



Magor Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School Governors' Annual Report to Parents

Adroddiad Blynyddol y Llywodraethwyr I'r Rhieni

A Message from our Chair of Governors



Dear Parents & Guardians

It is my pleasure on behalf of the Governing Body to present our annual report for 2015/2016.

As both chair of governors and as parish priest it is a huge privilege for me to be part of school life and to be given the opportunity to visit regularly. It never ceases to amaze me as to the number of people who are involved in the life of our school and I would like to place on record my thanks to staff, governors, volunteers, parents and children for all they do to make our school so successful and to provide a vibrant learning environment.

Reflecting back over the past year I am reminded of the significant changes and challenges that we have had to face. We have been able to overcome these challenges because of the dedication of our staff, governors and the support we have been given from the wider school community. Sometimes it is so easy to focus on the difficulties and to forget to celebrate our successes. And successes there have been in plenty as you will see elsewhere in this report. We have achieved excellent results in the standard of teaching across both key stages. All staff, both in the Foundation Phase and in Key Stage 2,

continue to focus on pupils' development of the skills of Literacy, Numeracy, ICT within an exciting and stimulating curriculum.

As a governing body we want to celebrate our successes in achieving a high standard of education whilst also recognising the opportunities that exist to continue to improve and to develop standards even further.

Please do take the opportunity to read this annual report and let us know if you have any questions or require further information. Thank you to all of you for the contribution you make to the life of our school.

It has been an honour and pleasure for me to chair the governing body for the past five years. However I feel the time is right for me to now step down from that position to concentrate on my pastoral role both within school and to the wider community. I will remain as an ex-officio governor and will still be involved in school life. I am pleased that at the annual general meeting in September that Andrea Rodley was unanimously elected as chair. I wish her all the very best for the future.

Best wishes,

Jeremy

Rev Jeremy Harris

Chair of Governors.

Mission Statement

To provide a happy, caring, Christian environment where children are encouraged to learn and discover their own potential.

Our Aims

At Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary School “Jesus Helps Us Shine”

Share a caring, Christian ethos

Harvest the skills and talents of each individual

Instil Christian values through spiritual reflection

Nurture positive links between home, school and the wider community

Ensure all children have access to the curriculum within an encouraging and stimulating learning environment.

Our vision:

Our Christian ethos is central to all that we do.

Staff, governors and pupils each have a role. This is distributed leadership where individuals are encouraged to develop and grow. Very much like a flock of geese flying towards a set destination. We can fly further together than flying individually. It is about being united. The geese honk continuously to encourage, inform, direct and keep in contact.

This is our vision for our school.

Like the flock, everyone is supporting and working together positively in one direction. This is about acknowledging the ethos of a church school.

We believe that every child has a special talent or gift and we aim to discover this from an early age.

- Some children are academically blessed and we do our best to ensure that we encourage and support high achievers across the curriculum.
- Some children are socially adept; good at helping new children settle into the school, resolving arguments, helping to communicate the views of other children. We recognise these skills and encourage these children to use them by making them **Peer Supporters** and by involving them in our **School Council** or **Eco Council**.
- Some children are sporty and good team players and we encourage them to represent the school in sports teams and as **Sports Ambassadors**.
- Some children are musical or artistic and we do our best to ensure that topics or activities give these children an opportunity to develop these talents. We have excellent links with Gwent Music Services.

Whatever a child's talent, we aim to provide the opportunity and encouragement to demonstrate, explore and develop that talent during their time at our school.

Our Objectives Are To...

- ❖ Promote positive Christian values in our pupils through an understanding of sustainable development, global citizenship, social responsibility and knowledge of the Christian Faith.
- ❖ Work closely with parents and keep them well informed
- ❖ Monitor children's progress, giving good feedback through which they can develop and build on their learning
- ❖ Develop children's thinking and learning skills
- ❖ Support and encourage all children to make good progress
- ❖ Ensure continuity and progression

We Aspire To Ensure Our Children...

- ❖ feel safe and valued as part of a caring community that celebrates success
- ❖ become independent thinkers and learners who are able to seek solutions creatively and co-operatively
- ❖ inspire an 'enquiring' mind and ask questions
- ❖ be confident enough to take risks in learning
- ❖ experience and actively participate in a relevant, enjoyable curriculum that meets the needs of everyone
- ❖ are good listeners who are articulate and show consideration to others
- ❖ are polite and courteous
- ❖ understand and respect diversity
- ❖ respect their community
- ❖ develop a sense of self-esteem
- ❖ are well balanced and healthy individuals.

How Do We Promote School Improvements?

We believe that as leaders we have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making.

Each member of staff and each governor is a leader of at least one aspect of the school's life, working as a strong team to improve and raise standards. Pupil voice, through the School and Eco Councils, mean that the whole school community contributes to decision making processes, where appropriate.

The Headteacher and her Senior Leadership Team work with everyone across the school community to identify and deliver improvements for all aspects of the school. Impact and outcomes of developments are closely monitored.

The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and “pop in ambles”; it also spends time on scrutiny of documentation and ensures that a rigorous appraisal procedure of the Headteacher and staff is adhered to.

In all, the ‘Team’ ethos at Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary School is key to the successful learning of all our children

What Do We Strive To Deliver?

Our key goals are:


- ❖ To involve Parents more in our school
- ❖ To raise standards in Literacy
- ❖ To raise standards in Mathematics
- ❖ To improve standards in Welsh
- ❖ To close gender gaps
- ❖ To deliver the highest standards of teaching
- ❖ To ensure that leaders at all levels implement improvement strategies throughout the school consistently and monitor their impact rigorously

Highlights Of The Year 2015/2016


Every year the life of the school is enriched by visitors, trips, Wow days and exciting opportunities to learn. By taking part in activities our children grow in confidence and learn about their community and their place in the world.

The school works closely with businesses, churches and social groups within our community, such as dancing at the Frost Fayre or singing to the ladies and gentlemen at Magor Munchies lunch club. This promotes our inter-generational links too, and ensures that pupils have a sense of local history and appreciation for all people in our community.


Here are just some highlights of main events in our school life this year, but there are more successes and highlights listed for each year group in the following pages of this report.



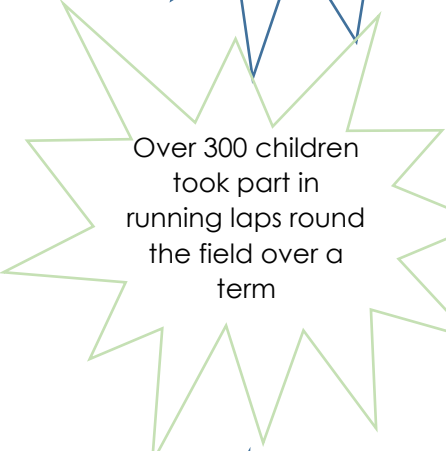
Visited and sang to Magor Munchies in the Baptist Church




Four children from each year group Cleaned for the Queen



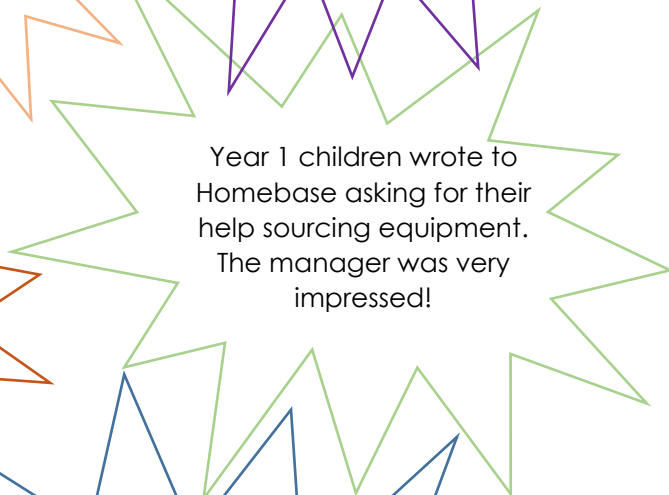
Year 5/6 raised over £700 with their Mad Hatter's Tea Party




Over 300 children took part in running laps round the field over a term



20 children from years 4, 5 and 6 were admitted into Holy Communion



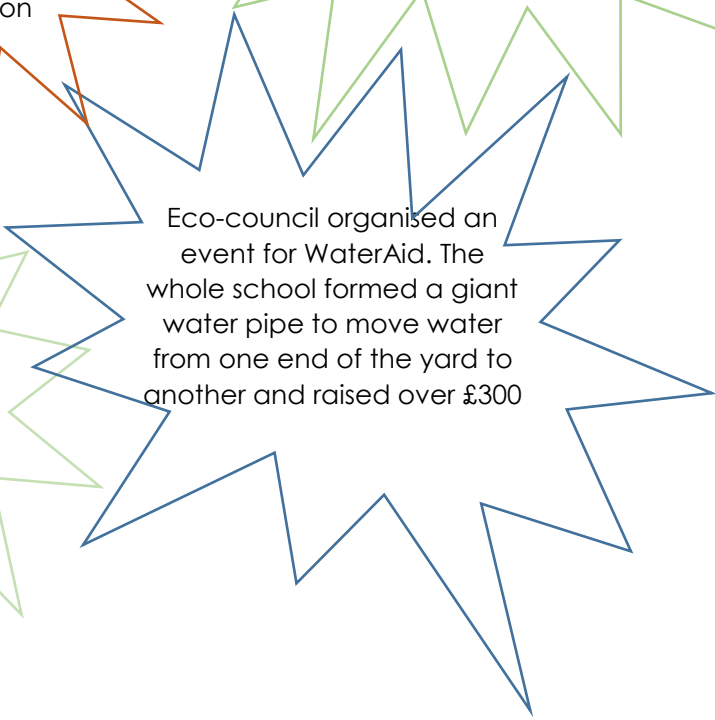
Year 1 children wrote to Homebase asking for their help sourcing equipment. The manager was very impressed!



Sang and danced at the Frost and May Fayre



Representatives from Outdoor Champions came 2nd in the final of the Gwent Wildlife Quiz



Eco-council organised an event for WaterAid. The whole school formed a giant water pipe to move water from one end of the yard to another and raised over £300

This year our school was able to support a lady from our community who was going to work in two schools in Mbale, Uganda - Kiwagalo High School and Fair Way Primary School. A large quantity of donated second hand summer dresses, in addition to old stock uniform donated by the PTA, were given to her to take to the children in these schools. We know they were very much appreciated.



Clubs Enjoyed By Our Pupils

We have a range of very popular clubs available to our pupils. Our school offers netball, football teams for both girls and boys (the boy's team came second in the Caldicot cluster of schools). We offer rugby (the team came second in the Rugby Plate Winter Tournament) and hockey. We have a sports day, in the summer term, which is very much enjoyed by pupils, staff and families.

Many pupils use the after school club Shoot, which provides a range of different sporting experiences.

Through our sporting activities we aim to provide opportunities for our children to develop team spirit and a sense of achievement.

A lunchtime singing club for Foundation Phase is developing (co-ordinated by Mrs Morgan and supported by Mrs Davies, a Foundation Governor). There are exciting plans for expanding this further in the future.

Outdoor Champions is a club run by staff (co-ordinated by Mrs John) which encourages the pupils to learn about biodiversity and ecology and is very much enjoyed by a large group of children. Representative of the Outdoor Champions reached the final of the Gwent Wildlife Quiz having seen off opposition from many schools in Monmouthshire.

Many thanks to our staff who provide the opportunities which enable our children to participate and develop through these activities.

Wow Days

Wow days are extra-special days that occur every third week of every half term, where our pupils have an opportunity to expand on their topic in a fun

way. Staff and pupils explore their topic in an interactive way, usually involving dressing up or bringing in items that make the theme come alive.

Nursery – finding dinosaur bones and camping

Reception – the classroom became the beach

Year 1 – carnival

Year 2 – came dressed as a family member

Year 3 – the classroom became an airport

Year 4 – a Victorian school day

Year 5/6 – Mad Hatters Tea Party, with proceeds given to Sparkle and Cystic Fibrosis and Cancer Research.

Trips And Activities Enjoyed By Our Pupils

Every year group visits Magor Marsh at least once a year.

On the 12th July the whole school took part in a WaterAid awareness day. Among the activities designed by the School Eco Council everyone was involved in forming a giant water pipe across the school yard to try to transport water. This made the children think about the difficulties some people have in getting access to fresh, clean water.

Over the summer term over 300 of the children took part in running laps around the field. Each child who took part received a water bottle kindly donated by Bannantyne's gym in Newport.

Nursery held a lovely Easter bonnet parade and at Christmas sang nativity songs to families and friends. Parents and carers were invited to stay and play dates. They held a MacMillan coffee morning for children and parents. A Mother's Day service was held jointly with Reception in Magor church. The nursery children delivered harvest produce to local pensioners after their Harvest celebration.

Reception visited Magor Marsh and Walnut Tree Farm. They had a visit from the police. A significant number of Reception pupils take violin lessons run by Gwent Music Services and gave a summer performance to parents and carers, so they could see how they had progressed.

Year 1 visited Llancaiach Fawr to learn about life before electricity and visited Magor Marsh.

Year 2 visited Tesco to understand how supermarkets work. For the Olympics they staged opening and closing ceremonies.

Year 3 visited Caerwent to support their work on Romans. They held a "Global Gourmet" day where they cooked food for "Café Cwmraeg" for parents and carers.

Year 4 had visits from the emergency services including police, paramedics and the coastguard. They visited Caerphilly castle and Magor Munchies lunch club and at Christmas went to sing for them. They performed a wonderful Easter drama.

Year 5/6 led the school Remembrance service and hosted a Mad Hatters Tea Party.

Year 5 made soup as part of their food technology topic which was served at our "Soup and Carols" evening. They visited a sewage works and enjoyed a visit from Welsh Water. They spent 5 days at Gilwern, at this outdoor residential centre they enjoyed a range of outdoor activities.

Year 6 spent a weekend at a Welsh residential centre at Llangranog; they held their "Moses" award ceremony where the gifts of each pupil gifts were celebrated; they took part in a leaver's service at St Woolos Cathedral in Newport and received bibles from Magor Ministry Area at their Leaver's church service.

RE And Collective Worship

Years 4, 5 and 6 all received a short course over four weeks about the symbolism and history of the Eucharist to help them to understand each element of the Eucharist service. 20 pupils were admitted into Communion which was a real highlight for the school. The pupils attended a Wednesday Communion service at Magor church and were welcomed into Communion by the congregation.

The school follows the provincial RE Scheme. Collective worship takes place every day led by either a member of staff or, on a Wednesday, by a member of our local clergy team. Worship is central to the life of the school and sets the ethos for the day. Worship is Christian in content.

The aim of the R.E. Scheme and collective worship is to develop the children's understanding and knowledge of the Christian faith and to give the children an understanding of the Church in Wales.

The link with St Mary's church, Magor, is very strong and each term pupils will take part in a service to mark one or more feasts or festivals, e.g. Harvest, Advent. There is a termly Eucharist for pupils in Year 4 to 6.

The R.E. co-ordinator regularly meets with Reverend Jeremy, the Ministry Area Leader, to plan and evaluate worship.

Parents are invited to join certain acts of worship such as the Advent Eucharist and, once a term, a year group leads a collective worship, to which families are warmly welcomed to join.

PTA

Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary is very fortunate to have a very committed and active PTA. We are extremely grateful to our parents and staff who volunteer their greatest gift – time – to contribute so positively to the life of our school.

The PTA's stated objective is "to raise funds for Magor CiW VA Primary School for the benefit of children attending the school". To this end they organise events but they also support the school in many other ways, such as providing refreshments at sports day and at concerts. This is really an invaluable service to the running of these school events and adds to the sense of the occasion.

The way funds are donated to the school changed this year. Rather than PTA providing money for a specific item, the PTA have donated nearly £10,000 to the school for teaching staff and the School Council to decide how to spend it.

The PTA also has a uniform shop which enables parents to buy logo'd uniform easily.

Some highlights of 2015/2016 have been...

School discos.

Secret Shopping at Christmas, giving children an opportunity to buy and choose gifts for family members

The PTA organise the filming of Christmas and leaver concerts and the sale of DVD's

The PTA organise the school photos, both individual photos at the start of a school year and class photos at the end.

Some of the exciting activities the PTA have organised include:

Ice cream Fridays in the summer term

Christmas crackers and Christingles for nursery and Reception

Father Christmas presents

Bags for life featuring children's art work

£100 towards the Y6 prom

Our Governing Body – how does it work?

The Governing Body and the Head teacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation.

The Governing Body and Head teacher have separate and particular responsibilities for the selection and management of staff.

The internal management of the school is the responsibility of the Head teacher.

The full Governing Body meets once a term. In addition, sub-committees meet regularly to discuss specific issues. These committees report to the full Governing Body for formal ratification of proposals.

Governors also take part in “pop in ambles” to look at specific aspects of the school and the “Curriculum Buddy” system ensures that relationships between individual members of staff and governors are developed.

Sue Waters retired from the Governing Body after a long association with the school. The Governing Body thank her for her commitment and service as a governor to the school.

The minutes of Governing Body meetings are available from the clerk to governors: Emma Lawrence at Monmouthshire LA Governor Services.

Structure

The Governing Body for our school for 2015/2016 were:

Role	Name	Term of Office	Other Responsibilities
Chair of Governors	Jeremy Harris	Ex-officio	
Head Teacher	Angela Davies		
Vice Chair	Dave O'Shaughnessy		
Reserve Chair	Andrea Rodley		
Teacher Representative	Laura Welsh		
Staff Governor	Kristen Webb	24/05/2020	
LEA Appointed Governor	Frances Taylor	01/09/2019	
LEA Appointed Governor	Dave O'Shaughnessy	11/02/2017	Health & Safety
Community Governor	Keith Plow	08/05/2020	Monmouthshire Association of School Governors Rep
Parent Governor	Sarah Tranter	22/10/2017	Nursery; Link Governor for Governor Training
Foundation Governor	Colin Paine	21/01/2018	Special Educational Needs; Treasurer;

Role	Name	Term of Office	Other Responsibilities
Foundation Governor	Peter Jones	01/01/2017	
Foundation Governor	Andrea Rodley	16/02/2017	
Foundation Governor	Sue Waters (Nash)	Retired	Looked after Children
Foundation Governor	Caroline Davies	09/09/2017	
Foundation Governor	Therese Catlin	22/09/2018	
Foundation Governor	Simon Linton	13/12/2019	Safeguarding; Closing the Gap
Foundation Governor	Sue Waters	16/05/2018	
Foundation Governor	Sara Wall	21/01/2018	Secondary Transition

The next parent governor elections are due to take place in the latter part of the autumn term 2016, to fill one vacancy.

Governors' links with classes & specific areas of the curriculum

These governors visit the school regularly to work alongside teachers in their chosen subject area. These are "Curriculum Buddies".

Working in this way they develop a clearer idea of how our school works, forge stronger links with teachers and develop lasting relationships with children.

Area	Link Governor
English	Andrea Rodley
Mathematics	Peter Jones
Literacy and Numeracy Framework	Andrea Rodley
Science	Dave O'Shaughnessy
Welsh	Keith Plow
PE	Sara Wall; Peter Jones
ICT	Simon Linton
Geography	Therese Catlin
RE	Jeremy Harris; Colin Paine
Music	Caroline Davies
DT	Frances Taylor
History	Sue Waters
PSE	Colin Paine

There are several committees that cover all aspects of school responsibility. The representatives for 2015/2016 were:

Selection Committee for Head Teacher and Deputy	Appointments Committee for all other Staff	Finance Committee
Jeremy Harris (Chair)	Jeremy Harris (Chair)	Peter Jones (Chair)
Simon Linton	Simon Linton	Caroline Davies
Andrea Rodley	Andrea Rodley	Simon Linton
Dave O'Shaughnessy	Dave O'Shaughnessy	Laura Welsh
Colin Paine	Colin Paine	Keith Plow
Head teacher (for deputy appointments)	Head teacher	Sara Wall
		Frances Taylor
		Therese Catlin

Staff Discipline and Dismissal/Grievance/ Complaints/ Pupil Discipline and Exclusions Committee	Staff Discipline and Dismissal Appeals Committee (Complaints Appeal Committee is optional)	Capability Committee
Sue Waters (Nash) (Chair)	Andrea Rodley (Chair)	Caroline Davies (Chair)
Colin Paine	Sarah Tranter	Keith Plow
Keith Plow	Dave O'Shaughnessy	Peter Jones

Staff Requests Committee	Staff Requests Appeals Committee	Pay Review Committee
Jeremy Harris (Chair)	Therese Catlin (Chair)	Peter Jones (Chair)
Dave O'Shaughnessy	Peter Jones	Caroline Davies
		Sarah Tranter
		Jeremy Harris
		Head teacher in advisory capacity

Pay Review Appeals Committee	Head Teacher Performance Management Committee	Head Teacher Performance Management Appeals Committee
Keith Plow	Jeremy Harris (Chair)	Caroline Davies
Colin Paine	Peter Jones	Andrea Rodley
Simon Linton		

Statutory Admissions Committee	Policy Review Committee	Fundraising Committee
Simon Linton	Andrea Rodley (Chair)	Colin Paine
Colin Paine	Sue Waters (Redwick)	Therese Catlin
Andrea Rodley	Therese Catlin	Dave O'Shaughnessy
Head teacher	Laura Welsh	Sara Wall
	Head Teacher	Sarah Tranter

Premises Committee; Stepping Stones; Before School Club	Uniform Committee
Sara Wall	Caroline Davies
Sarah Tranter	Sara Wall
Peter Jones	Sarah Tranter
Sue Waters (Redwick)	Andrea Rodley
	Head Teacher

School Staffing Structure 2015/2016

Role	Name
Head teacher :	A Davies
Substantive Assistant Head Teacher:	K Gordon
Substantive Assistant Head Teacher:	L Welsh
Acting Assistant Head	N Philips (Summer)
Acting Assistant Head	C Evans (Summer 2)
Foundation Phase (Teaching and Learning Responsibilities) TLR	N Philips (Autumn/Spring/Summer)
KS2 TLR	S Wall (Autumn/Spring/Summer)
RE TLR	K Wilding (Autumn/Spring/Summer)
LEA Nursery	H Jeffreys
Foundation Phase Teachers	F Morgan
	C Supple
	L Clarke
	R Johnson
	L Welsh
	E Talbot
	J James
	D Thomas
	N Philips
Key Stage 2 Teachers	S Wall
	M Macey
	K Wilding
	K Smith
	J Kershaw
	T Granger
	H John

Role	Name
	K Gordon
	H James
Teaching Assistants :	L Baker
	G Griffiths
	L Cornelius
	V Williams (autumn/supply)
	C Chadwick (autumn/supply)
	K Pike
	B Davies
	A Chivers
	S Morgan
	R Keyse
	A Garrett
	J Attwell
	K Mills
	E Bounds
	E Woods
	J O'Leary
	A Smith
	S Waters
	K Cox
	N Beagan
	W Russell
Administration Team :	A Kershaw (September)
	C Picton (September)
	G Partridge (Autumn/temporary)
	H Atakar (Autumn/Spring/temporary)
	J Burrows (Summer)
	P Williams (Summer 2)
Senco – Foundation Phase	L Clarke
Senco – Key Stage 2	H James
Support staff	D Lynch
	B Blaszczyńska
Catering Team:	J Hawkins
	J Linton-Hooper
	J Greenhaugh
	G Sefton
	J Ludlow
	A Fox
	S Smith

Financial Report for Parents 2015/2016

Whilst the school's academic year is to 31 August the financial year is to 31 March to align with Monmouthshire County Council. The financial results against budget for the year to 31 March 2016 are as follows:

	Actual 2015/16	Budget 2015/16
	£	£
Expenditure		
Employee costs	1,225,643	1,181,685
Supplies and services	38,004	38,998
Premises costs	33,381	44,816
Transport costs	4,030	500
Fair funding	48,104	76,551
Total expenditure	1,349,162	1,342,550
Income		
Base and special needs funding	1,148,787	1,132,975
Other income and grants	219,921	172,533
Total income	1,368,708	1,305,508
Net surplus/(deficit)	19,546	(37,042)
Reserves brought forward	36,462	36,462
Reserves/(deficit) carried forward	56,008	(580)

The financial year has been a very difficult one for the school. The initial budget indicated that unless action was taken the school faced having a significant deficit. As a consequence changes had to be made and were reflected in the final budget figures above. Unfortunately this meant there were some redundancies and a rigorous control over expenditure had to be imposed.

The favourable actual position above compared with the budget is due to the hard work done during the year by staff at the school and the continuing support of the PTA.

The pressure on the budget unfortunately will continue in the current year and the position is being monitored by the Finance Committee. Whilst the focus continues to be on the budget wherever possible projects will be undertaken to enhance the learning environment within the school.

Performance Reporting 2015/2016

End of Key Stage Assessments

Most pupils enter the school with adequate understanding. Overall the pupils make excellent progress towards achieving challenging targets set by the school and the Local Authority.

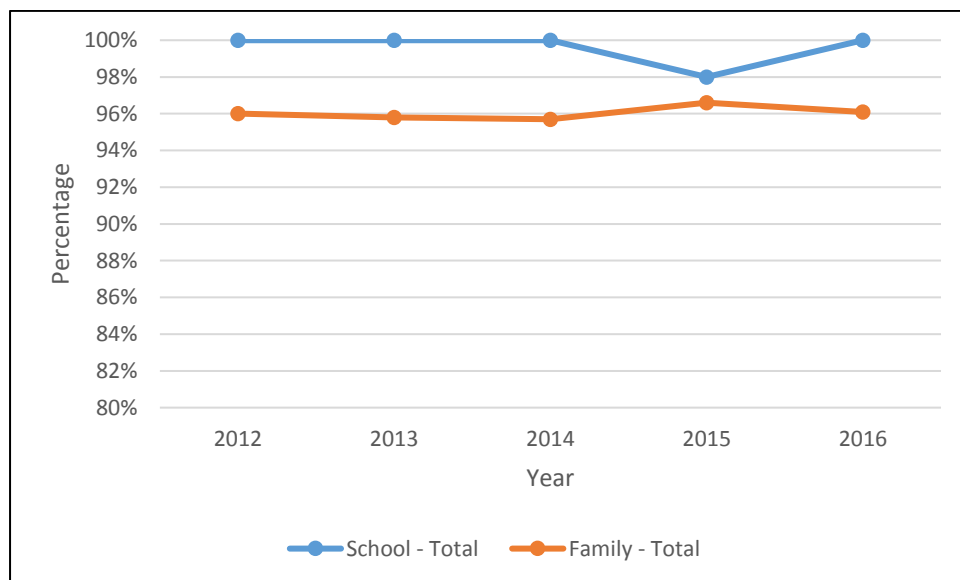
For 2015/2016, at the end of both Foundation Phase and KS2, 100% of pupils meet expected standards by the school for all three subject indicators.

Since 2010 we have consistently performed above LA and Wales.

In 2015/2016 attainment of above expected outcomes ie outcome 6s in Foundation Phase and level 5s in Key Stage 2, were above our family of schools mean. This is an outstanding achievement.

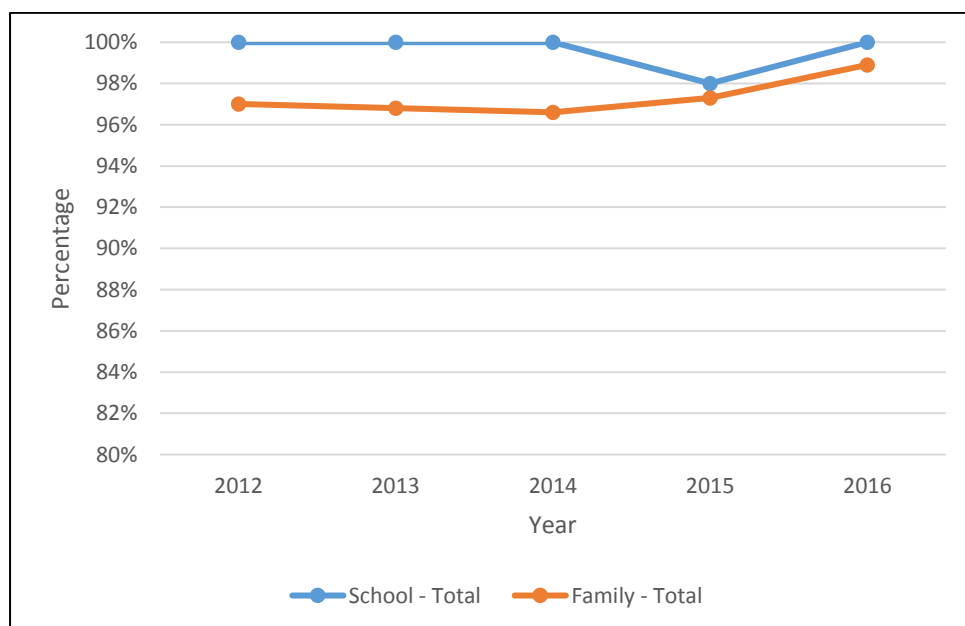
The tables below show how our school is performing for **Foundation Phase**.

Pupils achieving the expected outcome in the Foundation Phase areas of learning – overall (Foundation Phase Indicator). 100% of our pupils achieved outcome 5, compared to 96.1% in our family of schools.



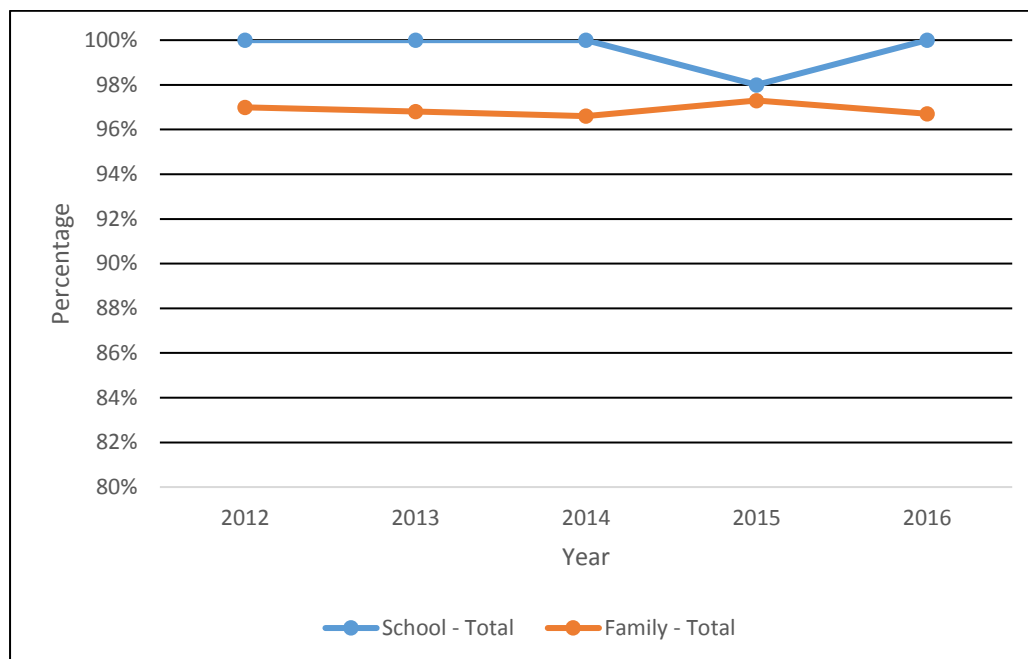
Foundation Phase – Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity

100% of our pupils achieved outcome 5, compared to 98.9% in our family of schools. 87.2% achieved outcome 6.



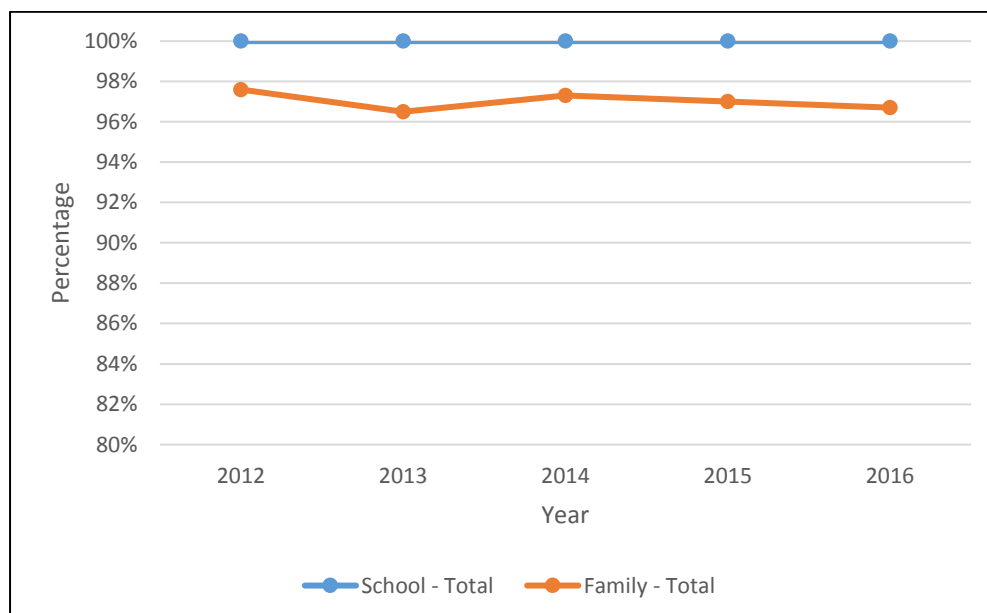
Foundation Phase – Language, Literacy and communication skill - English

100% of our pupils achieved outcome 5, compared to 96.7% in our family of schools. 64.1% achieved outcome 6.



Foundation Phase - Mathematical Development

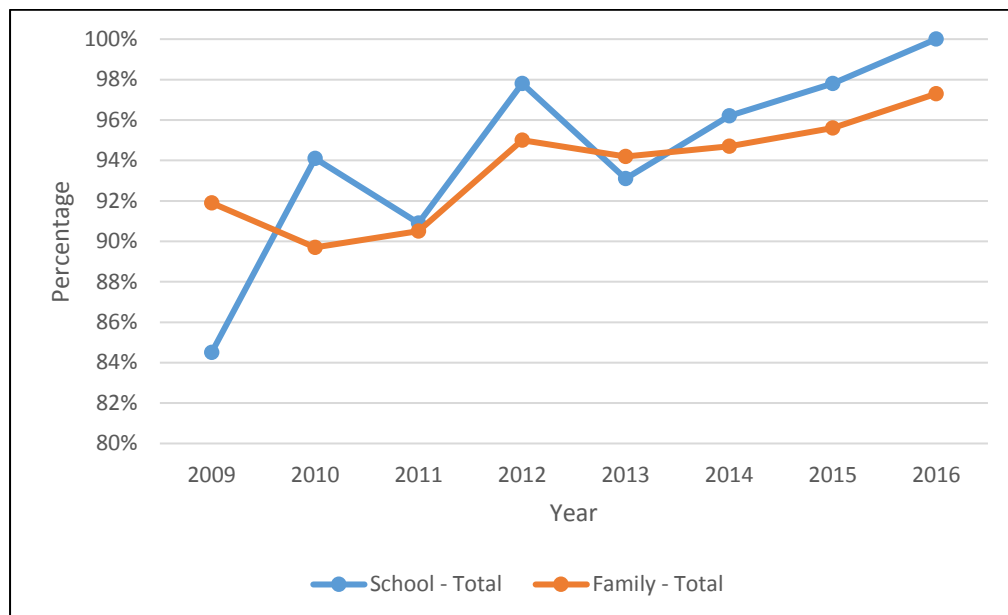
100% of our pupils achieved outcome 5, compared to 96.9% in our family of schools. 66.7% achieved outcome 6.



Key Stage 2 (Year 6)

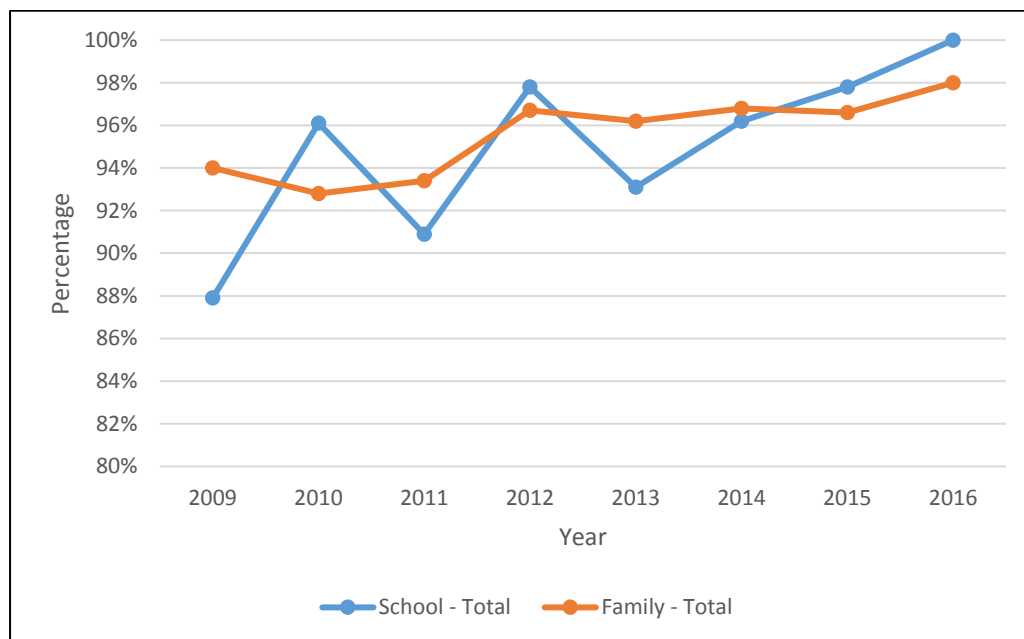
Key Stage 2 (Year 6) % Pupils who have reached the expected level - Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

Our school achieved 100% of children accomplishing level 4 in English, mathematics and science in combination, compared to 97.3% in our family of schools.



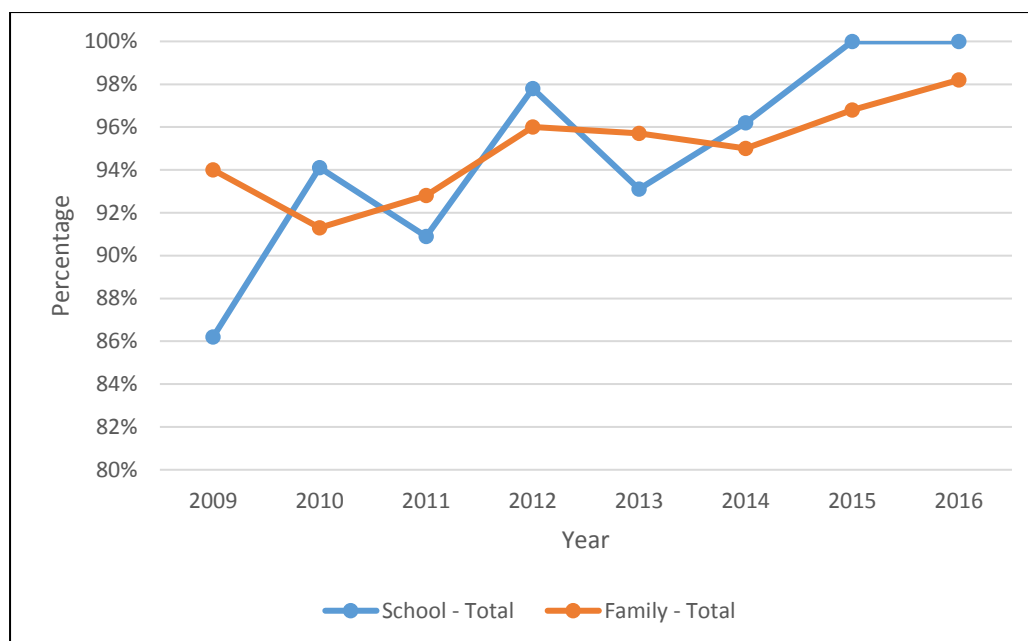
Key Stage 2 (Year 6) % Pupils who have reached the expected level - English

100% of children achieved level 4 in English compared to 98% in our family of schools. 72.3% achieved level 5.



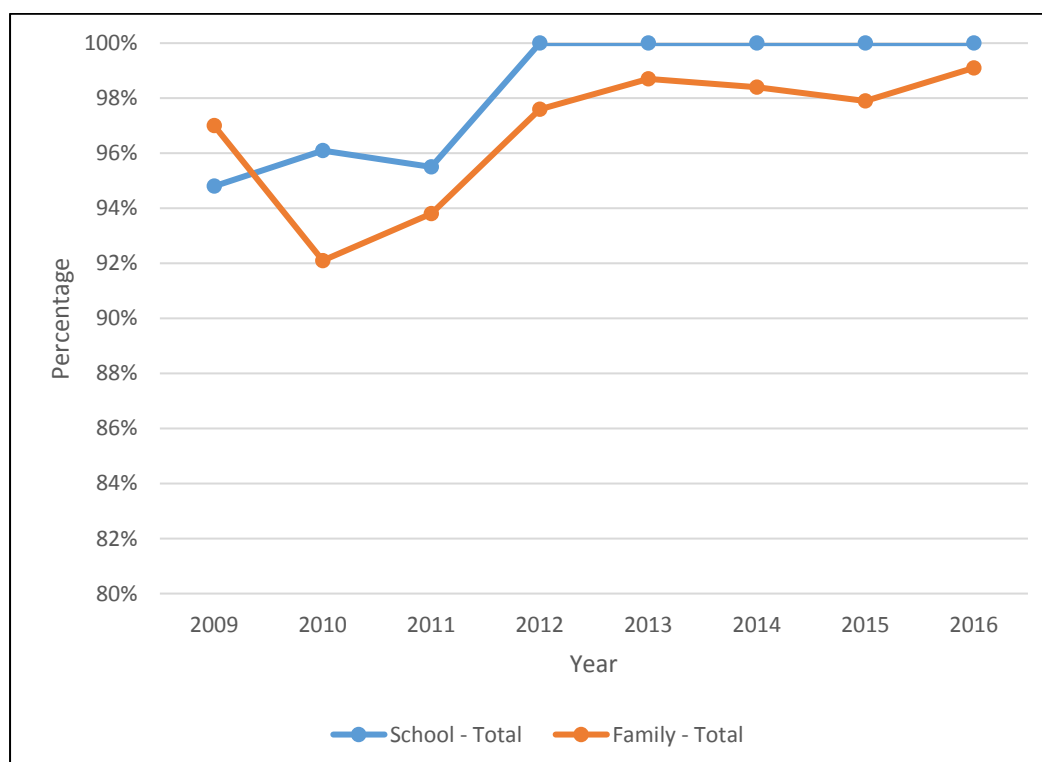
Key Stage 2 (Year 6) % Pupils who have reached the expected level in Maths

100% of children achieved level 4 in Maths compared to 98.2% in our family of schools. 72.3% achieved level 5.



Key Stage 2 (Year 6) % Pupils who have reached the expected level – Science

100% of children achieved level 4 in Science compared to 99.1% in our family of schools. 72.3% achieved level 5.



Performance Targets – 3 year view

- ❖ Targets should be challenging, realistic and manageable;
- ❖ They should be school specific, reflecting an informed evaluation of each year group of children;
- ❖ In order to be meaningful, targets should be considered over a time span of more than one year;
- ❖ Class teachers have a crucial role to play in the setting of targets and are fully involved in the process.

In line with these principles, teachers use the wide range of information they have about each child in their class to set an individual target level in national curriculum tasks and tests. This is a whole school initiative and teachers work hard to ensure that each individual target is challenging but realistic. These individual targets are collated to form aggregate targets for each year group. This forms part of the School Development Plan (SDP). The targets were set in the Autumn Term 2015, and subsequently agreed by the Consortium. These targets are agreed annually.

Attendance Information

Attendance is extremely important to us at Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary. For 2015/2016 our attendance was 95.6%.

The target agreed for 2015/2016 was 96.6%. Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their full potential. We seek to ensure that children appreciate the importance of coming to school regularly.

All unexplained absence is checked by the school office. Letters and information on the impact of absence was circulated. The attendance board is used to inform pupils of their class attendance and attendance has been linked to the school reward strategy.

We have clear guidelines from the Welsh Government which allow us to authorise absences for medical appointments, days of religious observations, external examinations etc. Parents are advised however, "extensive" amounts of authorised absence can be just as damaging to continuity of learning as unauthorised absence. Schools therefore need to authorise absence sparingly and only after careful consideration, particularly where pupils have a history of irregular attendance.

School Prospectus

Our Prospectus is available on request from the school office.

Curriculum Organisation And Teaching

At Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary School we support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching we seek to equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives.

We recognise that children learn best in different ways: most lessons incorporate aspects to support pupils who learn best through visual, audio and hands on approaches. Through our teaching we aim to:

- ❖ Support children in becoming confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners;
- ❖ Foster children's self-esteem and help them build positive relationships with other people;
- ❖ Develop children's self-respect and encourage them to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others;
- ❖ Show respect for all cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people;
- ❖ Enable children to understand their community and help them feel valued as part of this community;
- ❖ Help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens by celebrating their achievements.

More able pupils are identified, about 20% of each class, and given extension work.

Pupil progress is monitored half termly against an end of year target. The targets are derived from the national curriculum level descriptors. Pupils undertake half termly assessments. Moderation takes place within year groups, phases, cluster and regional levels.

The Special Needs Policy incorporates the statutory Code of Practice for Special Needs and aims to provide equal access to the curriculum for all children.

The majority of our pupils speak English as their first language.

Welsh language Yr Laith Gymraeg

It is important that the children of Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary are taught Welsh as it enriches their knowledge and understanding of the culture and heritage of Wales. It develops their personalities and ability to contribute to the community giving them a sense of place and identity.

The aims of teaching Welsh are:

- ❖ to create opportunities for children to enjoy the rich heritage of Wales celebrate the traditions and culture of Wales;

- ❖ to develop pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing;
- ❖ to create a Welsh ethos within which to promote the teaching of the Welsh language;
- ❖ to offer children opportunities to perform and compete in Welsh during school assemblies, concerts and Eisteddfodau.

Welsh is taught as a second language. Incidental Welsh is used for commands, counting and colours and requests by staff and pupils. Pupils are encouraged to use Welsh phrases and words when moving around the school. During worship pupils occasionally sing songs and say prayers in Welsh. During the weekly awards assembly Welsh is used and the use of Welsh by pupils is also celebrated. Standards continue to improve. Mrs Supple, as Welsh co-ordinator, ensure the Welsh language work is being developed appropriately.

Pastoral Care

We have a dedicated member of staff who looks after the pastoral care of the pupils. We aim to manage emotional and behavioural issues sensitively. Magor CiW Voluntary Aided Primary is committed to ensuring that bullying does not negatively impact upon the wellbeing and educational standards of the children who attend our school. We have a strong Anti-Bullying Policy and the ethos of the school proclaims the importance of caring for each other and of showing tolerance and kindness.

Healthy School

We have a Healthy School policy and we ensure that children are aware of the importance of healthy eating and we promote exercise through ensuring children have opportunities to play outside and do PE twice a week. The Eco Council are very active in promoting litter free healthy snacks.

Provision of toilet facilities

The school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. These toilets are cleaned on a daily basis, but the cleanliness of the toilets is monitored throughout the day by staff.

Nursery has its own disabled facility and there is a disabled toilet in the Year 2/3 area and a further two disabled toilets near the main hall.

School Prospectus

Our Prospectus is available on request from the school office.

Policies

Policies are available upon request from the school office.

Term Dates

The school term dates for 2015/2016 would be:

Term / Holiday	First Day	Last Day
Autumn Term	Thursday, September 1, 2016	Friday, October 21, 2016
Autumn Half Term	Saturday October 22 2016	Sunday October 30 2016
Autumn Term	Monday, October 31, 2016	Friday, December 16, 2016
Christmas Holidays	Saturday December 17 2016	Monday, January 2, 2017
Spring Term	Tuesday, January 3, 2017	Friday, February 17, 2017
Spring Half Term	Saturday February 18 2017	Sunday, February 26, 2017
Spring Term	Monday, February 27, 2017	Friday, April 7, 2017
Easter Holidays	Saturday April 8 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017
Summer Term	Monday, April 24, 2017	Friday, May 26, 2017
Summer Half Term	Saturday May 27 2017	Sunday, June 4, 2017
Summer Term	Monday, June 5th, 2017	Friday, July 21, 2017
Summer Holidays	Saturday July 22 2017	Sunday, September 3, 2017

Inset days would be notified separately.

School Hours

The school provides a Before School Club from 08:00 to 08:30 and a Breakfast Club from 08:30 to 08:50.

School hours are as follows:

School doors open for all pupils	08:50
Lunchtime	
Foundation Phase	12:00hrs to 13:00hrs
KS2 lunchtime	12:15hrs to 13:00hrs
Finishing time	
Foundation Phase	15:00hrs
KS2	15:15hrs