



Caerleon Governors' Annual Report to Parents & Carers

2023 – 2024



Sicrhewch Ragoriaeth
Maximising Potential

Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great pride that I write to you as the Chair of Governors for Caerleon Comprehensive School, especially as we celebrate our 60th anniversary. This noteworthy milestone offers us a moment to reflect on how far we have come, as well as to look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead. Over the past six decades, Caerleon Comprehensive has been a pillar of our community, committed to providing excellent education and helping students thrive both academically and personally.

Our vision at Caerleon Comprehensive is clear: maximising potential.

As a governing body, we work closely with the senior leadership team to support this vision, ensuring that our resources and strategies are aligned with the goal of continuous improvement. The future is bright for Caerleon Comprehensive, and we remain committed to sustaining the high standards that have defined our school while embracing new challenges and innovations.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will continue to build on this incredible legacy for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dr. Paul Warren
Chair of Governors

Annual Report to Parents

2023 – 2024

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 About this report

This report is produced by the governing body for the parents and carers of students at Caerleon Comprehensive School.

The report covers the 2023-24 academic year and provides a snapshot of the school. We believe it will be of interest to you if you have a child at the school or if you are considering applying for your child to join us.

1.2 Parents' meeting

Parents are welcome to request a meeting with the governing body to discuss this report.

Parents have a statutory right to such a meeting, subject to these conditions:

- A petition with the signatures of at least 30 parents is raised.
- The meeting is to discuss school-related matters.
- There are no more than three of these meetings in a school year.
- There are at least 25 school days left in the school year.

2 SCHOOL INFORMATION

2.1 Term dates for 2024–2025

Term	Start	Half term	End
<i>Autumn</i>	02/09/2024	28/10/2024 to 01/11/2024	20/12/2024
<i>Spring</i>	06/01/2025	24/02/2025 to 28/02/2025	11/04/2025
<i>Summer</i>	28/04/2025	26/05/2025 to 30/05/2025	21/07/2025

2.2 School prospectus

The school produces an online prospectus. You may download this and other publications from the website.

Hard copies are available on request.

2.3 Language category

Caerleon Comprehensive School is an English medium school.

2.4 Summary of examination outcomes 2024

Key Stage 4

Indicator	Actual
Capped 9 Points Score*	386.7
Literacy Points Score (English language/literature)	44.7

Numeracy Points Score (mathematics/numeracy)	43
Science Points Score	42.5
5A*-A	29.2%

**Includes the best grades in GCSE English, maths and science plus six other qualifications.*

A Level

Indicator	Actual
L3 (2A*-E)	99.21%
3A*-A	21.26%
3A*-C	58.27%
3A*-E	92.91%

2.5 Attendance 2023–2024

2023/24	Attendance	Authorised	Unauthorised
Whole school	90%	7.6%	2.4%

3 SCHOOL LIFE

3.1 Teaching and learning

3.1.1 Curriculum – Years 7 to 9

Following a review undertaken by Professor Graham Donaldson in 2015, Wales is in the midst of educational reform for 3-16 year olds, designed to put literacy, numeracy and digital competence at the heart of the system.

Improving education is our national mission. There are four purposes of the curriculum for Wales. All our children and young people will be:

- ambitious, capable learners
- enterprising, creative contributors
- ethical, informed citizens
- healthy, confident individuals

These four purposes are the shared vision and aspiration for every child and young person.

'Key Stages' will disappear and be replaced with a seamless curriculum for children aged 3-16, providing more joined-up learning. Traditional subjects will still be taught but they will be grouped into six 'Areas of Learning Experience' (AoLEs):

- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Science and Technology
- Expressive Arts
- Humanities
- Health and Wellbeing

There are 27 statements of 'what matters' across the six areas of learning experience and these will be used to construct the curriculum for our learners.

We are in a transition phase between the need to deliver the National Curriculum and prepare for the new Curriculum for Wales. Since September 2020, departments have been trialling new learner experiences and investigating how new 'progression steps' will link in with this work.

The school has been and will continue to engage with stakeholders in order to prepare for this exciting change and it is anticipated that this current curriculum policy will be modified to fully embrace ongoing developments in the new curriculum.

Our current school curriculum:

- focuses on the learner

- ensures that appropriate skills development is woven throughout the curriculum
 - offers reduced subject content with an increased focus on skills
 - focuses on continuity and progression
 - is flexible in order to meet the needs of all learners
- supports Government policy, including bilingualism, Cwricwlwm Cymreig/Wales, Europe and the World, equal opportunities, health and wellbeing, sustainable development and global citizenship, Careers and the world of work
- continues to deliver a distinctive curriculum that is appropriate for Wales

Students are expected to acquire skills in:

- speaking and listening, literacy, numeracy skills and digital competence, working with others and problem solving
- personal, social and health education reflecting the school's aims and ethos

Subjects in years 7 to 9 are taught in mixed-ability groups with the exception of D&T, PE and mathematics in year 9.

The following table shows the list of subjects taught, and number of lessons per fortnight allocated to each year-group for the 2023-24 school year. In years 8 and 9 students have the opportunity to study German as their second modern foreign language.

Subject lessons per fortnight	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<i>Art</i>	2	2	2
<i>Biology</i>	2	2	2
<i>Chemistry</i>	2	2	2
<i>D&T</i>	3	3	3
<i>Drama</i>	1	1	1
<i>English</i>	7	7	7
<i>French</i>	3	2	2
<i>Geography</i>	3	3	3
<i>German</i>	N/A	2	2
<i>History</i>	3	3	3
<i>I.T.</i>	1	1	1
<i>Computer Sci</i>	1	1	1
<i>Maths</i>	7	7	7
<i>Music</i>	2	2	2
<i>P.E.</i>	4	4	4
<i>Physics</i>	2	2	2
<i>RVE</i>	3	2	2

<i>Skills</i>	1	1	
<i>Wellbeing</i>	1	1	1
<i>Welsh</i>	2	2	3
	50 hours	50 hours	50 hours

3.1.2 14-16 curriculum

In years 10 and 11, students select a smaller number of subjects; the school provides guidance in order that students choose a range of subjects which is appropriate to their needs, and those in which they can do well. All pupils access one-to-one subject counselling with a member of senior staff.

The following table shows the full list of subjects that were available in 2023-2024.

Compulsory Subjects	Option Subjects
English	Art
Mathematics	Business Studies
Science	Computer Science
PE	D&T Graphic Products
RSE	D&T Product Design
RVE	D&T Textiles
Welsh	Drama
WBQ L2 (for year 11 only)	Engineering
	Food and Nutrition
	French
	Geography
	German
	Health and Social Care
	History
	ICT
	Music
	PE
	Sociology
	Welsh

In core subjects, students are taught in sets according to ability. They will be expected to take external examinations during and at the end of their course.

3.1.3 Post-16 curriculum

In the Sixth Form, students study either three or four subjects at AS level in year 12 (including Welsh Baccalaureate). If a course is not available in school, students may still be able to access it via

another school as part of the Newport collaborative programme. The school works closely with Llanwern as its “preferred partner”.

The following table shows the full list of subjects that were offered in 2023-24.

Compulsory Subjects	Year 12 and 13 Subjects	Collaborative Subjects
WBQ L3	Art & Design	Applied Science
	Biology	Business Studies OCR
	Business Studies	Financial Studies
	Chemistry	Health and Social Care
	Criminology	Media Studies
	Design and Technology	Music Performance
	Double Mathematics	Photography
	English Language	Sport
	English Literature	
	French	
	Geography	
	German	
	History	
	ICT	
	Mathematics	
	Music	
	PE	
	Physics	
	Psychology	
	RE	
	Sociology	
	Theatre Studies	
	Welsh	

3.1.4 Additional Needs

Caerleon Comprehensive School is committed to providing an individualised, high-quality education to all our students. We believe that all students, including those identified as having additional learning needs (ALN) have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum, which is accessible to them and to be fully included in all aspects of school life.

In 2023 – 24 the interventions programme was embedded across a range of abilities, with ALN students being given the opportunity to undertake extra Literacy and Numeracy. Additionally, our supported-group provision removed the need for ALN learners to study a second modern foreign language (German). Mrs Muggleton, is our ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator).

3.2 Wellbeing

3.2.1 Healthy eating

The school promotes healthy eating and drinking in line with 'The Health Eating in School (Wales) Measure 2009.'

Aspens, the school's catering partner, produce menus which are in line with Welsh Government's healthy eating guidelines. These menus are published in school and are also available on the school website.

Drinking water, free of charge, is available in several locations across the school site.

Healthy eating and drinking is encouraged as part of the school's health and wellbeing programme and is actively supported by PE, DT food technology and enrichment activities including year-group assemblies.

The School Council offer feedback to Aspens to facilitate improved provision.

3.2.2 Welfare

Mr Gardner, Assistant Head Teacher for Wellbeing manages the Heads of Year (HOY), and holds:

- fortnightly meetings with HOYs 7-11 (attendance and bullying/behaviour are mandatory agenda items); and
- termly full pastoral meeting

Form tutors meet with their Head of Year on a weekly basis.

Mr Gardner also manages the AAHT (Learning Centre), 4 Learning Coaches and 1 Pastoral Support Officer. These staff meet regularly to support students who require additional pastoral care and interventions.

3.2.3 Behaviour management

In February 2023 the school published its new conduct code which defines expectations and sanctions and encourages pupils to take ownership of and responsibility for their own behaviour management. This is available on the school website.

3.2.4 Learning Pathways

The school continues to develop the options selection process at levels 2 (e.g. GCSE) and 3 (e.g. A Level). We work alongside students to make sure that they select the subjects which help them maximise their potential and prepare them for the world of work, further education and school/college and for higher education pathways.

The main features are:

- Year 9 and 11 Students are given a free choice of subjects to study the following year. The timetable is built around those choices to maximise the number of students able to study all their preferred subjects.
- The school provides one-to-one support for students, to help each one choose their most effective combination of subjects.

3.3 Learner and parent voice

Feedback from student surveys contributes to the school's self-evaluation process. Learner voice groups also informs school decision making in areas such as wellbeing support, teaching and learning, nutrition and health and ecological issues.

The School Council continues to have an influence on school development. The opinions of student councillors are sought on a whole range of issues. Each form is represented by two councillors who sit on a Year Council. In turn each year group has two representatives on the School Council.

3.3.1 Parent forum

The objective of our Parent/Carer Forum is to facilitate positive and productive two-way communication between parents/carers and the school, providing a channel for consultation, feedback, and suggestions for improvement. All parents are welcome to attend parent forum events. The dates of future parent forums can be found on the school web site.

3.4 Extra-curricular activities

The school offers its students a wide range of extra-curricular activities, which many take advantage of. Each year the offering is reviewed and updated.

Activity	Years	Activity	Years
String Orchestra	All	Rugby	All
Senior Choir	Y9-13	Football	All
Sixth Form Choir	Y12-13	Hockey	All
Senior Orchestra	All	Netball	All
School Wind Band	All	Cross-country	All
Junior Choir	Y7-8	Gymnastics	All
Big Band	Invited players	Dance	All
Percussion Ensemble	All	Tennis	All
Composition Club	All	Indoor Rowing	All
		Athletics	All

Activity	Years
Cricket	All
Rounders	All
Golf	All
Library Carnegie Reading Group	Y7-8
Library – Quiz Club	Y7-8
French – National Spelling Bee Competition	Y7
Fair trade group	Y7-9
Welsh – Lunchtime Club	Y7
UK Maths Challenge Competition	All
After School Art Club	All

Activity	Years
Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze and Silver	All
Drama Club	
STEM	All
Textiles Club	Y12
Debating Club	All
History Catch Up Sessions	All
After School Youth Club	Y7-8

3.5 Community and external links

The school has numerous community and external links including:

- Links to local businesses through ‘Business Class’
- Our partnerships with a number of partner schools through the EAS Learning Networks
- Links with the police through our allocated liaison officer
- Local charities and organisations
- Our partnership with Cardiff Metropolitan University to deliver teacher training
- Our partnership with Coleg Gwent and ACT to offer curriculum support to learners who require an alternative learning pathway
- Various partnerships offering mental health support to young people

3.5.1 Educational Visits

Educational visits serve as invaluable catalysts for broadening horizons and fostering holistic development. Beyond the classroom, these experiential opportunities not only enhance academic learning but also instill essential life skills, cultural awareness, and a sense of community, empowering students to further develop confidence and resilience.

The following statistics offer an insight into the school’s commitment towards enriching student’s experiences for 2023-2024

Total number of visits – 65

- day visits - 49 with 2921 participants
- overseas visits – 8 with 485 participants
- residential visits - 14 with 668 participants
- adventurous activities visits – 7 with 437 participants

The school is fortunate to have a highly experienced team of educational visit leaders and supporting members of staff.

3.5.2 School Fundraising

The school is grateful for the support of The Friends of Caerleon Comprehensive School, the local community and businesses in making donations to the School Fund.

3.6 Facilities

3.6.1 Buildings

The 21st Century Schools Band B Programme has re-commenced (Project Manager assigned, workshops held, conditioning surveys carried out). The objective of this initiative is primarily to replace existing demountables and indoor sports facilities with a new teaching block. It is anticipated that site-work will commence in January 2024.

3.6.2 Accessibility

Where required, wheel chair ramps are fitted to building entrances. The main building and Isca block have a lift. Uneven paving slabs and loose drain covers are repaired/replaced as required.

3.6.3 Toilets

There are separate toilet facilities for male and female, students and staff. Disabled toilets are also available. Cleaning is carried out daily during and at the end of the school day. Should it be necessary, staff on site can deal with emergency cleaning during the day.

4 PEOPLE

4.1 Learner destinations

Destinations, Caerleon Comprehensive, 2023 (Careers Wales):



Caerleon Comprehensive School 2023

	Year 11 Blwyddyn 11			Year 12 Blwyddyn 12			Year 13 Blwyddyn 13			Total										
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Cyfansymiau										
	Benyw	Gwryw	Cyfansymiau	Benyw	Gwryw	Cyfansymiau	Benyw	Gwryw	Cyfansymiau											
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%										
Continuing in full-time education - Same School Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Yr un ysgol	52	44.44%	73	57.94%	125	0.5144	70	94.59%	56	80.00%	126	87.50%	1	1.35%	1	1.79%	2	1.54%	253	48.94%
Continuing in full-time education - School Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Ysgol	0	0.00%	2	1.59%	2	0.00823	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.39%
Continuing in full-time education - College Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - Coleg	52	44.44%	38	30.16%	90	0.37037	4	5.41%	8	11.43%	12	8.33%	1	1.35%	2	3.57%	3	2.31%	105	20.31%
Continuing in full-time education - HE Parhau mewn addysg amser llawn - AU	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	60	81.08%	35	62.50%	95	73.08%	95	18.38%
GAP Year Blwyddyn fwlch	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Continuing in Part time Education Parhau mewn addysg ran-amser	0	0.00%	2	1.59%	2	0.00823	0	0.00%	3	4.29%	3	2.08%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	0.97%
Entering employment outside WBTP Dechrau cyfogaeth tu allan i Hyfforddiant Seilledig ar	4	3.42%	1	0.79%	5	0.02058	0	0.00%	1	1.43%	1	0.69%	7	9.46%	13	23.21%	20	15.38%	26	5.03%
Entering WBTP (employed status) Dechrau Hyfforddiant Seilledig ar Walth i Bobl Ifanc	2	1.71%	2	1.59%	4	0.01646	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	5.41%	4	7.14%	8	6.15%	12	2.32%
Entering WBTP - (without employed status) Dechrau Hyfforddiant Seilledig ar Walth i Bobl Ifanc	4	3.42%	5	3.97%	9	0.03704	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	9	1.74%
Able to Enter Emp. Ed or WBTP (Unemployed) Yn gallu cael mynediad at Gyfogaeth, Addysg neu	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Unable OR NOT READY to enter Emp. Ed or WBTP (e.g. due to illness, custodial sentence)	1	0.85%	0	0.00%	1	0.00412	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	1.35%	1	1.79%	2	1.54%	3	0.58%
Known to have left the area Yn hysbys idynt adael yr ardal	1	0.85%	2	1.59%	3	0.01235	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	0.58%
Not responding to follow-up and therefore unknown Dim ymateb i'r arolwg, felly'n anhysbys	1	0.85%	1	0.79%	2	0.00823	0	0.00%	2	2.86%	2	1.39%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	0.77%
Total number of 2023 statutory school leavers Cyfanswm y gadawyr ysgol statudol yn 2023	117	100.00%	126	100.00%	243	1	74	100.00%	70	100.00%	144	100.00%	74	100.00%	56	100.00%	130	100.00%	517	100.00%

4.2 Staff

4.2.1 Organisation

Headteacher: Mrs L Purcell

Deputy Headteacher: Mr G Jones

Assistant Headteacher: Mr A Gardner

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs E Wilson

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs E Muggleton

Associate Assistant Headteacher: Phil Meredith

Associate Assistant Headteacher: Matthew Evans

4.3 Governors

4.3.1 Chair

Dr Paul Warren

c/o Caerleon Comprehensive School, Cold Bath Road, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1NF

4.3.2 Members

Clerk	
Sean Powell	
Community	
Karyn Keane	31/08/2027
Jon Hughes	21/12/2026
Rev Sue Pratten	21/12/2026
Headteacher	
Lucy Purcell	
LA Appointed	
Cllr Stephen Cocks	18/07/2026
Cllr Claire Baker-Westhead	18/07/2026
Joan Watkins	24/07/2025
Paul Warren	27/09/2025
Cllr Jason Hughes	28/06/2025
Parent Representative	
Andrew Goddard	16/02/2024
Sarah McErlaine	05/01/2026
Eleanor Howell	08/10/2027
Alison Thom	05/01/2026
Prof Kate Griffiths	05/01/2026
Simeon Andres Benavente	08/10/2027
Staff Representative	
Joanne Hewitt	09/07/2027
Teacher Representative	
Jemma Paull	08/07/2025
Simon Meredith	07/05/2027

4.3.3 Clerk

Clerk to the Governing Body at Caerleon Comprehensive School

Education Achievement Service for South East Wales

Tredomen Gateway

Tredomen Park

Ystrad Mynach

Hengoed

CF82 7EH

4.3.4 Governor activities

No governors claimed for travelling or subsistence expenses during the year.

4.3.5 Policy and strategy review

The Governing Body's committees consider and review changes to school policies, many of which exist to fulfil statutory requirements. Many of the school's policies are publicly available on the school's web site, and the rest are open to inspection by parents by prior arrangement.

The committee follows a review timetable to ensure every school policy is regularly reviewed and updated.

4.3.6 Elections

When a vacancy arises on the governing body for a parent representative, the Local Authority will inform all parents of the vacancy and arrange for an election. Every parent of a registered student at the school will be entitled to stand as a candidate and will be sent a letter with a nomination form. The form, including a personal statement, must be returned to the school by the set date. If there are more nominations than vacancies, then the election will be decided by secret ballot.

5 FINANCE

Statement for 2023-2024 academic year:

Caerleon Comprehensive		
Financial Statement for Year Ending 31st March 2024		
2022/23		2023/24
Outturn		Outturn
£	Employees	£
5,428,554	Teachers	5,321,766
1,058,486	Support Staff	1,272,626
106,339	Caretakers	81,900
30,938	Midday Supervisors	41,325
85,115	Cleaners	92
Other Employee Costs		
82,314	Supply Insurance Premium	73,101
312,553	Agency Staff	394,698
0	Lunch Time Meal Entitlement	0
0	Foreign Language Assistants	0
25,150	Exam Invigilators	22,964
1,950	Advertising	2,150
0	Interview Expenses	0
1,037	Misc Employee Costs	1,139
Energy		
41,407	Gas	108,860
63,733	Electricity	164,853
0	Oil	0
385,277	Capitation and ICT	329,870
0	SCC, EIG and PDG Expenditure	0
Premises Related		
0	Hire of Facilities	0
127,330	Rates	-11,673
87,663	Building Maintenance and Alarm Lines	59,803
11,180	Grounds Maintenance	10,323
8,101	Water	8,447
1,983	Building Cleaning Contract	157,343
13,724	Refuse Collection	13,138
10,404	Miscellaneous Premises	6,376
Communications		
1,978	Postage/Fax/Telex	1,544
17,950	Telephones	19,582
Transport		
618	Vehicle Maintenance	1,644
0	Purchase of Vehicles	0
7,334	Vehicle Hire	11,332
157	Car Allowance	24
612	Travel Expenses	0
220,158	Exam Fees	188,771
External Courses		
12,769	School Funded Training	6,205
38,596	Alternative Curriculum Provision	33,466
10,000	Sixth Form	10,000
93,767	Central Services	86,891
Income		
-3,400	Lettings	-3,748
-11,365	Sales Income	-3,411
0	Music Service Income	0
-40,045	Donations	-134,211
0	Miscellaneous	0
-146,178	Supply	-142,384
0	Exam Fees	0
2,068	Interest	-11,850
-4,127	Rental Income	-4,164
0	EIG	0
0	PDG/EYPDG	0
0	Energy Compensation	0
-12,947	Coaching Fees	0
-1,858,305	Other Grant and Contributions	-1,897,771
0	Reserve Transfer	0
0	After Schools Club	0
6,212,878	Total Net Expenditure	6,221,022
6,414,754	Total Funding	6,309,119
201,876	In Year Surplus / Deficit	88,097
279,815	Prior Year Surplus / Deficit	481,691
481,691	Accumulated Surplus / Deficit c/fwd	569,788
7.51%	Balance as % of Funding	9.03%

6 APPENDIX

6.1 Glossary

The education system is full of jargon. We have minimised our use of it in this report, however, it is hard to avoid completely. Please see the glossary below which we hope will be of use:

AfL	Assessment for Learning
AHT	Assistant Headteacher
AAHT	Associate Assistant Headteacher
ALNCO	Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinator
BfL	Behaviour for Learning
CfW	Curriculum for Wales
CTG	Close the Gap; an approach to marking work that includes overall “what went well” (WWW) and “even better if” (EBI) comments.
DCF	Digital Competency Framework
EAS	Educational Achievement Service
ESDGC	Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
HoY	Head of Year
KS2	National Curriculum Key Stage 3; years 7-9
KS3	National Curriculum Key Stage 4; years 10-11
KS5	National Curriculum Key Stage 5; years 12-13
LSB	Learning Support Base
MAT	More Able and Talented
PDG	Pupil Deprivation Grant
SIMS	School Information Management System: a computer system which holds information about the school and its students, including targets and levels of achievement
SNAG	School Nutrition Action Group
SSSP	Summary of Secondary School Performance
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
Sutton 30	The 30 most-selective British universities
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
WBQ	Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification