

How were the priorities determined?

- The school follows an evaluation cycle which includes three specific monitoring weeks in which everybody plays a part.
- These monitoring weeks allows for everything to be scrutinised; from lessons to books, questionnaires, data to discussions. Before deciding on any action, everything is collated and analysed.
- The priorities feed into our School Development Plan and Departmental Development Plans.
- We will review these plans regularly and change / add to the priorities, as necessary.

Evaluation of the 2022-23 Development Plan

- A lot of work was done to develop pupils' oracy skills in terms of their ability to discuss and present topics. The next step is to pay attention to pupils' reading skills.
- Steps have been taken to develop pupils to become independent workers, especially through the work of the Learning Hub, but there is further work to be done.
- The work of the Pastoral Hub was praised by Estyn inspectors and provision is already in place for registration periods. The next step is to ensure that it is introduced effectively as well as developing the role of class tutors.
- A lot has been done to implement the new Curriculum for Wales. The next step is to plan for year 9 in 2024 and the new GCSE year in 2025.
- Due to an increase in pupil numbers, it was decided to appoint a second deputy headteacher. The school's leadership team will need to be restructured as a result of this.

School Priorities for 2023-24

CURRICULUM

- Continue to develop pupils' skills with a focus on reading skills and their ability to work independently.
- Prepare the delivery of the new Curriculum for Wales for year 9 in 2024-25 and the new GCSE year in 2025.

WELL-BEING

- Develop the role of the tutor.
- Ensure that the provision for registration periods has a positive influence on standards.
- Make a start on the journey of being a trauma informed school.
- Implement the Relationships and Sexuality Education framework.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Ensure that information about additional learning needs (ALN) is shared and used effectively.
- Develop teaching methods for ALN pupils.

LEADERSHIP

- Restructure the Senior Leadership Team following the appointment of a second deputy.
- Continue to develop the role of heads of departments and heads of years.
- Collaborate effectively with our alliance schools.

How will these priorities be implemented?

- The School Development Plan and Departmental Improvement Plans include clear action steps for each priority. Funding, revision milestones, responsibilities and training needs are set out in the plans.
- From October onwards, the Senior Leadership Team will review the SDP every fortnight and departments will review their plans in departmental meetings.
- Each plan will be evaluated and updated following the third monitoring week.

Professional Development

- All members of staff follow the Performance Management procedure which sets out what training they will need to do to fulfil these priorities.
- Inset days are used to provide staff training on all aspects of the School Development Plan.

Support

- We will receive support from the Local Authority, GwE Officers and our alliance schools when working on these priorities.

Accountability

- The Governing Body has approved the Plan and holds us accountable for its implementation. This is mostly done at the meetings of the Standards Sub-committee held every half term.
- Estyn will inspect the school every 3 years. A copy of the report for October 2022 is available on the school's website.