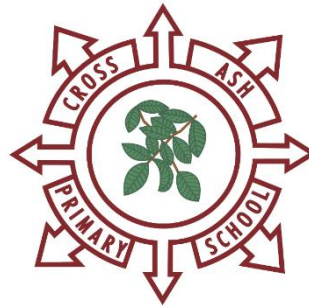


Cross Ash Primary School

Belong, Believe, Achieve



Annual Governors' Report to Parents

2023-24

Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Annual Report Foreword

Welcome to the Annual Report of the Governing Body of Cross Ash Primary School for 2023-24. I have been Chair of Governors for three years and was a governor prior to this. I have enjoyed getting to know the school community over the past few years. I try to spend some regular time at the school as a volunteer and as part of my role as Chair. Both of these roles enable me to meet some of the children at various points in the year.

This report is produced by the Governing Body for you as parents and carers. We are continuing to make the Report available on the school website and paper copies will be available on request. It contains information which we are required to provide by law, as well as additional information which we hope will help you to gain a greater understanding of our school.

Governors meet twice termly, with additional meetings throughout the year regarding finances or standards for example. Governors are invited into school to work alongside staff to gain a greater understanding of the work the school is doing according to the School Improvement Plan.

On behalf of all the governors, I would like to thank staff and parents for their commitment to the school. It is only by working closely together that we can ensure that your children get the very best education possible. We firmly believe that children need to feel happy and safe in order to gain the most they can from all aspects of school life. We always want to encourage dialogue and communication with parents and carers to ensure that this is the case.

Grateful thanks as always go to our wonderful PTFA for their hard work, fundraising to enhance the learning experiences for all of the children. The focus on providing stimulating trips and experiences this year has made such a difference during these difficult financial times.

It is a joy to see the children having such fun in school and we feel very strongly that the children's learning, happiness and wellbeing continues to be at the heart of Cross Ash Primary School. Our recent Estyn Inspection in May 2024 is a report that the whole school community can be very proud of!

Best wishes,

Diana Binding
Chair of Governors

Meeting for Parents

The governing body are not intending to hold a meeting for parents. (section 94, Schools standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. The Annual Report will be made available on the Cross Ash Primary School's website.

Arrangements for the Election of Parent Governors

When an existing parent governor comes to the end of their term of office, or if they resign mid-term, the school will hold a ballot to elect a new parent governor. At that time, the school will write to all parents advising of the ballot and seeking nominations for prospective candidates from the parent body.

Cross Ash Primary School Governing Body

Chairperson

Mrs Diana Binding

C/O Cross Ash Primary School

Cross Ash
Abergavenny
Monmouthshire
NP7 5LR
01873 821427

Vice Chairperson

Mr Pete Miln

C/O Cross Ash Primary School

Cross Ash
Abergavenny
Monmouthshire
NP7 5LR
01873 821427

Clerk to Governors

Mrs Tess Deighton

Monmouthshire County Council
County Hall
Usk
Monmouthshire
NP15 1GA 01633 64464

Governing Body

Governing Body	Names	Office ends
Parent	Mr Ellis Hughes	
Parent	Mrs Georgina Morgan	20/09/2025
Parent	Mrs Vicky Hepburn John	22/03/2027
Parent	Mr Chris Smith	
Community	Mr Martin Davies	11/11/2027
Community	Mrs Lauren Hughes	18/06/2027
Community	Mrs Diana Binding	17/01/2027
Staff	Mrs Gemma Williams	31/08/2024
Teaching Staff	Mrs Julia Willis	31/08/2024
Minor Authority	Mrs Jude Rogers	22/03/2027
Local Authority	Mr Peter Miln	07/04/2026
Local Authority	Mrs Alison Denton	06/04/2026
Local Authority	Dr Sarah Neville	10/02/2025
Headteacher	Mrs Kathryn Everley	
Clerk	Mrs Tess Deighton	

Actions to Promote Healthy Lifestyles

Cross Ash Primary achieved Phase 5 of The Healthy Schools Scheme. Healthy tuck is encouraged for all pupils. The Daily Mile involves all pupils in physical exercise every day. Pupils are able to access water at any time throughout the day.

Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities

In 2023-24 we offered a large range of extra-curricular activities which include dance, football, News Crew, netball, drama, gardening, choir and Forest School. We took part in football events, a swimming gala, Abergavenny Arts Festival and The Urdd Eisteddfod, to name a few and with some success to celebrate!

Children from Year 3 to Year 6 all had swimming lessons at Abergavenny Leisure Centre.

Gwent Music provision is hugely popular with many children engaging in learning an instrument or singing. Some children are part of the Cluster Orchestra.

Community Links

Cross Ash tries very hard to develop links with the community. Some of links we managed to link back with after Covid restrictions were:

- Dementia Friendly Schools project at Penpergwm House
- Choir performances
- Abergavenny Foodbank – Harvest Donations
- Church services- Grosmont, Skenfrith, Llanfair
- Graig Picnic Walk
- Police Liaison
- Fire Service
- Mountain Rescue
- The Urdd National Eisteddfod

- Assemblies in school from Reverend Gaynor.
- Charity fundraising – Children in Need, Comic Relief
- Plastic Free Abergavenny
- Bee Keeping Organisation
- Llantilio Music Festival
- Usk Show
- Monmouth show
- Langton's Market Garden
- Three Castles Walk

Visits

We plan trips for all of our children. Some of the school trips are as follows:

- Y3 - school grounds camping with Gilwern Outdoor Education providing activities off site. The camp was rained off but will be carried out in the next academic year.
- Gilwern – Year 4 residential
- Longtown – Year 5 residential
- Bala- Y6 residential
- Longtown Survival Day Y5
- Noah's Ark -Reception and Y1
- Clearwell Caves -Reception and Year 1
- Y2- 6 Pantomime
- Y2 Perrygrove
- Skenfrith Church -harvest

School Development Plan Priorities 2023-24

- **New Curriculum for Wales**

 - To develop excellence in teaching and learning across the school.

 - To develop skills in mental maths and literacy across the curriculum

 - To improve digital skills

 - To develop assessment and progression procedures across the curriculum

- **Wellbeing and Equity**

 - To develop interventions for all groups of learners

 - To develop DARPL (Diversity and Racism Professional Learning)

- **Leadership**

 - To develop leadership at all levels and share expertise

 - To involve Governors more fully in the life of the school

 - To develop pupil voice further

Staff Continued Professional Development

All staff completed inset relating to individual needs and the School Development Plan.:

- L1 Safeguarding
- Outdoor Learning Provision
- New Curriculum for Wales
- Excellence in Teaching
- ALN Bill and new developments
- DCF – cluster and school based
- Assessment and Progression
- Pedagogy for excellence in teaching and learning

School Year 2023-24

2023/24:

Date	Start	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	01/09/2023	30/10/2023	03/11/2023	22/12/2023
Spring	08/01/2024	12/02/2024	16/02/2024	22/03/2024
Summer	08/04/2024	27/05/2024	31/05/2024	19/07/2024

May Day – Monday 6th May 2024

6 allocated INSET days

School Session Times

Foundation Phase 9.00am -3.25pm

Key Stage 2 9.00 am -3.30pm

School Attendance Targets and Exclusions

End of School attendance 2022-2023 – 92.25%

There were no exclusions.

The School's Curriculum and Organisation of Teaching

The New Curriculum for Wales

Education in Wales is changing rapidly . We are still developing our approaches to delivering these changes. It is a very exciting time for education in Wales! The changes are built on the following principles, which embrace the needs of our pupils for living in the 21st Century.

There are Four Purposes, Six Areas of Learning Experiences, What Matters statements and Progression Steps, all of which develop new contexts for authentic learning opportunities. Staff are working closely with each other and other schools to develop new approaches.

The Four Purposes which underpin everything are detailed below:

All children and young people will be:

1. **Ambitious, capable learners** who are ready to learn throughout their lives.
2. **Enterprising, creative contributors** who are ready to play a full part in life and work.
3. **Ethical, informed citizens** who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.
4. **Healthy, confident individuals** who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

There are also six Areas of Learning and Experience. These are:

1. Expressive Arts
2. Health and Well-being
3. Humanities
4. Languages, Literacy and Communication
5. Mathematics and Numeracy
6. Science and Technology

Topics are being developed using these new principles alongside our current curriculum requirements

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN)

Pupils whose learning needs are additional to the majority of their peers. These pupils may also have special educational needs that are more severe and complex.

Needs are identified under the headings:

communication and interaction

cognition and learning

behaviour, emotional and social development.

When a need is identified a pupil is placed at School Action and an Individual Education or Behaviour Plan (IEP / IBP) is put in place containing individual SMART targets in consultation with the parents, the pupil, class teacher and school AENCO/SENCO. Appropriate support is put in place in order to focus on the achievement of the targets. IEP/IBP targets are assessed and reviewed each term. If the pupil achieves their individual targets over two terms consideration as to whether they need to be taken off the schools special needs register is made. If the pupil fails to reach target or need gets considerably more profound or complex a move to School Action Plus (SA+) is considered. At SA+ an outside agency is brought in to provide specialist advice and guidance. If the need is severe or profound a SAPRA (School Action Report Assist) or a Statement of Educational Need is developed. These usually carry funding alongside a long term plan which requires support and work of the LEA, school and parents. These are reviewed annually.

There are huge changes taking place regarding the provision for children in schools with Additional Learning Needs. We are working towards being ready for these changes as the New ALN Bill is implemented.

Mrs Sharon Stirling is the School ALNCO . Miss Hayley Page is the Cluster ALNCO

Provision for More Able and Talented Pupils

The school's vision is this:

‘We aspire for all pupils to become confident, secure and caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning.’

This statement influences everything we aspire to achieve in school.

As such, in March 2014 the school was the first Primary School in Wales to be re-accredited for the NACE ‘ Meet the Challenge Award’ in recognition of its provision for more able and talented pupils. The school's ethos is totally inclusive, rather than selective, and any changes or adaptations made to meet the needs of more able and talented pupils are made available for all pupils. This has been recognised as outstanding practice. This achievement is undoubtedly

due to the tremendous commitment of all the staff, in meeting the needs and interests of all learners and by providing a rich learning environment both during and after school hours.

More able and talented pupils in Cross Ash School continue to make very good progress as they are encouraged to play an active role in their education and to become independent learners.

Disability and Equality

The Equality Act 2010 replaced nine major Acts of Parliament and provides a single, consolidated source of discrimination law, covering all types of discrimination that are unlawful. The Act covers all aspects of school life to do with how the school treats pupils, parents, carers, employees and members of the community. Cross Ash Primary School continues to promote equality; to promote values of dignity, tolerance and respect, and to ensure that nobody within the school community is discriminated against. One of our main aims is 'to encourage tolerance and respect for themselves, their peers, their community and other religions, races and ways of life.'

In November 2012 the Governing Body adopted a new Strategic Equality Policy aimed at :-

- **eliminating** unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- **advancing** equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not;
- **fostering** good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The school continues to promote equality and diversity throughout the school and across the curriculum

Language

Nearly all pupils speak English as their first language. A few pupils learn a second language at home

Welsh Language

'Welsh as a Second Language' is part of the National Curriculum and is taught throughout the school from Reception to Year 6.

Pupils are also encouraged to use incidental Welsh throughout the day. The Year 6 residential trip runs at the Urdd Glan Llyn Centre, a Welsh-speaking outdoor education centre. Unfortunately, this trip was cancelled this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. The KS2 pupils attended a Welsh Jamboree with many other schools in Pontypool leisure Centre this year. The Eisteddfod ran as usual, where all aspects of the Welsh culture were explored and celebrated. The school's Welsh Co-ordinators run the school's Welsh Council - 'Cryw Cymraeg'.

Welsh Guided Reading weeks are held every half term where Welsh texts are enjoyed. Shwmae Day, where pupils and parents all take part in Welsh activities throughout the day was very successful and attended by many parents.

Curriculum Cymraeg is in evidence throughout most subject areas. The aim of it is to instil in the children an understanding and respect for the language, history and culture of Wales. This will establish a firm foundation for greater understanding and respect for all languages and cultures.

One teacher in the school is bilingual.

New Policies

During the year the Governing Body adopted a number of policies. Statutory Policies must be reviewed and adopted annually by every school's governing body. They detail processes in key areas of the school's work. They are available on our school website at www.crossashprimary.co.uk

School Prospectus

The school prospectus is updated annually to reflect any staff or curriculum changes. This is available on the school website www.crossashprimary.co.uk

Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

Our PTFA continued to provide amazing events for our pupils which enhance the experiences the children have in many ways.

PTFA events with expenditure and grants received for the year 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2024 2023.

Summer Term 2024 PTFA Fundraising Round Up!

What was raised!



What was spent!



A big

thank you to everyone involved!

Financial Statement 31st March 2024

Children and Young People Directorate

E032 Cross Ash Primary School
Year End Outturn Report for 202300 to 202313

Account Code	Account Description	Actual	Budget £	Variance on Budget £
INCOME				
INCOME - GENERAL				
0010	Parent Teacher Funding Association	-9,666.00	-2,000.00	-7,666.00
0011	Donations	-918.00	0.00	-918.00
0012	Supply Compensation	-4,960.00	0.00	-4,960.00
0013	Maternity Compensation	-1,270.00	0.00	-1,270.00
0140	Bus Income - Hire of vehicle with driver to e	-8,108.00	-1,500.00	-6,608.00
0180	Photocopying	-20.00	0.00	-20.00
0237	Residential Trips	-439.00	0.00	-439.00
0468	Welsh Government Funding	-49,675.00	-9,081.00	-40,594.00
0469	Joint Financing Contribution	-806.00	0.00	-806.00
0495	Interest Received	-4,910.00	0.00	-4,910.00
0496	Non WAG External Grants	-2,983.00	0.00	-2,983.00
0497	Education Achievement Service	-20,752.00	-10,869.00	-9,883.00
0498	Pupil Development Grant	-8,050.00	-8,050.00	0.00
0499	Education Improvement Grant	-55,865.00	-54,230.00	-1,635.00
TOTAL GENERAL INCOME		-168,422.00	-85,730.00	-82,692.00

INCOME - FUNDING				
0472	ISB Base	-736,995.00	-737,533.00	538.00
0473	ALN Contingency Funding	-75,761.00	-58,517.00	-17,244.00
TOTAL FUNDING INCOME		-812,756.00	-796,050.00	-16,706.00
TOTAL INCOME		-981,178.00	-881,780.00	-99,398.00
EXPENDITURE				
EMPLOYEE COSTS				
	Teaching Staff	549,515.00	543,528.00	5,987.00
	Ancillary Staff	199,470.00	187,366.00	12,104.00
	Misc Staff Costs	58,712.07	5,000.00	53,712.07
	Supply Staff	3,667.00	0.00	3,667.00
0070	Free Staff Meals	97.00	100.00	-3.00
0073	Enrolment / Course Fees	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
0052	Interview Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
0053	Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Staff Welfare / HSE	23,424.00	20,417.00	3,007.00
	Travelling Costs	0.00	500.00	-500.00
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS		834,885.07	757,911.00	76,974.07

	SUPPLIES & SERVICES			
D001	Equipment Purchases	9,076.00	0.00	9,076.00
D007	Fire Safety Equipment	30.00	0.00	30.00
D015	Materials & Consumables.	5,261.00	7,000.00	-1,739.00
D016	Provisions.	130.00	0.00	130.00
D019	Cleaning Materials.	2,182.00	0.00	2,182.00
D022	Small Plant & Tools.	499.00	0.00	499.00
D061	Photocopying.	2,539.00	3,075.00	-536.00
D065	Stationery	844.00	0.00	844.00
D071	Book Purchases	108.00	0.00	108.00
D080	Professional And Specialist Fees	850.00	750.00	100.00
D081	Sub-Contractors Fees	608.00	0.00	608.00
D086	Financial products and services general fees a	816.00	800.00	16.00
D089	Property Services Fees (Internal)	256.00	0.00	256.00
D092	Criminal Record Bureau Checks	373.00	220.00	153.00
D120	Hardware Rental/ Maintenance.	0.00	0.00	0.00
D121	Software Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
D122	IT Hardware	71.00	0.00	71.00
D123	IT Software	671.00	0.00	671.00
D127	Computer Consumables	0.00	3,100.00	-3,100.00
D150	T.V. Licences	159.00	159.00	0.00
D151	Licences	1,296.00	1,155.00	141.00
D152	Computer Licences	18.00	0.00	18.00
D156	Data Protection Registration	55.00	55.00	0.00
D161	Postages	0.00	150.00	-150.00
D184	Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00
D192	Subscriptions	6,562.00	8,630.00	-2,068.00
D197	Training Charges	3,574.00	0.00	3,574.00
D224	Residential Trips	1,424.00	0.00	1,424.00
D900	ICT Support Costs (Direct)	600.00	0.00	600.00
	TOTAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES	38,002.00	25,094.00	12,908.00

	PREMISES COSTS			
B001	Building Improvements / Maintenance	3,682.00	19,739.00	-16,057.00
B003	Premises Repairs And Maintenance	471.00	3,000.00	-2,529.00
B009	Premises Insurance (Schools)	615.00	626.00	-11.00
B021	Grounds Maintenance - Direct.	5,566.00	5,200.00	366.00
B042	Electricity.	26,540.00	25,707.00	833.00
B044	Liquid Gas.	1,921.00	8,118.00	-6,197.00
B045	Water Services-Metered.	1,364.00	4,009.00	-2,645.00
B049	Alarm Systems	377.00	1,000.00	-623.00
B055	Contract Cleaning - Premises (Direct)	41,334.00	41,333.00	1.00
B060	Rates	18,455.00	18,992.00	-537.00
B082	Refuse Collection	1,111.00	1,111.00	0.00
B083	Toilet Requisites	1,088.00	2,500.00	-1,412.00
B085	Skip Hire	520.00	210.00	310.00
B088	Premises Pest Control	585.00	600.00	-15.00
	TOTAL PREMISES COSTS	103,629.00	132,145.00	-28,516.00
	TRANSPORT COSTS			
C010	Vehicle Hire Charge	6,712.00	0.00	6,712.00

	TOTAL TRANSPORT COSTS	6,712.00	0.00	6,712.00
	FAIR FUNDING			
E051	Finance & IT (LMS)	1,785.00	1,785.00	0.00
E052	Creditors	818.00	818.00	0.00
E053	IT Support	12,070.00	12,070.00	0.00
E054	Payroll Services	840.00	840.00	0.00
E055	Governor Services	811.00	811.00	0.00
E056	School Music Service	0.00	0.00	0.00
E058	Client Building Maintenance	3,218.00	3,218.00	0.00
E060	Maternity	5,097.00	4,972.00	125.00
E088	Personnel Services	2,550.00	2,550.00	0.00
E089	Joint Leisure Facilities	910.00	1,234.00	-324.00
E090	Supply Cover Scheme	12,837.00	11,500.00	1,337.00
	TOTAL AGENCY AND CONTRACTED	40,936.00	39,798.00	1,138.00
	SUPPORT SERVICES			
	TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,024,164.07	954,948.00	69,216.07
	SUMMARY			
	TOTAL INCOME	-981,178.00	-881,780.00	-99,398.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,024,164.07	954,948.00	69,216.07
	NET	42,986.07	73,168.00	-30,181.93

Gifts

Grants received from Community Green Energy Fund for Sports and Wellbeing was £11,000.

Community Grant from Grosmont Church £1000

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Travel Payments

No payments were made to governors for travel and subsistence.