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Governors
for Schools
Conference
2022.

The Welsh Curriculum in 2022

[#GfSConference2022](#)

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Our panellists

Claire Skidmore
Headteacher at Radyr Primary School



Jane Griffiths
Chair at Radyr Primary School



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Governors for Schools Conference 2022

*Changes to the Welsh Curriculum and
what this means for governing bodies.*





- Introductions
- Setting the scene
- The Curriculum for Wales in Radyr Primary
- How did the governing body actively support this change?
- Questions governors could be asking to ensure accountability
- Top Tips for Governing Bodies
- Q&A

Jane Griffiths
Chair of Governors at Radyr Primary
School for 14 years

Regional Governor Lead supporting
other schools in Wales

HR background. Worked in a variety
of industries and now working for
the NSPCC

Claire Skidmore
Headteacher of Radyr Primary
School
for 6 years

System Leader supporting other
schools leading change

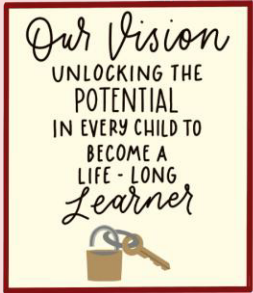
Contact details:
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Setting the scene.

SCHOOL CONTEXT

Radyr Primary is located in small village in Cardiff. The village has an active community that works closely with the school. We believe in working with partnership with our parents, carers and the wider community to develop our curriculum.

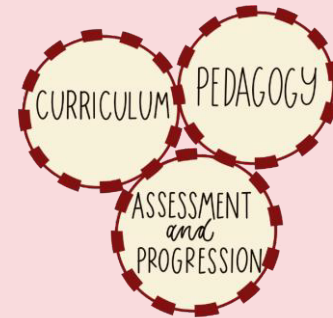


Our educational philosophy has inclusion at its core. Our school provides a stimulating, secure and **supportive** environment based on a **culture** in which **everyone** is valued as a learner to **achieve** their full potential.



All children are valued as individuals and are provided with a broad and balanced education in order that they become mature, responsible and happy learners, who contribute to the culture and ethos of the school and the wider community.

We want to **develop** our pupils through opportunities and experiences, both inside and outside of the classroom. We **inspire** and **challenge** them to realise their full potential in a world of opportunities to become lifelong learners.



Curriculum, pedagogy and assessment are the bedrock of our school. These areas are constantly under review with our stakeholders.


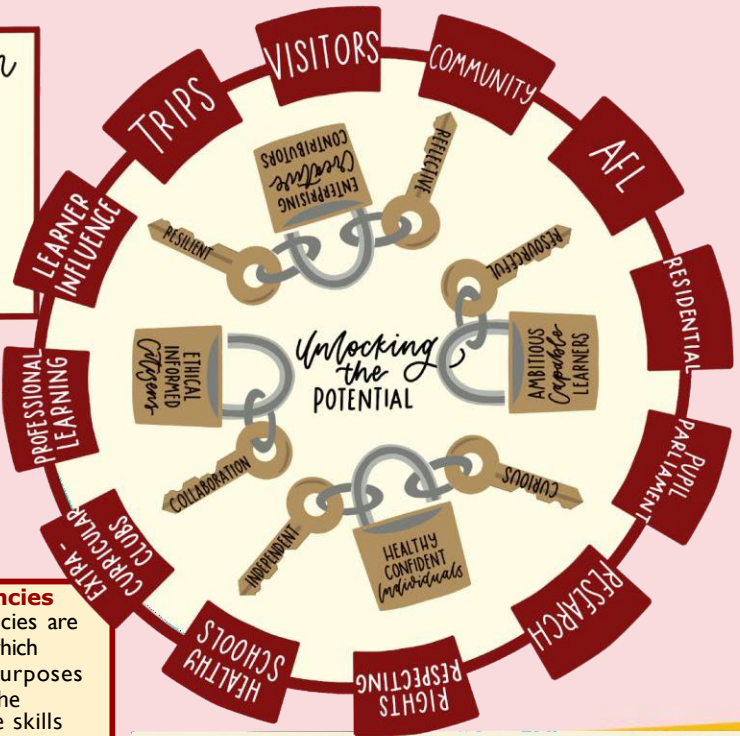


INSPIRE • CHALLENGE • SUPPORT • ACHIEVE

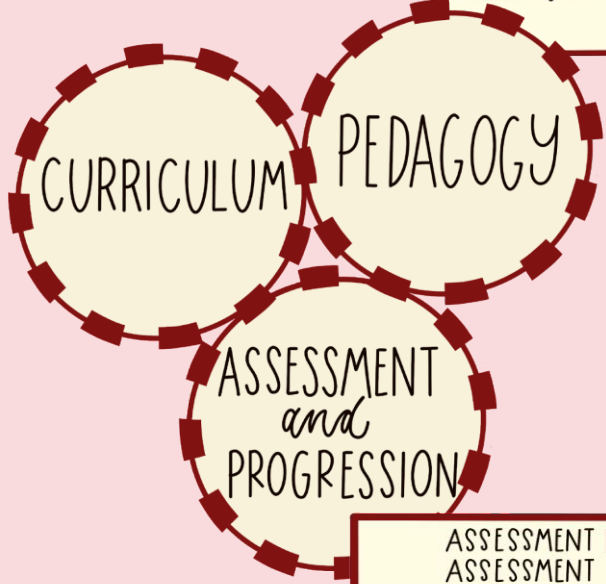
Unlocking the potential for every child to become a life long learner

The Curriculum for Wales in Radyr Primary

Our Vision
 UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL IN EVERY CHILD TO BECOME A LIFE-LONG Learner

Pedagogy TRUMPS CURRICULUM. OR MORE PRECISELY, *Pedagogy* IS CURRICULUM, BECAUSE WHAT MATTERS IS *how* THINGS ARE TAUGHT, RATHER THAN *what* IS TAUGHT.
 -Dylan William



Key Competencies
 The Key Competencies are the integral skills which underpin the four Purposes at Radyr Primary. The acquisition of these skills are what will assist our learners in unlocking their full potential and becoming Curious, Independent, Resilient, Resourceful, Collaborative and Reflective individuals.

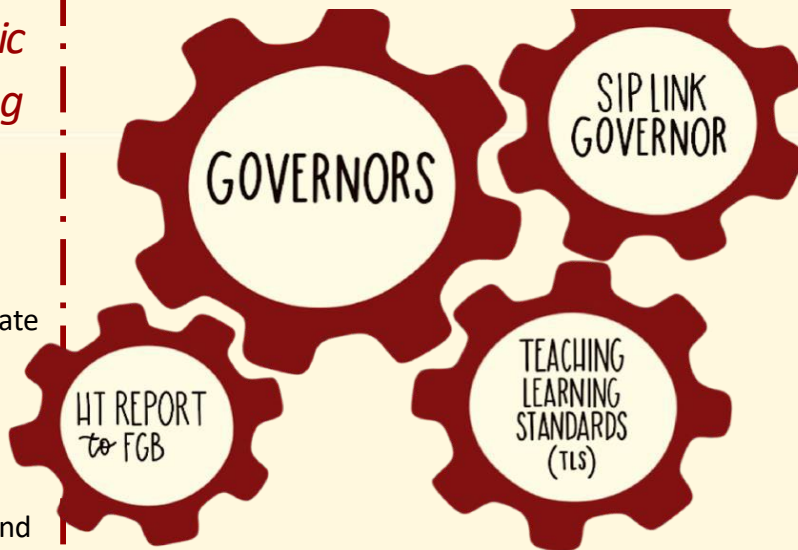
WE HAVE a SHARED VISION and ASPIRATION APPROACH to THE FOUR PURPOSES, IT'S IN EVERYTHING THAT WE DO AT
Radyr Primary
 (NOT AN ADD ON)

ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING
 ASSESSMENT AS LEARNING
 ASSESSMENT IN LEARNING
 KNOWING OUR LEARNERS
 WHERE THEY ARE IN THEIR LEARNING?
 KNOWING OUR LEARNERS
 WHERE THEY NEED TO GO?
 KNOWING OUR LEARNERS
 HOW THEY GET THERE?

How did the governing body actively support this change?

Providing strategic direction by: being well informed...

- Understand current reality versus ideal state
- Being continuously involved
- Building trust between GB and SLT



The 3 roles of the Governing Body

1. Providing strategic direction
2. Acting as a critical friend
3. Ensuring accountability

Support... (acting as a critical friend)

- Writing action Plans with senior leaders
- Joint monitoring (e.g. learning walks, listening to learners)
- Evaluating impact
- Feeding back at FGB

Challenge...(ensuring accountability)

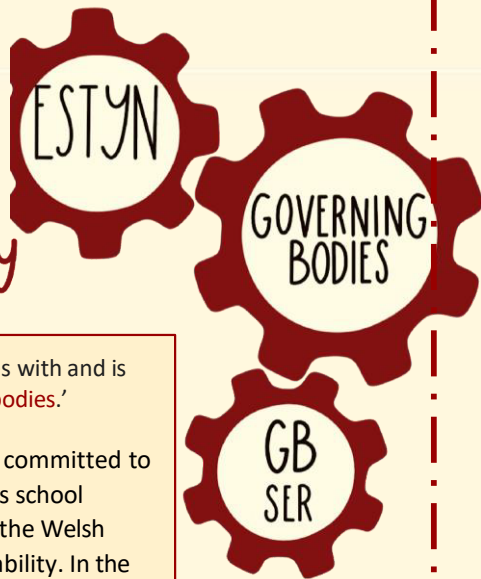
- Pupil progress
- Pupil well being
- Staff professional development
- Staff well being



Questions governors could be asking to ensure accountability

Ask questions that:

- lead to more reflection and clarity
- enables a leader to articulate the answer and demonstrate that a point is well thought through



ACCOUNTABILITY

'For schools, accountability lies with and is exercised by their **governing bodies**.'

As a Governing Body we are committed to the philosophy of continuous school improvement. According to the Welsh Govt framework of accountability. In the context of C4W this means **ensuring that schools support every learner to make progress.**

Example Questions for a Governing Body

- What is our school vision and is it fit for purpose?
- How will the school ensure that every pupil is making progress?
- What does progress look like for our pupils?
- How will we as a GB know that every pupil is making progress?
- How can we get involved in the monitoring cycle?
- What is our school's biggest challenge in implementing the Curriculum for Wales?
- Where are the staff in terms of buy in for the Curriculum for Wales and the changes?
- How will we continuously improve our standard of teaching and learning?
- How can we as a GB find out more about Curriculum for Wales and what it means for our pupils?
- What are our school priorities, how do they fit with the Curriculum for Wales and how as Governors can we be more involved with the monitoring of the outcomes?



Top tips for a governing body with the new curriculum

- Know your school...(vision, culture, school priorities, context and challenges of the community).
- Have a clear and shared vision with the leadership team on where you want the school to be.
- Where are we as a school in our journey to a new curriculum by being honest about what the current reality is.
- Establish clear committees with a chair, agenda, minutes and actions and clear accountabilities.
- Ensure that one committee is accountable for the Curriculum for Wales.
- Find ways to educate your GB on key features of the Curriculum for Wales. Ask for outside support if you think that would be of benefit.
- Challenge the school priorities so that you understand how they fit with the Curriculum for Wales.
- Ask how you can support the school in implementing the Curriculum for Wales.



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Questions?

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Thank you for attending

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