



YSGOL GYFUN HEOLDDU
HEOLDDU COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT FROM GOVERNORS

2024 - 2025

Ysgol Gyfun Heolddu Comprehensive School is an English-medium, mixed 11-18 school situated in Bargoed and serving the surrounding areas of Gilfach, Aberbargoed, Deri and Tirphil. The school works in collaboration with 3 other local schools to provide a joint sixth form.

There are currently 740 pupils on roll (an increase of over 200 pupils over five years) including 80+ in the sixth form. The school hosts three satellite classes for Trinity Fields special school and a Learning Pathways Centre for school-to-school support with targeted intervention.

31% of pupils are eligible for free school meals at previous count 44% of pupils live in the 20% most deprived areas of Wales. 16% of pupils have additional learning needs. 2.3% of the school population speak English as an additional language and 97% pupils are from white British backgrounds.

The school was last categorized YELLOW B in January 2020 and was removed from Estyn review November 2019.

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The Chairperson of Governors is

Mrs. Lynne Thomas, Heolddu Comprehensive School, Mountain Road, Bargoed, CF81 8XL.

The Clerk to the Governors is

Mr L John c/o Heolddu Comprehensive School, Mountain Road, Bargoed, CF81 8XL.

Foreword from the Chairperson of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Annual Report to Parents for the academic year 2024/25.

Once again congratulations are due to all pupils and staff for the success achieved this year academically and also in sport and drama.

The Governing Body were once again proud of everyone involved in this year's school production of Beauty and the Beast, which was a great success. The pupils showcased their exceptional talents and enthusiasm, and staff worked tirelessly to ensure that the performances were of the highest standard.

This year our pupils have once again enjoyed participating in sporting activities and competitive teams, achieving some well-deserved wins across rugby, football and netball. Many pupils have benefitted from the experience of extracurricular activities including school visits both at home and abroad, enabling them to become independent and widen their horizons.

Pupils have worked hard to achieve their grades in external examinations and pleasing results were once again gained both at KS4/5, with record numbers of young people achieving A/A* outcomes.

Once again, all Year 13 students seeking a place at University were successful and we wish them every success for the future.

I would like to congratulate all pupils for their various achievements throughout the year and congratulate staff for their hard work and commitment to all aspects of school life.

I would like to assure you that the Headteacher, Staff and Governing Body continue to work together to ensure that each pupil reaches their full potential by supporting them both academically and emotionally.

Mrs Lynne Thomas

Chairperson

Governing Body - November 2025

The governing body plays a full and active role in the life and leadership of the school. Governors are listed below and can be contacted via school reception.

Name	Governor	End of term
Lynne Thomas	Chair/Community Governor	27.04.29
Jennifer East	Community Governors	15.07.27
Michelle Thomas		25.09.27
Dean Dauncey		11.12.28
Linda Bartlett		27.09.28
Nerys Davies	Headteacher	
Cllr DT Davies	LA Appointed Governors	
Vacancy		
Karen Howells		
Danielle Macdonald		
Claire McLaughlan	Parent Governors	06.10.26
Steffan McMahon		29.09.29
Toby Richards		05.01.29
Joanne Vincent		29.09.29
Gareth Walters		05.01.29
Christopher Waythe		02.10.27
Lee Stephens	Staff Representative	11.07.28
Leah Brinkworth	Teacher Representatives	31.08.29
Sara Wilkinson		05.10.27

Election of Parent Governors

When a vacancy arises in the Governing Body for a parent representative, the school will inform all parents of the vacancy and will make the necessary arrangements for the consequent election. Every parent of a registered pupil at the school will be entitled to stand as a candidate and to vote at the election and will be given the opportunity to do so. Each parent will be sent a ClassCharts message, which will indicate eligibility to stand, nominate and vote in elections and which will include a nomination form and personal statement. Elections will be by confidential ballot.

Any parents wishing to be considered for a role on the governing body are welcome to express an interest to the school by emailing Miss L. Harris, the Headteacher's PA at LHarris@heolddu.org, or by calling 01443 875531.

Governing Body Annual Parents' Meeting

There were no parent meetings held by the governing body during the course of this year. Should any parent wish to request such a meeting, please contact Miss L Harris at the school where further information can be provided.

Please be advised that the '*Schools Standards and Organisation Act 2013*' has removed the requirement for School Governing Bodies to hold an Annual Meeting with parents. However, new arrangements mean that you have the right to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with the Governing Body. For this to take place, the following 4 conditions need to be met:

Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.

- The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school. It is not designed to discuss individual matters. The petition should include brief details of the matter to be discussed and the reasons for calling the meeting.
- Parents can use this right to request up to 3 meetings with a school's Governing Body during the school year.
- There must be at least 25 school days left in the year when the petition is received in order that the meeting can be held. A 'school day' means a day when the school is open to pupils and does not include weekends, public or school holidays or INSET days.

Further advice for parents can be found on the Welsh Government's website at:

 [5. The annual report and meetings with parents](#)

Additional Learning Needs

Ysgol Heolddu Comprehensive School ensures that pupils with ALN including pupils with a disability are admitted on an equal basis with others in accordance with its admissions policy. Parents are encouraged to visit the school to discuss their child's needs with the Headteacher and ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) Ms. C. Jones.

Currently, 16% of the school has an Additional Learning Need with 4.4% having an IDP or statement of educational needs.

Cymraeg

Welsh is taught as a second language to every pupil in years 7-11, meeting our statutory requirements. Teachers are supported to develop their use of basic Welsh, where they can, across the school to converse with and praise pupils. The school promotes pupil use of incidental Welsh and rewards this using ClassCharts.

Financial Statement

The school budget for the year to 31 March 2025 was made up as follows:

Total Formula Allocation:	£4,037,679
Balance b/fwd from previous year:	-£120,617
Total income:	£1,153,182
Expenditure:	£5,159,161
Balance c/fwd to 25/26:	-£88,918

Funding for the year has been spent on staffing, premises, supplies and services, with specifically targeted funding for EIG and PDG funding in line with WG priorities and the school development plan.

The School has received no gifts this financial year. No travel or subsistence payments have been made to members of the governing body.

Sporting Honours

International Honours	Jay Vokes - Wales Snooker Freya Perry - Rugby Union Rhys Wood - Rugby League Owen Roe - Karate Ava Williams - Rugby Union Jenson Ellaway - Darts Ffion Ferguson - Football
Golf	Lois Gould - Bargoed and South Wales
Boys and Girls' Club of Wales Rugby	Freya Perry Ava Williams
District Rugby	Freya Perry Ava Williams Kian O'Coffey
District Football	Dempsey Singer Ffion Ferguson Lana Thomas Cassie McLaughlan Lloyd Bradfield Georgie James Ben Muggleton Jayden Griffiths
District Swimming	Austin Waythe
Darts	Jenson Ellaway
Fishing	Harry Doubler
Snooker	Jay Vokes
Dance	Sophie-Leigh James Freya Davies - Latin/ballroom Lois Gould - Latin Gwennan Bartlett - Latin Cori-Louise Pickering - Hip hop

	Isabelle Bir - Latin/ballroom Ruby Buckley - Latin Aaliyah Price-Latin Caitlin Beynon -Latin Ayda Perry - Latin Darcie Richards - Latin	
Boxing	Harry Moore Harlie Cooper	
Qualified Level 2 Sports Leaders	Heidi Field Caira Powell Lois Gould Megan Jones Gwennan Bartlett Joel Hollifield Jayden Williams Lucy O'Keefe Cobyne Sheppard Jake Banks	Joshua Dauncey Roley Tudge Jayden Griffiths Madison Hembury Lily Kirkwood May Jayne Mackenzie Jones Ben Muggleton Caleb Pope Ellie-May Davies
UK Disability Inclusion Training level 2	Alfie Hughes	Keira Haycock
Coach of the Future	Max Jayne Caleb Pope	Ben Muggleton Jayden Griffiths
Lifeguard	Max Jayne	
Officiating Rugby Referee level 1	Jayden Griffiths Ben Muggleton	
C Award Netball	Sophie James Freya Barrett	
Qualified Young Sports Leaders Level 1	Austin Waythe Andre Williams Pryce Morgan Ben Watkins Ben Higgins Harlie Cooper Mia Lancaster Darci Benjamin Taya Carter Brooke Ducie Lois Pizey Kai Stephens Rhys Wood Alfie Hollifield Joe Hughes Daniel Hutchings Oakley Callows Corey Jones Caleb Pope Jayden Griffiths Jack Loxton	Cassie McLaughlan Ava Williams Hollie James-Baker Sarah Banks Abigail Brown Sophie James Ffion Ferguson Freya Barrett Farrah McLaughlan Sophie Jeffrey Cory-Louise Pickering Gwennan Bartlett Mae Rose Watkins Ellie-May Sharpe Megan Jones Lois Gould Kian O'Coffey Jayden Williams Keira Davies Lily Kirkwood
Qualified Dance Leaders	Sophie-Leigh James Lucy Evans Lois Gould	Cori-Louise Pickering Gwennan Bartlett
BEFootball Leaders	Poppy Baines	Lana Thomas

	Eva-Mai Ferguson Olivia Jenkins Taya Price Maisie Taylor Peyton Thomas	Ffion Fergerson Cassie McLaughlan Farrah McLaughlan Ellie-May Sharpe
Level 1 Hockey Leaders	Freya Perry Gwennan Barlett	
Level 1 Dance Leaders	Lois Gould Gwennan Bartlett Cory-Louise Pickering Lucy Evans	

Pupil Cohort Numbers

Autumn term 2025 there are 738 pupils on roll including 80+ in the sixth form. This was the fifth consecutive year of increase to pupil numbers.

There are also 30 pupils on site in Trinity Fields satellite classes and 20 pupils in the Learning Pathways Centre (LPC).

Year Group	Number
Year 7	138
Year 8	144
Year 9	136
Year 10	115
Year 11	124
Sixth Form	81
Total	738

Pupil Records

Pupil records are kept electronically on the SIMS and ClassCharts systems. Parents can access up-to date information via a personal ClassCharts app and also track their child's progress using Go4Schools. Any parent requiring login should contact their child's pastoral leader.


Attendance information

Whole-school attendance for the year reached 90.2%, an improvement on last year's 87.7%. This is above both the Wales average (89%) and Local Authority (LA) average (89.6%). Attendance among pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) also improved, rising by 3.4% to 86.3%, above the national (81.1%) and LA (84.5%) averages. Non-FSM attendance rose to 92%, exceeding the Wales average of 91.2% and improving from last year's 88.8%. These improvements reflect the impact of whole-school strategies and a strong focus on engaging pupils and families.

We continue to monitor pupils' attendance closely in order to work with families to overcome barriers to school attendance and ensure all pupils are given the support required to help them access their education and achieve their full potential.

School Performance Data

The full core data set for KS 4 performance can be found on the school website here:

 [Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Results](https://heoldducomprehensive.school.uk/Results)
(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Results)

Level 3

L3 Threshold - 85%

3 A*/A - 7%

3 A*-C - 53%

3 A*-E – 85%

AWPS - 694pts

All students who applied received a university place - 75%.

25% students attending ST 30 Universities.

Level 2

CP9 - 364

L2+ - 41%

5A*A - 12%

APS Literacy- 38

APS Numeracy - 34


APS Science - 32


APS WBac – 40

Curriculum Statement

We firmly believe that all pupils have the right to receive a high-quality education, regardless of their background. This includes access to a diverse range of content created by writers from around the world and thinkers of all ages. Our curriculum ensures students understand the world around them, empowering them to shape the future.

We take great pride in being a forward-thinking and innovative school, and our curriculum is meticulously crafted with our students' needs at the forefront. We recognise that a comprehensive understanding of the world is essential for our students' success, as it encourages them to value, respect, and take pride in their community. Please see our school website (below) for details about our curriculum, including how we approached introducing the curriculum for Wales and see detailed curriculum road maps here:

 [Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Curriculum Roadmaps](https://heoldducomprehensive.school.uk/Curriculum-Roadmaps)
(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Curriculum-Roadmaps)

 [Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Curriculum for Wales](https://heoldducomprehensive.school.uk/Curriculum)
(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Curriculum)

Extracurricular Activities

Ysgol Heolddu school offers an extensive range of extra-curricular activities for all pupils, all of which are published on the school website, please click the link below:

[Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Extracurricular Activities](https://heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Pupils/Extra-Curricular-Activites)

(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Pupils/Extra-Curricular-Activites)

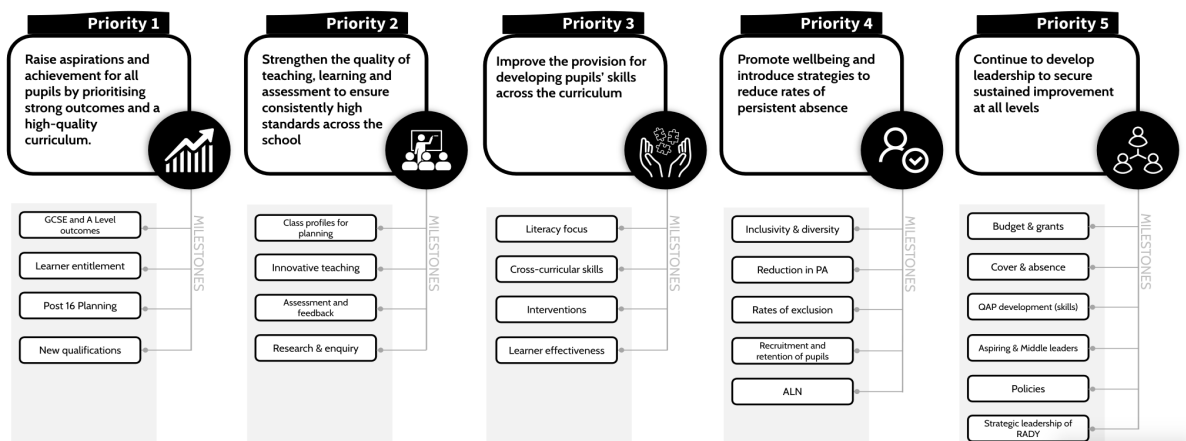
School Prospectus

The school prospectus is updated annually and can be found on the school website via the link below:

[Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Transition to Heolddu](https://heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Parents/Transition)

(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Parents/Transition)

SDP - Summary of Improvement Priorities 2025-2026



Complaints Procedure

The governing body has adopted the Caerphilly County Borough Council procedure. A copy is available on the school website.

[Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Statutory Policies & Documents](https://heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Statutory-policies-documents)

(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Statutory-policies-documents)

Health and Safety

The school site continues to be well maintained and effectively managed by our dedicated site team, ensuring a safe and secure environment for pupils, staff, and visitors. We do not sublet our facilities, with the exception of the drama studio, which is used by the local leisure services for community classes and parties. During the last academic year, we experienced an issue with rainwater causing localised flooding in one area of the school, and we are currently working closely with the local council to resolve this matter. All rooms are in active use as teaching

spaces, apart from one classroom that remains closed following recommendations from a previous fire risk assessment.

Staffing and Professional Development

The school teaching and support staff has continued to grow alongside the growth in pupil numbers. As of September 2025, we have 51 teachers and 23 support staff.

Links with Community and Parents

The school continues to place great importance on strengthening relationships with parents, local organisations, and the wider community. Over the past year, we have been proud to build and celebrate these connections through a range of activities and partnerships, including:

- Achieving the Silver Community-Based School Award, recognising our strong commitment to community engagement.
- Hosting a Christmas in the Community event, supporting families through the provision of hampers and gifts.
- Maintaining close links with Gwent Police, supporting community safety initiatives and pupil wellbeing.
- Working with Young Carers services to ensure support and recognition for pupils with caring responsibilities.
- Collaborating with local businesses and charities to enhance learning opportunities and promote social responsibility.
- Taking part in the Festival of Remembrance, where students represented the school with pride and respect.

These initiatives reflect our ongoing dedication to fostering meaningful connections between the school, families, and the wider community.

Policies and Statutory information can be accessed via our school website:

 [Heolddu Comprehensive School Website | Statutory Policies & Documents](https://heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Statutory-policies-documents)

(heoldducomprehensive.org.uk/Statutory-policies-documents)

Please contact the school should you require further information.

Term Dates and INSET

Autumn Term 2025	
Term starts	Monday 2 September 2025
Half term starts	Monday 27 October 2025
Half term ends	Friday 31 October 2025
Term ends	Friday 19 December 2025
Spring Term 2026	
Term starts	Monday 5 January 2026
Half term starts	Monday 16 February 2026
Half term ends	Friday 20 February 2026
Term ends	Friday 27 March 2026
Summer Term 2026	
Term starts	Monday 13 April 2026
Half term starts	Monday 25 May 2026
Half term ends	Friday 29 May 2026
Term ends	Monday 20 July 2026

6 INSET days are agreed as follows:

INSET 1 | Monday 1 September 2025

INSET 2 | Friday 19 December 2025

INSET 3 | Friday 13 February 2026

INSET 4 | Monday 13 April 2026

INSET 5 | Monday 6 July 2026 **INSET**

7 | Monday 20 July 2026