helping them to produce more informed and creative responses in their coursework and final pieces.

Extra Curricular

- Art, Drama, Performing Arts and Music all continue to offer GCSE catch up sessions during break or after school.
- Art KS3 after school workshops
- Production rehearsals held each week

Welsh Language Provision

The school remains committed to delivering high-quality Welsh language education, ensuring that every pupil has access to appropriate provision.

- All pupils receive Welsh language learning opportunities tailored to their needs, supporting both cultural understanding and language development. 61% of the Year 11 cohort studied the Welsh Second Language GCSE course and 39% studied the Agored Cymru course, this course was the most suitable for these pupils all of which were either in one of our Emotional Health and Wellbeing provisions, had an identified ALN or were EAL pupils.
- 54.87% of the pupils in Year 11 gained a GCSE qualification graded A*-C.
- 99.12% of pupils entered for Welsh GCSE gained grades A*-G
- The Agored Cymru qualification was achieved by all pupils that studied the course.
- Excellent A-level results were achieved in Welsh, with all pupils achieving A* grades.
- Two of our sixth form pupils are now studying Welsh at University.

Supporting Bilingualism:

Staff have received training and shared resources to promote the use of a common target language across the school, embedding Welsh naturally into daily routines.

Enrichment Opportunities:

Pupils have benefited from extra-curricular experiences such as the Llangrannog residential trip and the Clwb Cymraeg, both supported by the Urdd, to enhance cultural engagement and language confidence.

Our KS3 Eisteddfod showcased the creativity and talent of our pupils through music, poetry, and performance. Our annual Eisteddfod is an important part of the school calendar celebrating Welsh culture, promoting language use, helping pupils develop confidence and pride in their heritage.

Our pupils have also had valuable opportunities to explore the role of the Welsh language in the workplace. As part of this, all Year 10 students attended a special “Welsh for Employability” event at Cardiff University during the summer term. This experience highlighted how Welsh can enhance career prospects and broaden future opportunities.

Celebrating Success:

A special achievement this year was Lloyd Wolfe (Year 13) winning the prestigious Welsh Learner of the Year Award at the National Eisteddfod, a testament to his dedication and the strength of our Welsh language provision. Our Welsh provision demonstrates our commitment to promoting the Welsh language and culture across the school community, ensuring compliance with statutory requirements and fostering bilingualism as a key skill for life.

Language

CWCHS is an English Medium School.

Toilet Facilities

At CWCHS, we ensure that all pupils and staff have access to appropriate, well-maintained toilet facilities across the school site. Provision is regularly evaluated, and improvements are made as needed to maintain high standards of hygiene, privacy, and accessibility.

Capacity and distribution

- There are 16 separate staff toilets distributed across the site for easy access. Pupils have access to 6 toilet blocks, each containing 10 toilets, as well as additional toilets in each of the 4 PE changing rooms. There are also 6 dedicated disabled toilets located across the school.

Privacy and Inclusivity

- Main pupil toilet blocks are divided by gender, following pupil voice feedback that gender-neutral facilities were perceived as invasive regarding privacy. All cubicles are floor-to-ceiling design with working locks. For safeguarding, locks can be opened externally by the estates team if necessary.

Accessibility for pupils with medical needs

- Disabled toilets are adapted for mobility and medical needs. They are larger, some include hoists, others have electric toilets, and all have supporting frames. Medical bins are provided in these facilities, and pupils with medical passes can access toilets at any time during the school day.

Hygiene and Maintenance

- Toilets are cleaned daily by the cleaning team after school and checked throughout the day by a daytime cleaner. Faults or breakages are reported to the estates manager immediately. All staff and disabled toilets have sanitary bins, and all girls' toilets within pupil blocks include sanitary bins. Hand dryers are installed in all toilets.

Student and Staff Feedback

- To reduce vandalism, shutters have been installed on three toilet blocks. These are raised during lesson changeovers and supervised, significantly reducing incidents.

School Development/Improvement Plan

A summary of the key priorities from the school development/improvement plan prepared by the governing body in accordance with the Education (School Development Plans) (Wales) Regulations 2014 for the year ahead – 2025-26.

