

How were the priorities determined?

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

Evaluation of the 2023-24 Development Plan

- Arrangements were put in place for the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales for Year 9 in September 2024. The next step will be to prepare for the introduction of the first new set of GCSE courses in September 2025. In terms of students' skills, attention was given to develop students' reading skills and their ability to work independently. This will need to continue in 2024-25 with a greater focus on vocabulary development and numeracy skills.
- Staff received guidance and training to develop themselves as class tutors, and this, as well as the introduction of the Go4Schools behaviour module has brought in line and strengthened the effectiveness of dealing with student misbehaviour.
- Professional development workshops proved popular in 2023-24. We aim to develop this further in 2024-25.

School Priorities for 2024-25

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Continue to develop students' skills with a focus on the Welsh language, numeracy, vocabulary development and useful skills for the world of work.

WELL-BEING, CARE, SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

- Ensure that the best support is in place for those who face barriers in their learning. Particularly:
 - Students with low attendance
 - ALN/Neurodivergent students
 - Vulnerable students
 - Students who live in poverty
 - Those with poor behaviour or a lack of motivation

LEADERSHIP AND IMPROVEMENT

- Plan for the first new set of GCSE courses in September 2025
- Innovate in our Professional Development provision

ACROSS AREAS

- Improve the quality of school reports to parents ensuring that we report on student well-being

How will these priorities be implemented?

- The School Development Plan and Departmental Improvement Plans include clear action steps for each priority. Details regarding school finances, revision milestones, responsibilities, and training needs have been set out in the plans.
- The Senior Leadership Team will review the SDP every fortnight and departments will review their own plans during departmental meetings.
- Each plan will be evaluated and updated following the third monitoring week.

Professional Development

- Every member of staff follow the Performance Management procedure which sets out the type of training they will need to complete to fulfil these priorities.
- Inset days and various workshops 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 as we work through these priorities.

Accountability

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