



GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

Dear Parents and Carers ,

The Governors of Newbridge School are pleased to present the Annual Governors' Report to Parents.

Governors are pleased to share with parents that in 2024 the school's examination results were again very strong. The school is currently measured by a points score for: 'Capped 9' which is essentially the average of every pupil's nine best results including English, Maths and Science; Literacy (English); Numeracy (Mathematics); Science; Skills Challenge (pupil research project work); and by percentage on 5A*/A (% of pupils in the school gaining at least 5 A grades or better). These are then compared against national averages and the average of our 'family' of ten similar schools. You will see the breakdown below:

	Newbridge School 2024	Family of Similar Schools Average	National Average
Capped 9	370.1	364.9	351.1
Skills Challenge	41.8	30.4	31.8
Numeracy	38	37	35.9
Science	38.5	35.7	36
Literacy	38.7	39.5	38.5
5 A*/A	22.1%	16.9%	17.8%

The school also had a very positive Estyn inspection visit, which noted multiple strengths of the school including the school being 'a caring and supportive community where pupils feel respected, listened to and treated fairly' with pupils who are 'proud to be part of the school community... reflected in their courtesy towards adults and visitors' and who 'behave well in lessons and around the site and are proud ambassadors of their school'. The report also highlighted 'positive, supportive relationships' between teachers and pupils, 'a highly committed pastoral team' which 'has a comprehensive knowledge of pupils' individual needs' and provides 'a wide range of worthwhile support', and 'assured leadership' of the school with 'a clear and ambitious vision' for the school 'motivated by a strong desire for *excellence in all that we do*'. Of course, there were also elements of the school identified for improvement, including pupils' Welsh language skills, pupil attendance, sharper self-evaluation processes and developing the role of the governing body as a critical friend. Rest assured that the leadership of the school and the governing body takes these improvements very seriously and work has been taking place in earnest to make swift progress on all of them.



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL



All these successes illustrate the continued hard work of staff and our pupils, of which we are very proud. We also know these results are achieved through the support of parents and carers who aspire for the very best education and future for your children. This support is very much valued. The Governing Body and I thank parents and carers for working with the school towards your children's successful futures.

Yours faithfully,

M. Dean
Chair of Governors



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL



GOVERNING BODY

Chair: Melanie Dean
Newbridge School
Bridge Street
Newbridge
NP11 5FR

Vice Chair: Claire Brookes

Clerk: David Hutchings (Education Achievement Service)

Category	Name
L.E.A.	Gary Johnston Stewart Hammond Hayley Reed Dawn Ashley Andrew Whitcombe
Teacher Governor	Marcel Guillou Tania Clough
Support Staff Governor	Vacancy
Parents	Melanie James Samantha Jeffries Kate Morris Eleanor Parker Melanie Sandel Vacancy
Community	Claire Brookes (Rev.) Peter Cho Melanie Dean Gavin Stockman Julian Simmonds
Headteacher	Andrew Thompson
Non-voting Associate Governors (Pupil Representatives)	Lacey Morgan – Head Girl Gethin Tudball – Head Boy



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL



PUPIL NUMBERS DECEMBER 2024

Year	Males	Females	Total
Year 7	100	113	213
Year 8	97	116	213
Year 9	113	94	207
Year 10	116	92	208
Year 11	115	82	197
Totals	541	497	1038

SCHOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A financial statement for the school for 2023-24 is set out below.

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

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Employees	4,615,202
Energy	210,917
Capitation	211,394
Premises	340,066
Supplies & Services	480,648
Examination Fees	146,680
Service Level Agreements	40,973
Total Expenditure	6,045,880
Income	580,028
Net Expenditure	5,465,852
Total Funding	5,355,340
Current Surplus c/f	-110,512



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION 2023-24

Group	Authorised Absence %	Unauthorised Absence %	Possible %	% Attend
Year 7	7.88	2.03	100.0	90.09
Year 8	9.53	3.77	100.0	86.70
Year 9	9.42	4.63	100.0	85.94
Year 10	9.76	6.02	100.0	84.20
Year 11	14.89	3.97	100.0	81.14
Totals	10.17	4.08	100.0	85.75

GOVERNING BODY COMMITTEE WORK

The Governing Body operates three non-statutory committees:

1. *Finance, Premises and Personnel*
2. *Teaching & Learning and Leadership & Management*
3. *Wellbeing and Care, Support & Guidance*

These committees meet at least once every term and report back to the full governing body.

Meetings include staff presentations, headteacher updates, committee discussions and evaluations, and work to improve key areas of the school.

COMMUNITY LINKS

The school has regular meetings with its partner ('cluster') primary schools and is involved in work to ensure there is good continuity between the work of subjects in primary and secondary school as well as good transition activities for pupils from all schools. Pupils and staff visit between the schools for curriculum and social projects. The school runs two open evenings per year to enable parents, pupils and the community to visit – one in October for the whole community and one in June for pupils transitioning to the school. The school has strong links with community partners including the police and health service, who provide excellent support to the school through its PSE programme, and pupils perform at Christmas in elderly care homes in the area as well as at other community events.

PROVISION FOR SPORT AND HEALTH RELATED ACTIVITY

Pupils have extensive opportunities to participate in sport through the many successful teams run by the PE department in hockey, netball, football, rugby, cricket, basketball, cross country and other sports. The school makes use of the leisure centre swimming pool where all pupils have swimming lessons. During the school day pupils can participate in lunchtime sports which are laid on for all pupils on a 'carousel' basis. The school runs a health week each year when pupils take part in sports day, a fun run and a number of special activities. Older pupils act as sports ambassadors and run



activities with staff both within school and also at other schools eg. Local primary schools. The school also runs separate days each year which support the Health and Wellbeing curriculum.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The school plans teaching and learning through departmental Schemes of Work and well- structured lesson plans, both of which set out the knowledge, skills and understanding that pupils need to make progress appropriate to their age and ability. Teachers use a wide variety of methods for teaching and learning according to the requirements of the Scheme of Work. All teaching and learning is of a high quality, designed to engage, stimulate and challenge all learners to succeed and excel.

The school continues to develop new teaching and learning methodology such as the Newbridge Principles of Excellent Learning which provides pupils with an even wider variety of teaching methods that will develop their skills and confidence further. Staff professional learning is designed for individual development and was recognised as a strength by Estyn.

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2024

Term starts

for All Pupils :

Tuesday 3rd September

Half term holiday:

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

Term ends

Friday 20th December

Spring Term 2025

Term starts

Monday 6th January

Half term holiday:

Monday 24th February - Friday 28th February

Term ends

Friday 11th April

Summer Term 2025

Term starts

Monday 28th April



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL



Half term holiday:

Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May

Term ends

Monday 21st July

INSET days:

Mon 2nd September

Fri 4th October

Mon 24th March

Fri 28th March

Friday 27th June

Monday 21st July

THE SCHOOL'S LANGUAGE CATEGORY

Newbridge School is an English speaking school.

WELSH LANGUAGE IN THE SCHOOL

Welsh is a compulsory subject in Key Stage three and four. All pupils undertake Welsh as a qualification. The Welsh language is promoted through the translation of many subject materials into Welsh. Welsh cultural experience is also provided through the school's Eisteddfod and Welsh trips.

CURRICULUM

The school's curriculum statement can be viewed [here](#).

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The school's development plan can be viewed [here](#).

ALN Policy

This can be viewed [here](#).

ADMISSIONS

The school's admissions are fully controlled by Caerphilly County Borough Council.



HEALTHY EATING AND DRINKING

This is promoted for all pupils through registration activities (including assemblies), Health and Wellbeing lessons and Health and Wellbeing days. The school canteen promotes healthy options and is regularly inspected by Caerphilly County Borough Council. Healthy eating and drinking is also monitored through Estyn inspections and visits.

TOILET FACILITIES

There are two main toilet blocks in different areas of the school (main building and Michael Gray building), plus three subsidiary blocks (two in Michael Gray and one in Technology block) and two disabled toilets, which are opened dependent on pupil need. The blocks are all cleaned regularly through the day when in use.