



Governors' Report to Parents

2020

Adroddiad Llywodraethwyr i Rieni





Introduction

It is my great pleasure to present this annual report from the governing body. The report is available electronically on the school website along with further information about the school in the School Prospectus. The school Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages provide up to date news about school life.

2019-20 was a very challenging year with the school closed due to the global pandemic between March and July to all but keyworker and vulnerable children as learning for most students was delivered remotely. Teachers welcomed students back to school for the last three weeks of the summer term for check-in, catch-up and prepare sessions before the school fully reopened to students in September following a thorough Covid risk assessment. New operational guidance was put in place to keep school safe for learners and staff.

Last year the School Development and Improvement Plan priorities were:

- Promoting and reinforcing school ethos
- Promoting professional learning
- Continuing to develop quality assurance processes and support systems to ensure sustained school improvement
- Developing school curriculum to deliver curriculum for Wales including ALN transformation
- Developing ambitious, capable, healthy and confident learners

The school development plan this year has a focus on:

- Developing a curriculum and teaching and learning plan that allows for safe in-school teaching, blended learning and distance learning for the academic year 2020-21
- Promoting professional learning
- Continuing to develop and adapt quality assurance processes and support systems to ensure sustained school improvement
- Developing the school curriculum to deliver curriculum for Wales including ALN transformation
- Developing ambitious, capable, healthy and confident learners

In these unprecedented times the staff and governors are very grateful for the ongoing support of parents and carers. We appreciate all the help provided by parents and carers to support students with online learning.

I hope that you find this report informative and I look forward to working with you in the future to maintain the excellent learning experiences provided for all students in the school.

Mrs. T. Gilliland
Chair of the Governing Body
January 2021



School Information

Our school is a co-educational comprehensive situated in the county town of Mold, Flintshire. The school roll is comprised of 250 students in each of the Years 7 to 11, together with almost 350 students in the Sixth Form. The Alun School has an enviable record of academic success achieved with a fully comprehensive intake. The school provides a high standard of facilities, including a sports centre with swimming pool, large playing fields and all-terrain pitch, excellent expressive arts studios, modern design technology workshops and extensive ICT facilities, as well as a well-resourced school library and five blocks of student toilets. All facilities are cleaned daily by a team of cleaners employed by the school.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

The timetabled curriculum of 25 one-hour sessions per week has been arranged to serve two important principles. Firstly, that all children are of equal value and should be resourced accordingly; secondly, that all children should follow a broadly-based and balanced curriculum throughout the period of statutory education. Children with additional needs, whether these are learning difficulties, exceptional ability, sensory-physical impairment or emotional-behavioural problems, are supported in a number of ways. To support individual students, the school liaises with specialists such as physiotherapists and speech and language therapists, school and community nurses and doctors, educational psychologists, inclusion welfare officers and the staff of the voluntary and statutory agencies.

Key Stage 3

Below is a full list of subjects studied during the first three years:

English	Mathematics	Science	Welsh
French/German	Technology	ICT	Literacy Skills
History	Geography	Religious Education	Humanities
Art and Design	Music	Physical Education	Drama

Key Stage 4

In Years 10 and 11, each student follows their own individual learning pathway, choosing subjects from a wide range of options, in addition to the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh, Physical Education, Religious Education, ICT and Personal and Social Education and Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma.

In science, students study either three separate subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, or GCSE Double Award Science. All students also study the Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma qualification. The latest option choices for students entering Key Stage 4 can be viewed at: www.alunschool.co.uk

All students complete a second language GCSE qualification in Welsh in Year 11. The promotion of the Welsh language and culture is encouraged across the school through Curriculum Cymreig, the school eisteddfod, and a range of enrichment activities.

Sixth Form (Post-16)

Our Sixth Form offers a very wide selection of subject combinations. The latest post-16 options choices can be viewed at: www.alunschool.co.uk



Term Dates 2020-21

Autumn Term

School Covid Preparation Days	Tuesday and Wednesday	1 st and 2 nd September
School Opens	Thursday	3 rd September
School Closes	Friday	23 rd October
Staff Training Day	Monday	2 nd November
School Opens	Tuesday	3 rd November
School Closes	Thursday	17 th December

Spring Term

Staff Training Day	Monday	4 th January
School Opens	Tuesday	5 th January
School Closes	Friday	12 th February
School Opens	Monday	22 nd February
School Closes	Friday	26 th March

Summer Term

Staff Training Day	Monday	12 th April
School Opens	Tuesday	13 th April
May Bank Holiday	Monday	3 rd May
School Closes	Friday	28 th May
School Opens	Monday	7 th June
School Closes	Friday	16 th July
Staff Training Day	Monday	19 th July
Staff Training Day	Tuesday	20 th July



Staff

MEMBERS OF STAFF WITH LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Leadership Group

Mrs. J. Cooper	Headteacher
Mr. C. Ellis	Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum)
Dr. T. Erasmus	Assistant Headteacher (Head of Sixth Form)
Mrs. G. Roberts	Assistant Headteacher (Teaching & Learning)
Mr. D. Goodchild	Assistant Headteacher (ALNCo)
Mr. A. Rees	Assistant Headteacher (Assessment)

Senior Academic Staff

Mr. J. Ashton	Head of Expressive Arts
Miss C. Benson	Head of Humanities
Mr. J. Bourke-Bennett	Head of Science
Mr. A. Bowyer	Head of PE and Sport
Mrs. S. Bradford	Head of Mathematics
Mr. M. Newland	Head of English
Mrs. A. Gregory	Head of Languages
Mrs. C. Hawke-Jones	Head of Creative Technologies, Enterprise and Skills

Senior Pastoral Staff

Mrs. L. Winning	Head of Clwyd House
Mrs. S. Hodby	Head of Dyfed House
Mr. D. Jones	Head of Gwent House
Mrs. L. Jenkins	Head of Powys House
Mrs. L. Payne	Deputy in Clwyd House
Mr. C. Ditchburn	Deputy in Dyfed House
Mrs. A. Pearson	Deputy in Gwent House
Mr. R. Williams	Deputy in Powys House
Miss K. Frankland	Deputy in Sixth Form
Mrs. L. Williams	Deputy in Sixth Form

Learning Coordinators

Mrs. S. Ashton	BTEC Coordinator
Ms. K. Wiggan	i/c Hearing Support Centre

Heads of Department

Dr. L. Bromley	Head of Chemistry
Mr. S. Browne	Head of Design Technology
Mr. P. Bryon	Head of Welsh
Miss S. Davies	Head of Biology
Mrs. K. Dennan	Head of Business and Economics
Mr. I. Evans	Head of Physics
Miss R. Feathers	Head of GCSE Skills
Mrs. E. Ferrelly	Head of Music
Vacancy	Head of ICT and Computing
Mrs. A. Gregory	Head of German
Miss V. Hamm	Head of Drama
Mrs. A. Morris	Head of Art
Mrs. L. Oakes	Head of RE
Mr. S. Clarke	Head of French
Mrs. N. Robinson-Powell	Head of KS3 History
Mrs. E. Pattwell	Head of KS4 History
Miss R. Salisbury	Head of Health & Social Care
Mrs. L. Williams	Head of Psychology

TEACHERS WHO JOINED SEPTEMBER 2020

Emily Davies	Teacher of RS
Megan Williams	Teacher of ICT and GCSE Skills

TEACHERS WHO LEFT LAST ACADEMIC YEAR

Hayley Evans	Teacher of Science
Christine Williams	Teacher of IP
Angharad Brooks	Teacher of PE
Steve Cutler	Teacher of PE
Julie Warrington	Teacher of D&T



Governors

		Start	End
Parent Governors			
	Mr. Andrew Davies	01/03/2018	28/02/2022
	Mr. Peter Hughes	14/11/2018	13/11/2022
	Mr. Mark Sephton	14/11/2018	13/11/2022
	Mrs. Joanna Swash	01/11/2020	31/10/2024
	Mrs. Sian Shore	01/11/2020	31/10/2024
	Mr. Joe Rice-Jones	01/11/2020	31/10/2024
LA Representatives			
	Mrs. Annette Danson	07/01/2014	06/01/2022
	Mrs. Janet Holmes	01/11/2014	31/10/2022
	Mrs. Nicola McCann	01/11/2017	31/10/2021
	Mr. Geoff Ravenscroft	07/01/2014	06/01/2022
	Dr. Graham Sherwood	01/11/2015	01/06/2021
Community Governors			
	Dr. Roger Cracknell	01/07/2014	31/10/2022
	Mr. Andy Crosby	10/11/2014	31/10/2022
	Mrs. Tracey Gilliland	01/09/2020	31/08/2024
	Dr. David Pyke	01/09/2015	31/08/2023
	Mrs Becky Stark	01/11/2020	31/10/2024
Teacher Governors			
	Mrs. Natalie Robinson-Powell	01/11/2015	31/10/2020
	Mr. Jack Bourke-Bennett	01/11/2016	31/10/2020
Staff Governor			
	Mrs. Emma Manning	01/11/2020	31/10/2024
Headteacher			
	Mrs. Jane Cooper	01/09/2014	
Clerk to the Governors			
	Mrs. Amanda Flint		

School policies and procedures are reviewed regularly by the Governors' Sub Committees. The School Development and Improvement Plan (SDIP) is reviewed and updated annually, and is informed by self-evaluation activities that include analysing the outcomes of parent and student questionnaires. Curriculum plans are updated annually and approved by the Governing Body – see the School Prospectuses and Option Booklets for details. All courses are delivered through the medium of English.

The school's support for students with Additional Learning Needs is monitored by the nominated school governor, and we work in partnership with the Local Authority to monitor the work of the Hearing Support Centre. We are a community focused school and have regular meetings with the police and external agencies who provide support services for students. Parents and carers are welcome to visit the school during our annual open day/evening, or at other times by appointment.

The school environment is managed by the Governors' Buildings and Health & Safety Committee and it meets all legal requirements including those relating to the Disability Discrimination Act and the provision and upkeep of student toilets. Maintenance is carried out in conjunction with the Local Authority and in accordance with approved Service Level Agreements.

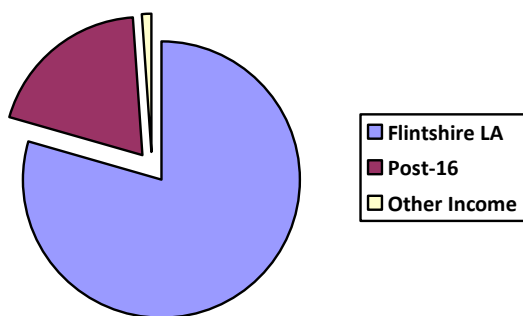
The Finance and Personnel Committee has successfully managed the school budget during some challenging financial settlements, and have made appropriate appointments to maintain a full complement of staff to meet the needs of all learners.

Further information regarding the governing body is available from Mrs. A. Flint, Clerk to Governors on 01352 750755.



School Finances

<u>Expenditure 2019-2020</u>		<u>Financial Summary year ending 31 March 2020</u>	
Employees (90.06%)	£6,600,655	INCOME	
Premises (4.34%)	£318,400	Flintshire LA	£5,719,717
Books & Educational Supplies (2.83%)	£207,200	Post-16	£1,412,836
Examination Fees (0.37%)	£27,381	Other Income	£74,358
Admin Costs (2.14%)	£157,117	Total Income	£7,206,911
Total Expenditure	£7,310,753	Surplus funds brought forward	<u>£122,466</u>
			£7,329,377
		Total Expenditure	£7,310,753
		Surplus funds carried forward	£18,624



Other Income

In the financial year 2019-2020 the source of this income was:

- ◆ Education Work Force Council
- ◆ Initial Teacher Training Institutions
- ◆ Parent Teacher Association
- ◆ Techniquet Wrexham
- ◆ Welsh Government
- ◆ WJEC Examination Board
- ◆ Tesco Ground Works
- ◆ Flintshire Local Voluntary Council
- ◆ Hanson Cement
- ◆ EESW
- ◆ Wolfson Foundation
- ◆ MBNA Chester Community Grant



Student Information

Exhibitions, Stage Performances and Music Concerts 2019-2020

- September School Open evening All year groups
- October Soloists Evening All year groups
- November Guitar Concert All year groups
- November Photography visit to Liverpool Y12
- November GCSE/A Level to Tate Liverpool Y10 and Y12
- December Performing Arts Showcase Years 7 to 13
- December Carol Concert All year groups
- January Chocolate Theatre production Lower school
- February Sixth form open evening All year groups
- February Ysgol Alun Eisteddfod Years 7 to 9
- March Performing Arts Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Year 11

Sport

The school has an excellent record of sporting success and provides a range of opportunities for students of all abilities and interests. Students have access to extensive sports facilities that include an all-weather surface; football, hockey and rugby pitches; netball, and tennis courts; two gymnasiums, a sports hall and swimming pool. An Aura Sports development 5x60 officer works closely with the school on initiatives that have been developed to encourage active lifestyles and to supplement the PE curriculum.

Our sports staff are fully committed to the extracurricular programme. Students have access to the sports hall from 8.00am to 8.40am for basketball and badminton. Lunchtime clubs run from 12.30pm to 1.10pm and the activities focus on team games, gymnastics and swimming. The emphasis of the after-school programme is to provide fixtures against other schools in the area and adventurous activities such as kayaking and climbing.

School Team Honours 2019-20

- U18 Girls hockey Flintshire Champions
- Y7 boys were their Flintshire Football league champions
- Year 11 boys' Football team were second in Flintshire
- Year 10 boys' Football team were second in Flintshire
- Year 8 boys' Football team were second in Flintshire
- Year 8 boys' Football team reached the quarter finals of the Welsh cup.
- Year 8 Boys' Rugby Flintshire 10 a side winners, North East Wales Champions and North Wales runners up
- Y11 boys' Flintshire Basketball Champions
- Y7, 8 & 9 boys' and Y7, 8 & 9 girls NEW Cross Country Champions
- Boys & Girls Badminton NEW champions
- Y7 Boys and Girls & 8 girls FSAA Cross Country Champions



Attendance

Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is essential for students to fulfil their potential. The school uses a range of strategies to encourage good attendance and reduce rates of unauthorised absence:

- Good attendance, or much improved attendance, is rewarded individually
- Attendance of tutor groups is compared, data published, and rewarded
- Attendance of houses monitored, compared and rewarded
- Parents can use the school diary to monitor student attendance and authorise absences
- The school operates a 'cold calling' system for students with attendance problems and send truancy call daily for students not in school
- The school issues attendance letters, has regular attendance meetings and undertakes home visits
- EWO referrals, home visits, meetings and director's letters
- Fixed Penalty Warnings and Fixed Penalty Notices
- Attendance Officer liaises closely with the school nurse
- CAMHs referrals, Trac, Adtrac, TAFF, Ed Psych referrals, Early Help Hub, Flintshire Sorted
- Departments require students to catch-up on any work missed due to absence. Where appropriate, they provide support for students to spend time outside lessons for this purpose
- Assemblies, PSE, drama work and theatre groups are used as a means of highlighting the problems of non-attendance with students.

School Attendance 2019-2020:

Attendance = 93.1%

Authorised Absence = 6%

Unauthorised Absence = 0.9%



Destinations Report 2020 provided by Careers Wales – Draft version below – final version will be available in April 21

Alun School	Year 11 Blwyddyn 11				Year 12 Blwyddyn 12				Year 13 Blwyddyn 13			
	Female Benyw	Male Gwryw	Totals Cyfansy miau	%	Female Benyw	Male Gwryw	Totals Cyfansy miau	%	Female Benyw	Male Gwryw	Totals Cyfansy miau	%
DRAFT as of 12.1.21												
Continuing in full-time education - Same School Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Yr un ysgol	82	72	154	63.374%	84	72	156	93.976%	10	6	16	9.639%
Continuing in full-time education - School Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Ysgol	2	7	9	3.704%	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Continuing in full-time education - College Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Coleg	40	32	72	29.63%	5	3	8	4.819%	2	2	4	2.41%
Continuing in full-time education - HE Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - AU	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%	68	39	107	64.458%
Entering employment outside WBTYP Dechrau cyflogaeth tu allan i Hyfforddiant Seiliedig ar Waith i Bobl Ifanc	0	2	2	0.823%	0	0	0	0.00%	13	10	23	13.855%
Entering WBTYP (employed status) Dechrau Hyfforddiant Seiliedig ar Waith i Bobl Ifanc (statws cyflogedig)	2	2	4	1.646%	1	0	1	0.602%	1	2	3	1.807%
Entering WBTYP - (without employed status) Dechrau Hyfforddiant Seiliedig ar Waith i Bobl Ifanc (heb statws cyflogedig)	1	0	1	0.412%	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Able to Enter Emp, Ed or WBTYP (Unemployed) Yn gallu cael mynediad at Gyflogaeth, Addysg neu WBTYP (di-waith)	0	1	1	0.412%	0	0	0	0.00%	1	1	2	1.205%
Unable OR NOT READY to enter Emp, Ed or WBTYP (e.g. due to illness, custodial sentence)	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%	2	6	8	4.819%
Not responding to follow-up and therefore unknown Dim ymateb i'r arolwg, felly'n anhysbys	0	0	0	0.00%	0	1	1	0.602%	3	0	3	1.807%
Total number of 2020 statutory school leavers Cyfanswm y gadawyr ysgol statudol yn 2020	127	116	243		90	76	166		100	66	166	