

# Bedwas High School

## Annual Report to Parents

2013—2014



### **Inspectors “confident of sustained improvement”**

We have been given the “thumbs-up” after Estyn revisited the school in October. The 2014 results showed a dramatic improvement at GCSE level, the school securing it’s best ever performance. The Inspection team noted that changes the school had made had also led to improvements in the standards of pupils’ work and greater progress in learning.

The monitoring report states “the school is judged to have made good progress in respect of the key issues for action” and “we will now remove the school from the list of schools requiring ESTYN monitoring”.

The head is pleased that hard work of the staff and pupils has been recognised by ESTYN. Even more satisfying was the confidence the inspection team had in our ability to sustain improvement”.

We are the FIRST secondary school in the Caerphilly Basin that has successfully exited ESTYN monitoring. Neil Bradley, the chair of governors, felt “the inspection process has allowed us to build on the good practice and drive up standards to levels that were previously thought impossible to reach. The community should be proud of its children’s hard work and achievement”.

#### **A number of the positive comments from the Estyn Report:**

- The school has implemented a series of appropriate actions that have had a clear impact on outcomes at KS4.
- There has been a particular focus on improving the indicators that include English/mathematics.
- Level 2 performance improved by 17%.
- Standards of pupils’ work and greater progress in learning ....give confidence that improvements can be sustained.
- An appropriate balance of internal and external support for the improvement of teaching.
- There is an appropriate focus on improving the accuracy of pupils spelling and punctuation.
- Nearly all pupils writing is satisfactory and in many cases it is good.
- A well understood marking and assessment approach is used by most staff and this is beginning to benefit pupils.
- Nearly all pupils present their work well and nearly all know their targets and understand how their progress is monitored.
- Most teachers plan effectively and design suitably challenging activities.
- Senior and middle leaders have developed a sharper focus on the standards achieved and the progress made by pupils in lessons.
- Most teachers ask pupils to assess their own work and that of others and this has a positive impact on improving the quality of pupils work.

*the full review can be seen on our website and a copy of the report is also available from school*

# A Foreword from the Chair of the Governing Body

It gives me great pleasure to write this forward for the Governors' Annual Report to Parents.

Once again, we have seen a busy, eventful and successful year in terms of the wide range of activities and events involving our pupils and staff and in terms of the outstanding record breaking successes of our pupils in their external tests and examinations.

This year pupil success at GCSE was the highest level we, as a school, have seen. Our A Level results were just as impressive. For the third year 100% of students gained a level 3 threshold – details are provided further on in this report.

With our successful bid as a Challenge Cymru School, this is giving us the financial wherewithal to fulfil aspirations that we have held as a school and we

intend to use these finances and resources to maintain and extend our progress.

I would also like to take this opportunity to formally thank our hard working staff - teaching and support staff for their unfailing support and commitment to the pupils. Their efforts, too, are acknowledged and highly appreciated by the Governing Body.

Finally, I would like to thank you, as parents for the support you have given to your child and to the school over the past year. Working together in this way, we will undoubtedly secure further successes for our children and our school as a whole, in the years to come.

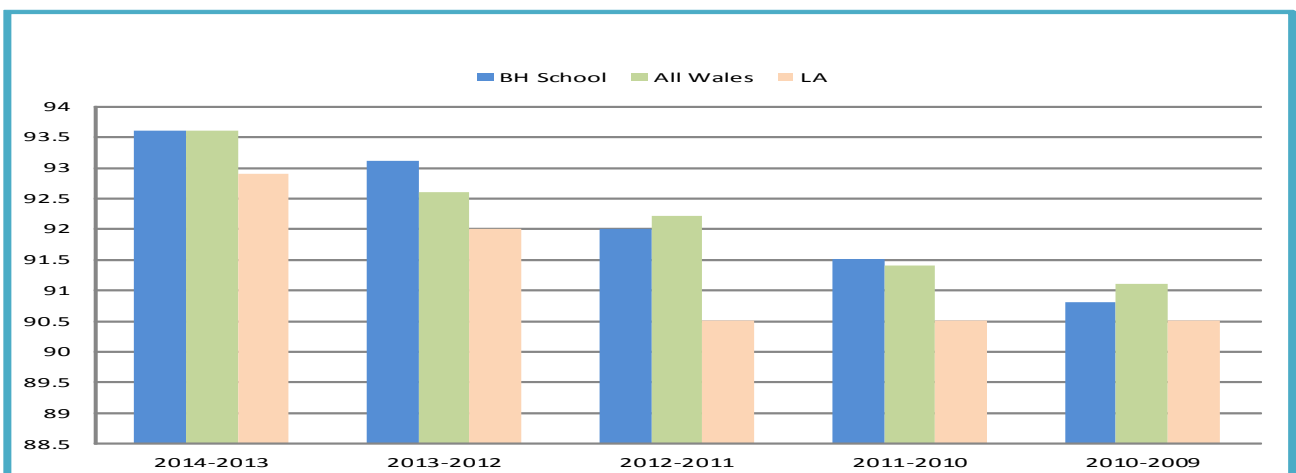


There is an opportunity for Parents/Guardians to discuss this report with the Governors, should sufficient number request it ( A minimum of 5% of all parents) . Please contact Mrs S Rees 02920 859811 at the school if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

## One of our keys for pupils success is attendance

We have made considerable progress since 2010 when our overall school attendance was 88%. The last academic year our attendance was 93.7% the

highest in Caerphilly County Council secondary schools. This truly is outstanding and shows that our pupils enjoy coming to school.



# The Governing Body 2013 –2014

The table below shows the composition of the Governing Body including the category of each governor (which denotes by whom they were appointed/

elected and the dates and term of office, which is in compliance with the School Standards Framework Act 1998.

Name	Start Date	End Date	Representing
Mr J Bridge	12.11.2012	11.11.2015	Co-opted/Community
Mr N Bradley	24.10.2011	23.10.2016	
Mr B Hollywell	24.10.2011	23.10.2016	
Mrs M Howell	24.10.2011	23.10.2016	
Mr T Howell	24.10.2011	23.10.2016	
R T Davies (Cllr)	21.09.2012	20.09.2016	Local Authority
Mrs B Stenner	21.09.2012	20.09.2016	
D Harvard (Cllr)	21.09.2012	20.09.2016	
D J Davies (Cllr)	03.02.2011	02.02.2015	
J R Davies (Cllr)	03.02.2011	02.02.2015	Parent Governors
Mrs S Cox	10.09.2012	09.09.2016	
Mrs S Keane	12.10.2011	11.10.2015	
Mr G Ward	01.09.2013	31.08.2017	
Mrs R Meek	01.09.2013	01.08.2017	
Mrs B Stone	22.09.2012	21.09.2016	
Mrs E Phipps McGill	08.05.2010	07.05.2014	School
Mr P Ward	01.09.2008		
Mrs J Thompson	20.03.2012	10.03.2016	
Miss R Minney	08.10.2012	07.10.2016	
Mrs S John			Associated (Pupils)
Mr K Phipps McGill	01.09.2013	31.08.2014	
Holly Grandin	01.09.2013	31.08.2014	

## The Chairperson of the Governing Body:

Mr Neil Bradley  
11 Garth View  
Bedwas CASERPHILLY

## The Clerk to the Governing Body:

Mr S Cresswell  
Governor Support Unit  
EAS Newport Civic Centre, Newport

# Introduction to the Report

The 2013-2014 academic year has seen many challenges for our pupils and for the school as a whole. A wide and varied range of new initiative, processes and procedures have been developed and have undoubtedly had a positive impact on

raising standards in all aspects of school life and on pupil achievements.

Our aim is to ensure that our results continues to improve year on year.

## Key Stage 4 Results Analysis

Number in year group 113

	Result	Comparison Sch 12-13	Realistic Target	Challenge target	School 10/11	School 11/12	School 12/13	LEA 12/13	Wales 12/13
Level 2+ (E/M)	44%	↑14%	42	49	26	38	30	46.3	52.7
Level 2	69%	↑17%	54	62	44	54	52	69.1	77.8
CSI	37%	↑9%			25	39	28	42.7	49.2
Lev 2 English	56%	↑19%	50	61	41	49	37	55.7	62.9
Lev 2 Maths	52%	↑10%	45	55	32	47	42	55.7	60.3
Lev 2 Science	57%	↑4%	56	58	45	53	53	70.0	74.9

Entry level results were received at the end of June

English 100% Pass Rate				Mathematics 100% Pass Rate				Science 100% Pass Rate			
Numbers entered 9				Numbers entered 15				Numbers entered 17			
Level	3	2	1	Level	3	2	1	Level	3	2	1
	2	6	1		10		5		4	12	1
	22%	67%	11%		67%		33%		24%	71%	6%
Level 3 is the highest level of achievement for this award											

Information Technology 100% Pass Rate	Welsh 100% Pass Rate
Numbers entered 11	Numbers entered 10
There are no levels for IT/Welsh, it's just a pass/Fail	

# Key Stage 3 Results Analysis

## Year 9 Number in year group 108

	Result %	Comparison Sch 12-13	Realistic target %	Challenging target %	School 12/13 %	LEA 12/13 %	Wales 12/13 %	Family 12/13 %
English Level 5+	79	↑19%	69	86	60	78.7	82.9	76.7
Maths Level 5 +	82	↑10%	70	81	72.0	81.5	83.9	79.2
Science Level 5 +	81	↑24%	64	81	56.8	83.8	87.0	80.9
CSI All Pupils	76	↑23%	58	72	52.8	73.5	77.0	69.5
CSI Boys	73	↑27%			46.0	67.7	72.4	61.9
CSI girls	79	↑19%			59.7	79.5	81.9	75.7

Year 9 Key Stage 3 show an excellent performance this year with pupils clearly demonstrating significant progress. These results are the best Bedwas have achieved.

The CSI (English, Maths and Science at level 5+) saw

an increase of 23%, we are 6.5 above the Family average. English (79) Maths (82) are above both LA and Family average. One of our students gained a level 8 in English which is a first for our school.

<u>Level 2 Certificate in Personal Finance</u>			
	<u>Number Entered</u>	<u>Number Passed</u>	<u>%</u>
Year 11	53	47	89
Year 10	25	21	84
Year 9	62	45	73

During the Summer Term a selected number of Year 9 pupils worked towards completing a GCSE in Financial Maths. The qualification is a full GCSE award that pupils take forward to Year 11. It is a major achievement to pass this award. We would like to congratulate our pupils for their demonstration of hard work and commitment; this shows that determination certainly pays off. This achievement will undoubtedly be a very promising start to their GCSE studies in September. We sincerely hope that all our pupils will continue to make us proud.

A large number of revision sessions were held after school and during the holidays, all sessions were very well attended by pupils. Overall Year 11 attendance this year has been 94.3% exceeding the LA average of 92.9% and the Welsh average of 92.6%, an excellent achievement by all. In total Year 11 sat 1321 examinations in 23 different subjects during this season. The attendance at these examinations was outstanding at 99.1% the highest attendance ever recorded in examinations at Bedwas. Not only were pupils present and punctual but their conduct was exemplary.

The National Literacy and Numeracy data was introduced for the first time in 2012 –2013. The results were published for Years 7, 8 and 9. Scores for each test range from 70 (lowest) to 140  
Schools are analysed in two main categories;

- the percentage of pupils scoring 85 or more
- the percentage of pupils scoring over 115

The results are then put in a quartile (1 being top, 4 being the lowest) compared to schools of a similar free school meal intake.

Year 7						
Reading tests scores				Numeracy test scores		
				Procedural	Reasoning	
Below 85% - 18%				Below 85% -	11%	11%
<b>85%</b>	-	<b>82%</b>	Quartile 1	<b>85%</b>	-	<b>89%</b> Quartile 1
85 -115	-	68%		85 – 115	-	68% 68%
<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>13%</b>	Quartile 1	<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>20%</b> <b>21%</b> Quartile 1
Year 8						
Reading tests scores				Numeracy test scores		
				Procedural	Reasoning	
Below 85% - 29%				Below 85% -	20%	18%
<b>85%</b>	-	<b>71%</b>	Quartile 4	<b>85%</b>	-	<b>82%</b> Quartile 2
85 – 115	-	57%		85 – 115	-	62% 61%
<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>15%</b>	Quartile 1	<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>18%</b> <b>20%</b> Quartile 1
Year 9						
Reading tests scores				Numeracy test scores		
				Procedural	Reasoning	
Below 85% - 24%				Below 85% -	12%	13%
<b>85%</b>	-	<b>76%</b>	Quartile 3	<b>85%</b>	-	<b>87%</b> Quartile 1
85 – 115	-	68%		85 – 115	-	69% 63%
<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>8%</b>	Quartile 4	<b>Over 115</b>	-	<b>19%</b> <b>24%</b> Quartile 1

We are extremely proud of our reading and numeracy test scores which are above our predicted target and in the top quartile.

The Minister for Education and Skills has agreed that the tests will take place between 29 April 2015 to 12 May 2015 and 27 April 2016 to 10 May 2016. If you would like further information please visit: <http://wales.gov.uk>

## Key Stage 5 Results Analysis

	Entries	% A*-A	% A*-C	% A*-E	%U
Year 13	82	20%	83%	94%	6%
Year 12	138	4%	49%	86%	14%

# Whole School Targets 2014 –2015

## End of KS3

Level 5+	Year 7 114	Year 8 119	Year 9 116
English	94%	78%	79%
Maths	93%	75%	78%
Science	93%	75%	81%

Level 6+	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	71%	31%	39%
Maths	68%	48%	52%
Science	68%	48%	41%

## End of KS4

	Year 10 108	Year 11 124
Level 2+ (5 A*-C incl. E/M)	65%	46%
Level 2 (5 A*-C)	87%	72%
Level 1 (5 A*-G)	99%	94%
Level 2 English	68%	56%
Level 2 Maths	77%	51%

## End of KS5

	Year 12 68	Year 13 42
A*-A	17%	9%
A*-C	91%	78%

In line with Government and LA Policy the school is required to set targets to provide focus for school improvement. Targets are set for a 3 year period. The targets set for our school have been

established as a result of thorough evaluation of a wide range of qualitative and quantitative data.

# Parents Evening/Meetings

Year 13	16 <sup>th</sup> September	Progress Meeting
	19 <sup>th</sup> September	Presentation Evening
	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Open Evening
Year 9	23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Options Evening
Year 11	28 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents Evening
Year 11	6 <sup>th</sup> February	Options Evening
Year 12/13	21 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents Evening
Year 10	15 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents Evening
Year 7	1 <sup>st</sup> May	Parents Evening
Year 9	12 <sup>th</sup> June	Parents Evening

Years 7, 8, 9 10 and 12 Tutor Days (HOY) were moved to January to fit in with the new tracking of underachievement programme. The open evening was again well attended.

All parents evening and meetings can be found on the website along with the term dates and session times for the school can be found on the website.

# Fund Raising Events/Activities

As always the school has been involved in numerous charity and fundraising events at local, national and international levels. Our pupils are extremely active and enthusiastic in their efforts to help others. The Sixth Form under the guidance of a number of staff led many of the fund-

raising events over the last year. These students have been excellent role models for our younger students..... Well Done!

Governors commend them for their excellent work in this area.

Sport Relief	£768.97
Tenovus	£889.15
Velindre Knitted Chick Appeal	£255.00
McMillan Coffee Morning	£100.00
Action For Children	£805.20
Coeliac Uk	£300.00
Jack's Appeal	£397.50
Children in Need	£357.93
Poppy Appeal (Local British Legion)	£76.16
Christmas Fayre (British heart Foundation)	£1125.77
<b>Total Raised</b>	<b>£5075.68</b>



# Curriculum

## CURRICULUM STATEMENT 2013-14

The timetable operates on a fortnightly cycle of 50 one-hour lessons. This provides a total teaching time of 25 hours per week.

The subjects taught to the pupils and the numbers of lessons per fortnight are as follows:-

### Year 7 (50)

English 7 (including 2 Specific Literacy lessons), Mathematics 7, Science 6, Geography 3, History 3, Religious Education 2, French 3, Welsh 3, Music 2, Art 2, Technology 3, Physical Education 3, Personal and Social Education 2, Information Technology 2, Drama 2.

### Year 8 (50)

English 8 (including 2 Specific Literacy lessons), Mathematics 6, Science 6, Geography 2, History 2, Religious Education 2, French 4, Welsh 3, Music 2, Art 2, Technology 3, Physical Education 4, Personal and Social Education 2, Information Technology 2, Drama 2.

### Year 9 (50)

English 6, Mathematics 6, Science 6, Geography 3, History 3, Religious Education 2, French 3, Welsh 4, Music 2, Art 2, Technology 3, Physical Education 3, Personal and Social Education 2 (inc. Careers), Information Technology 3, Drama 2.

During the second term in Year 9, pupils make a choice of subjects for Years 10 and 11. These choices follow consultation involving pupils, subject teachers, careers guidance teachers and personnel, Head of Year and parents.

### Year 10 (50)

English (6), Maths (6), Science (10), Physical Education (2), PSE (2), Welsh (3), Religious Education (3) and ICT (3) plus three options of five lessons each (one chosen from each column below). Selected pupils in Option line 1 and 2 are eligible for the Bedwas Inclusion Programme (BIP). Pupils following the Vocational Package (option lines 1 and 2) will take a course at Ystrad Mynach or Rhymney College. The courses on offer are Motor Vehicle, Construction, or Hair and Beauty Therapy.

Also, the 14-19 consortium is continuing to offer

subjects in Option 1 and 2 at other centres in the Caerphilly Basin.

Year 10 Option Blocks are available from the school.

### Year 11 (50)

English (6), Maths (6), Science (10), Physical Education (2), ICT (3), PSE (2), Welsh (3), Religious Education (3) plus three options of five lessons each. As per Year 10, selected pupils in Option line 1 and 2 are eligible for the Bedwas Inclusion Programme (BIP). Pupils following the Vocational Package take a course at Ystrad Mynach or Rhymney College.

### Year 11 (50)

English (6), Maths (6), Science (10), Physical Education (2), ICT (3), PSE (2), Welsh (3), Religious Education (3) plus three options of five lessons each (one chosen from each column below). As per Year 10, selected pupils in Option line 1 and 2 are eligible for the Bedwas Inclusion Programme (BIP). Pupils following the Vocational Package take a course at Ystrad Mynach or Rhymney College.

Year 11 Option Blocks are available from the school.

### Years 12/13

The number of lessons allocated per subject is dependent upon the demands and requirements of the course. Most A and AS level courses will be 8 lessons per week. Pupils will select between 2-4 courses. All students following these courses must have a minimum of 4 GCSE passes grades A-C. (Some courses are delivered at other Caerphilly Basin Partnership Schools.)

**Students who have yet to gain 4 Grades A-C in their GCSE examinations** will have the opportunity of studying Vocational courses at Level 2, that is equivalent to 4 grades A-C at GCSE.

The following subjects are being offered:

- **Health & Social Care**
- **Engineering**

Students following these courses will be expected to follow a GCSE level Course in English and Mathematics if they have yet to attain the minimum C grade at GCSE.

Vocational courses will be 12 lessons per fortnight. As well as mainstream A Levels and BTEC's, there are enrichment courses in Work Skills, Extended Project, and the ICT Essential Skills level 3 Qualification. English and Maths GCSE retake classes are also available to students.

### **Consortium Options**

In order to allow pupils at Bedwas to maximise their options in the 6th form, the Caerphilly Basin schools operate a consortium arrangement where all pupils can access courses at all 3 schools in the basin. Timetables have been synchronised accordingly. All lessons will be taught Periods 1 and 2 or Periods 4 and 5. Pupils can then travel between schools at break times or lesson 3. All transport is provided free of charge.

Year 13 Option Blocks are available from the school.

### **Additional Learning Needs**

Bedwas High operates an inclusive policy with regard to Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision. All pupils are given equal access to every aspect of the school. There is one distinct group in Year 7, termed the Bridge Group, which provides a greater teacher/pupil ratio. Pupils are placed in this group on transition if their primary school recommends it. The Bridge Group operates in the same way as the other Year 7 teaching groups and has full access to departments and subject specialists. Pupils as they progress or need extra support regularly move in and out of this group. In all other years pupils with ALN are subject to the school's general setting/streaming procedures.

The school has a team of three Learning Support Assistants (LSA's) who are involved in providing a range of interventions. A number of pupils also receive specific support from LSAs provided by the local authority. This is usually to satisfy the stipulations of a statement.

The Learning Support Department has a suite of four rooms at its disposal. These rooms are well resourced and are designed for the delivery of a

number of different provisions. These rooms are based on the ground floor of B Block.

The tracking of pupils with ALN utilises the wealth of data held in the school. Marksheets are produced that allow Mr J Ashford (ALNCo) to interrogate the data for individuals or groups of learners. These may be for a particular intervention or learning need. The progress of pupils on the Special Educational Needs (SEN) register is monitored in real time by using the snapshot data entered by subject specialists. This can be used in conjunction with the results of standardised tests to produce a holistic view of a pupil at any time.

This information is used extensively by the ALNCo, Progress Managers and Senior Leaders to target intervention strategies.

### **Individual Education Plans (IEP)**

The ALNCo produces a base IEP for all pupils on the SEN register. The Learning Support Department in particular offers a number of interventions:

### **Progress Managers**

In order to continue to focus on raising standards a number of changes have been made to the roles and responsibilities of staff. In particular this has impacted on the Progress Managers (Heads of Year).

We are also tracking pupils extremely rigorously though the use of data to best support them to achieve their full potential.

### **C Card Scheme**

After consultation with pupils, parent we introduced The 'C Card' scheme which is run by Public Health Wales. The 'C Card' scheme is a confidential sexual health service for young people (under 25), that provides, where appropriate, information and advice.

The C-Card Scheme offers supported access to contraception, with the young person carrying a card with a Personal Identification Number. This allows the service provider to monitor the access whilst maintaining user confidentiality.

This scheme ensures that our sixth form students, along with selected staff and governor, are trained to provide confidential information and distribution of contraception in the form of condoms to pupils, if necessary; after full consultation. The scheme is offered to **Key Stages 4 and 5 – Years 10, 11, 12 and 13** and runs every Thursday lunch time.

As you know our aim as a school is not only to give the best education we can to our pupils but also to offer holistic care and therefore cater for pupil's health and wellbeing. We feel that by offering the C-Card Service we compliment the strategies in place to support our pupil's safety, health and wellbeing. The scheme would also help to develop peer relationships between pupils and it allows an element of responsibility to all pupils participating in the scheme.

## Links with the Community

The school places great emphasis on promoting a sense of community awareness and responsibility in all our pupils. We make every effort to encourage and develop co-operation and constructive partnerships with parents, local industry, either Educational institutional and the community in general. These links and partnerships enrich and enhance the learning of our pupils and in turn provide us, as a school, with opportunities to contribute practically to the life and work of the community of which our school is very much part of.

- A very successful community Christmas lunch was held at the school as part of the intergenerational scheme.
- Projects – Links with the Community - The Engineering Department are planning to run an extra-curricular project for a gravity racer (go kart). The project costs £630 and the funds have been supported by local businesses and we have raised £250 during the last week of term (before Christmas). We are looking to purchase the gravity racer kit by the end of January to enthuse more Year 9 pupils to take Design Technology / Engineering as an option and future career.

### Health School Scheme

We are pleased to announce that we have maintained our Health School Scheme away that we achieved in 2012. We were the FIRST secondary school in the Caerphilly County Borough and the third secondary school in Wales to achieve this accolade. Bedwas High School has been involved in the Caerphilly Healthy Schools Scheme since 2000. The commitment of all staff, external agencies and governors had been noted in the assessor's report and praises the unstinting care, support and guidance that Bedwas High affords its pupils.

- This year the BTEC Workskills group organised our third Christmas Fayre in aid of the British Heart Foundation they raised £1,125.77

### Community Art Project

- An artist called Nathan Sheen came into school to work with Year 10 GCSE pupils during their triple Art lesson. He had been asked to complete a Mural for Bedwas Library and wanted to include the school. His idea was to create a tree outside the Library made of wood containing many leaves with different designs.

The pupils were asked to each design a leaf based on their GCSE coursework themes. This way they would all be individual and unique.

- The school took part in the annual "Cheese and Crime" Event on July 15<sup>th</sup>. It was another successful venture between the school and the wider community and partnerships. Year 10 GCSE Drama students provided an excellent performance which was truly appreciated by all attendees and partners.

# School Activities

## Autumn 2013

- All Year 9 participated in the Coca Cola Real Business Challenge Skills Day in November
- The students in Year 10 Drama GCSE were involved in a workshop in drama skills and character building. A member of the National Youth Theatre guided the students through activities to develop their performance skills in preparation for their upcoming practical exams.
- Bedwas Inclusion Programme (BIP) Year 10 took part in the Intergenerational Programme again this year. They also enjoyed listening to their life stories. It was a great success.
- Our Years 10 & 11 are working really well completing their Princes Trust XL units in B.I.P. They enjoyed an abseiling and climbing trip at Porthcawl. Although it was physically and mentally challenging both Year 10 and 11 pupils rose to the challenge.
- Years 12 and 13 Biology students joined with Year 12 Geology pupils to attend a celebration of the work of Alfred Russell Wallace at Cardiff Museum in Wales presented by Steve Jones – to complement their work on Evolution and Paleobiology.
- Year 12 Biology students teamed up with Bassaleg “A” Level Biology pupils for a Genetic Roadshow organised by Techniques lectures on cutting edge topics of Genomics by Dr Nigel Williams and anthrax, vaccines and cloning by Prof. Les Baille.
- Live Music Now came to visit some students in Year 10 and a select few of Year 9 pupils. They performed of popular music to help get the students engaged in live music.
- The department organised the School Remembrance Service. It contained readings from the local vicar, community and an ex-army officer. The schools Brass Ensemble and Choir performed at the event
- A selection of pupils attended the CCBC Young Contemporary Musician of the Year Awards in November. Thomas Atkinson-Turner won the Bass competition and progressed to the Grand Final
- The Brass Ensemble performed at St Willocks Church as part of their Christmas celebrations
- The Christmas Concert which took place in the Workman’s Hall in December was a huge success. 87 pupils took part in the concert overall ranging from singing and instrumental performances, to readings in Welsh and English.
- Peripatetic lesson continue to be a huge success.
- Engineering Team Challenge – November 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 involving 16 Year 9 pupils. Activities were performed throughout the day using various engineering areas e.g. civil engineering. All pupils represented the school extremely well and were a credit to the Department. They also had a tour of the University of Glamorgan’s Civil Engineering Centre.
- Weekly KS3 Cooking Club after school for pupils was well attended in the Autumn Term with an average of 15 pupils in attendance each week.
- GCSE Geography Year 11 pupils enjoyed a day at Southerndown Beach, Ogmore in July as part of the GCSE course work

- September Sixth Form Induction – included a visiting speaker from Aberystwyth University who spoke to the students about applying to University and how to complete a personal statement for UCAS. The induction week ended with a team building day.
  - A series of seven cooking classes were held after school on a Tuesday night by Mrs Howell and Mrs Williams for Year 12 students between the beginning of term and half-term. The purpose of these classes was to prepare students for university life. Various main meal dishes and desserts were made.
  - A Step – Up to University assembly was organised for Years 11 and 12 on October 21<sup>st</sup> in order to encourage more students to apply to university. This presentation was given by members of Cardiff University.
  - The Head Boy and Head Girl attended the Mayor’s Remembrance Service for Young People at Caerphilly Cenotaph on Friday 8th November.
  - The ICT department ran an Animation Club for Years 7 and 8 which took place at Friday lunchtime. Two ICT trips were organised for later in the year Drayton Manor and the Year 8 trip to Cadbury World in May
  - The Art Department arranged a trip to our National Museum of Wales to see what it had to offer our students, from art, archaeology and the geological evolution of Wales .
  - ‘B’ Newspaper has evolved into ‘B’ Magazine this year, which has been a positive change! A range of pupils from Year 8 through to Year 13 got involved with ‘B’ this term – 26 pupils in total.
- spent a couple of hours with Mrs Evans and Mrs Bowen learning basic French greetings. The evening was a great success and all who attended thoroughly enjoyed the experience.
- A languages day for year 9 pupils was organised. Pupils took part in a Spanish lesson (delivered by ex-pupils who are graduating on Modern Foreign Languages), an Italian lesson, and German lesson (delivered by Mr Law).
  - Mrs Melling in the the French department entered Year 7 pupils in to the South Wales Regional French Spelling Bee competition hosted by CILT Cymru. The competition required pupils to learn key French vocabulary in order to verbally translate and spell words in front of an audience. The competition, at Ysgol Bryngwyn in Llanelli was well attended by around 100 schools in South Wales.
  - At the end of March, Ms. Courtney and the student teacher Ryan Fackrell took Year 8 to Llancaiach Fawr Manor House to complement their study of Tudor and Stuart England. The pupils had a lovely day touring the house, attending a workshop on medicine in the Middle Ages and making lavender soap.
  - Year 13 Biology students were recently taken to a DNA workshop in Techniquet. This enabled them to learn about genetic fingerprinting and actually carry out the technique for themselves.
  - Year 12 Biology students are part of a group organised by Scichem associated with Cardiff University to broaden their understanding of the possibilities of Science and relevance to society and its links with other subjects.

### Spring Term

- In January parents of KS3 pupils were invited to a French taster evening. This was attended by a small group of parents who

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> March the Library arranged a series of activities for Key Stage 3 to celebrate World Book Day.

The Activities included:

- Design a bookmark competition –
- Treasure Hunt – around the school were hidden 30 icons containing either the name of an author or a title of popular children's literature. Winners were pulled out randomly. First, second and third place were all awarded vouchers and a certificate.
- Year 7 had a week of cross curricular activities from most departments based on the theme of Myths, Legends and Fantasy. Activities included discovering Atlantis, Harry Potter spells and potions to creating their own fantasy creature.
- The week culminated with a visit from a local author who held a Gothic Literature workshop for 20 pupils which encompassed all three strands of the LNF literacy key features of oracy, reading and writing.
- Miss Davies from the Welsh department took Year 7 to Llangrannog for the weekend. Followed by Years 10 and 11 to Manor Adventure on a weekend full of outdoor activities, and finally Year 9 pupils to Glanllyn for the weekend .

Year 9 Skills day update

- The pupils, attended the regional finals. We participated in a live challenge with 9 other schools across England and Wales at the Millennium Stadium. The pupils worked alongside a Coca Cola Business mentor to design an advertising campaign for the launch of Street Games in Cardiff.
- During the term the Religious Education and PSE department ran a joint Sixth Form Conference Day that focussed on the events surrounding the Holocaust.
- The Music Department run a number of clubs from: – Brass band every Thursday lunchtime, Orchestra after school on a Monday and Tuesday and Choir Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes.

- Many pupils were involved in the ' Young Musician of the Year competition' in Pontllanfraith in April. Lloyd Jones-Barnaby was successful at winning his class, for his age group, on the Euphonium. Many pupils were entered or Trinity London to be taken in the Summer term.
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Paul Hawkins, Gwent Police spoke to Year 12 students on Road Safety
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Finance talk for Year 13 students and parents regarding student finance at university.
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Year 12 and 13 photographs
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Year 12 took part in National Voter Registration Day.
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April –Year 12 students visited the UCAS Convention at Cardiff Metropolitan University.
- The ICT Department ran an Animation Club every Friday which continues to be successful with Year 7 and 8. A variety of programs being used from Scratch, Pivot to Claymation.
- Year 8 – 20 Year 8 pupils enjoyed two days out at the University of South Wales working with lecturers using and programming the Raspberry Pi.
- Drayton Manor Trip – Year 10 and some Year 9 pupils visited Drayton Manor Theme Park in April.
- Year 10 BIP group visited GYR primary school on the 9th April and delivered a Science workshop called 'Science Made Simple' to pupils in Years 5 & 6. The pupils gave a really confident presentation of their individual workshops and interacted well with the younger pupils.
- Year 11 BIP group completed all their Princes Trust XL Qualification and will be doing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh.

## Summer Term 2014

- In June the French Department took year 7 to France. They went to the Sea Life Centre and spent some time in the town.
- In July Year 9 went on a residential Trip to Paris.

## SKILLS DAY

- In July all of Year 7 took part in a Skills Day. "By Design" visited the school to collaborate with Mrs Hillman King to deliver a variety of skills workshops to develop pupils' communication, target setting, problem solving and communication skills. The pupils' fully engaged with the day and thoroughly enjoyed partaking in each of the workshops.
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July around 95 pupil took part in a 8—11 walk of Machen Mountain.
- During the Summer term the Home Economics department took on a number of activities, from Year 10 GCSE Catering students prepared their afternoon teas for the first controlled assessment. A variety of different savoury and sweet dishes were prepared by the students.
- The Department with Mrs Howells, delivered a cookery session for the Sixth Form Religious Education Conference. Fajitas and Crème Brûlée were made and enjoyed by all!
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June - The Department prepared refreshments i.e. fresh cream scones and tea and coffee for the parents and a full buffet of sandwiches and cakes for the special guests invited to the GCSE and A level Art exhibition.
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Year 10 GCSE Child Development pupils invited the children they had studied for their coursework and their parents into school for a party. The pupils prepared the food and devised the games and a good time was had by all!
- Friday May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Year 13 Leavers' Ceremony – Year 13 leavers were presented with glasses by Mr Ward. They attended a buffet prepared by the sixth form along with

staff . Afterwards students released balloons from the school car park.

- June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – Year 12 students' induction into Year 13. On Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> a speaker from Aberystwyth spoke to the students about the UCAS process and writing a personal statement.
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July -The Year 13 Leavers Prom was held at Bayside Brasserie in Cardiff Bay.
- Another fun trip to Cadbury's World was taken by a fantastic Year 8 group. Once arrived, a wonderful tour of the history of chocolate and the Cadbury family.

During the academic year we hold revision sessions before the school day begins, during lunch and after school. The list of activities, events and revision sessions are just a small insight into the amount of hard work and dedication given to our pupils by our team of teaching and non teaching members of staff. Without their involvement and dedication to our pupils these activities would not be the success that they are.

# Achievements

This has been a truly outstanding year in so many facets; sporting achievement, attendance, and academic progress, which we feel a need to celebrate.

## Music

### External Examinations - London Trinity Guildhall

#### (BRASS)

Elena Keane	Grade 3 Merit
George Manning	Grade 1 Pass
Owen Morgan	Grade 2 Merit
Daniel Pole	Grade 2 Pass
Aaliyah Thomas	Grade 2 Pass
Daniel Bray	Grade 5 Distinction
Jess Griffiths	Grade 2 Merit
Samuel Hughes	Grade 5 Distinction
Ella Richards	Grade 4 Merit
Lloyd Jones Barnaby	Grade 6 Distinction
Connor Webb	Grade 4 Pass
Adam Wilson	Grade 7 Distinction

### Associated Board - Royal Schools of Music

#### (STRINGS)

Sean Barry	Grade 3 Pass
Katy Hartshorne	Grade 3 Merit
Adam Wilson	Grade 5 Merit

### Machen Rotary Concert – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Involving Bedwas High School, Bedwas Junior, Tyn-y-Wern, Machen and Graig-y-Rhacca Cluster Concert (Choirs, Orchestra and Ensembles).

### RECROCK Workshops commenced June 2014

Every Thursday after school. Groups of pupils rehearse as band members performing a variety of popular music. One group of KS4 pupils participated in a community concert during the holidays organised by RecRock. Pupils are now working towards Level 1 and 2 Awards in performance.

## Sporting

Two pupils achieved international sporting honours:

Sophie Bignell was select for Welsh Schools Cricket

Jack Samuel who has been selected for the Welsh Rugby League squad.

A number of pupils participated in the British Dance Championships in Blackpool over Easter: Formation Latin competition representatives from our school:-

Sophie Thomas /Hollie Davies Yr 7 - 3rd

Rebecca Bushen Caitlin Toft /Kaitlin Hughes Year 9 - 5th

Kayleigh Watts Year 9 - 4th

Congratulations to Connor Webb year 10. Came 84th out of 5000 in Junior Great North Run.

Eve George on being selected to represent Glamorgan Valleys Schools at the Welsh Schools Athletics Championships in Cardiff on Sat 5th July in the 100m and 100m Relay.

**School Sport Day WINNERS were: Sirhowy**





# Financial Statement 2013—2014

	EXPENDITURE AREA	Out-turn
<b>Staffing Costs</b>		<b>2,747,981</b>
<b>Premises Costs</b>	Building Maintenance	49,136
	Ground Maintenance	5,070
	Rates	69,600
	Gas	49,842
	Electricity	32,090
	Water	15,843
	Cleaning Contract/cleaning materials	72,461
	Hire of equipment	10,294
	<b>304,336</b>	
<b>Capitation costs</b>	Capitation	64,427
	Music Support Services	9,346
	Eco Fund	-4
	<b>73,770</b>	
<b>Other running costs</b>	Purchase of equipment and other resources	5,729
	Purchase and repair of Computer Equipment	34,741
	Postage	5,162
	Telephones	10,387
	Photocopy Charges	11,136
	Premises Hire	5,310
	Uniform Grant Payments	2,212
	Insurances	19,042
	Hire of transport	1,776
	Examination Fees	79,532
	Hospitality	6,449
	Alternative Provision	67,930
	<b>249,406</b>	
<b>SLA Costs</b>	Service Level Agreement charges	80,273
		<b>80,273</b>
<b>Transport costs</b>	Mini Bus Expenses	2,444
		<b>2,444</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	Contingency - Standby	127,089
		<b>127,089</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,585,298</b>

EXPENDITURE AREA	FINAL OUT TURN
Formula Funding	2,496,651
Retrospective Adjustment	30,952
6th Form Allocation	444,174
	<b>2,971,777</b>
Carry Forward	153,164
	<b>153,164</b>
Joint User (Utility re-imburement)	21,035
Community Education Use	31,842
	<b>52,877</b>
Caretakers Rent	2,009
	<b>2,009</b>
Supply Compensation/re-imburement	35,296
Other Local Authority Funding	199,890
Uniform grant	2,572
NQT/EPD funding	8,817
PDG ( Pupil Deprivation Grant)	79,200
SEG (School Effectivness Grant)	53,373
WEG (Welsh Effectiveness Grant)	3,833
Other Welsh Government funding	10,472
	<b>393,454</b>
Miscellaneous Income	12,017
	<b>12,017</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,585,298</b>