

Black Lane Primary School Governors Annual Report



2024-2025



ANNUAL GOVERNORS REPORT TO PARENTS BLACK LANE C.P. SCHOOL

This report follows the guidance offered in "The School Governors' Annual Reports (Wales) Regulations 2011"

Annual Parents Meeting

As a result of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, which came into force on 4th May 2013, a school governing body is no longer required to hold an annual parents meeting.

The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 now enables parents of registered pupils at the school to request up to three meetings per year with the governing body via a petition. A brief summary is provided below:

The governing body must hold a meeting within 25 school days of receiving the petition, providing that:

1. The petition contains the signatures of the required minimum number of parents of registered pupils at the school, which is:
 - (a) The parents of 10% of registered pupils,
2. The meeting requested by parents must be to discuss a matter relating to the school.
3. There will be no more than three meetings held during the year in which the first petition is received.
4. There are at least 25 school days left in the school year for the meeting to be held.

The meeting is open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, the headteacher and any other persons invited by the governing body. As soon as reasonably practicable, the governing body must notify all parents of registered pupils at the school in writing, the date of the meeting and the matter to be discussed.

Further detailed information is provided on the statutory requirement for these meetings, petitions and the process for holding the meetings can be found in Welsh Government guidance on Parents Meetings: statutory guidance to the governing bodies of maintained schools in Wales regarding the duty to hold meetings with parents.

Please note the Governors' Annual Report only includes information on the academic year from September 2024 to July 2025.

There were no parent's meetings that took place in 2024-2025.

Distribution

It is appreciated that producing and distributing the full annual report to parents can prove costly for schools. The Regulations therefore allow for schools to make available the full report only to those parents who request it, and to issue a summary report for distribution to all parents.

A Message from Chair of Governors – Mr. Gwyn Davies

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It gives me great pleasure to enclose the Governors Annual Report to Parents and Guardians of the pupils at Black Lane School for 2024-2025.

As Chair of Governors, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all families at the start of this new school year. We are excited to embark on another year of learning, growth and development alongside our wonderful pupils, dedicated staff and supportive community.

It is always a privilege to address the Annual Report to Parents. This has been another highly successful year, with many fantastic achievements by both staff and pupils. Since the Estyn report in November 2023, staff have worked tirelessly to maintain the school's many strengths and high standards, while also addressing the recommendations provided. Thanks to clear strategic direction and the commitment of staff and pupils, we have made excellent progress in this area.

We are proud of our strong Welsh ethos, which is embedded across the school, and we remain committed to striving for excellence. Our vision is for all staff and pupils to continue working towards becoming fully bilingual, and we are delighted to see this journey progressing so positively.

We remain committed to continuously striving for excellence and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential. As a governing body, our primary goal is to ensure the school continues to provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment where all pupils can thrive. We are dedicated to working closely with the leadership team, staff and pupils to maintain the high standards of education and wellbeing that are so highly valued.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our pupils, parents, governors, and wider community, whose support helps make our school such a success. It is through this strong partnership that we are able to achieve so much for the benefit of our children. Your encouragement and cooperation as parents and guardians is vital in creating and sustaining an effective school community.

Black Lane Primary is a school to be proud of, and by working together we can continue to uphold our shared vision:

Aiming High, Achieving Your Best!

Best wishes

Gwyn Davies

Chair of Governors,
Black Lane School.

The Aims of Black Lane C.P. School

Black Lane is a community school with wellbeing at the heart of everything that we do! At We are very proud of our school and work together to:

- Ensure every child feels valued and motivated to succeed in a secure and stimulating environment, where children feel **Healthy, Happy and Safe**.
- Have high expectations of every child, providing a wide range of enriching learning experiences that encourage and support children to reach their full potential. This is reflected in our school motto: *Aiming high, achieving your best!*

At Black Lane our aim is to provide an engaging curriculum that is led by children's interests and provides them with the experience, knowledge and skills to become confident lifelong learners nurture respectful and confident children, who have the experience, knowledge and skills to become lifelong learners in the 21st century. The *four purposes* will be at the heart of the curriculum. They will be the starting point for all decisions on the content and experiences developed as part of the curriculum to support our children to be:

- *ambitious, capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives*
- *enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work*
- *ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world*
- *healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society*

Welsh

Black Lane is an English speaking school with Welsh taught as a second language to all pupils from Nursery to Year 6.

The Board of Governors

Name	Category	Term of Office Starts	Term of Office Ends
Rebecca Fox	Head Teacher	4th May 2024	3rd May 2028
Julie Billington	Community	28th September 2023	27th September 2027
Emma Williams	Community	4th May 2024	3rd May 2028
Rachel Williams	Community	28th June 2025	27th June 2029
Fred Derbyshire	Community Council	1st July 2024	30th June 2028
Gwyn Davies	L.E.A.	1st July 2023	30th June 2027

Julian Jones	L.E.A.	1st April 2025	31st March 2029
Vacancy	L.E.A.		
Daniel Perry	Parent	14th November 2022	13th November 2026
Nikki Stott	Parent	1st July 2025	30th June 2029
Vacancy	Parent		
Vacancy	Parent		
Julie Hutchinson	Staff	1st April 2025	31st March 2029

Vacancies

- 2 Parent Governors
- 1 LEA Governor

Parking

The staff car park can become extremely dangerous when congested. However, there has been a massive reduction in the number of parents using the car park for drop offs and pick-ups. Governors would like to thank those parents who comply with the request not to drive in through the school gates and onto the staff car park. Governors would ask that all parents PLEASE be considerate when parking outside the properties of neighbours. Thank you.

School Self Evaluation Review and School Development Progress

Our school Self Evaluation Review (SER) process maintains and improves upon practices and strategies. The School Development Plan (SDP) incorporates all curriculum and whole school issues and is reviewed at least termly. A summary SDP/SER can be found on our school website under 'Key Documents'.

2024-2026 School Priorities:

Priority 1: To continue to ensure that teaching and planned activities challenge all pupils, raising standards

Priority 2: To continue to maintain high standards of Welsh across the school

Priority 3: To continue to develop outdoor learning provision across the school

Priority 4: To continue to develop robust tracking and monitoring systems to ensure pupil progression

Additional Priority 1: To ensure a high quality provision for pupils with ALN, ensuring progression:

Additional Priority 2: To continue to develop wellbeing and personal development

The school continually monitors and self evaluates to identify strengths and areas for development.

Blacklane PTA Committee

Everyone associated with the school is welcome and encouraged to support and join in with the work of the PTA Committee. The committee supports the school at many annual events. These events are great social events and provide funds for extra resources not provided in the school funding budget.

We wish to thank them very much for all their time and effort.

Sports

The school has participated in Football and Netball leagues and have attended Indoor Athletics with other local schools. Children in years 3-6 have attended swimming lessons.



Enrichment Activities

In 2024-2025 pupils in KS2 were offered a range of enrichment activities to develop skills, confidence, self-esteem and team work. There is a timetable every Friday afternoon, where pupils choose an activity to take part in each half term. The activities are suggested by the pupils so that they match their interests. Below is a list of enrichment activities offered:

- Netball
- Football
- Coding
- Gardening
- Minecraft
- Lego
- Knitting
- Art
- Just Dance
- Recorder
- Games

Eco Council and School Council

The School Council and Eco Council meet regularly to discuss ways to improve our school grounds and the environment. The children have visited the Mayor's Parlour and meet the Mayor of Wrexham.

The School Council work collaboratively with the PTA to plan fund raising and spending of funds.

The Eco Council have carried out an environmental review and have planned an Eco Day around areas for development. We currently hold two Green Flags in recognition of the commitment towards sustainability and environment education. Our Eco Council (past and present) work very hard to communicate important messages about looking after our planet.

Attendance 2024-2025

At Black Lane we aim for every child to reach their full potential. Research shows that children achieve better if they are on time and have good attendance. In order to provide children with the best education, we aim for every child to achieve at least 95% attendance with the aim of achieving 100%.

As parents you can help your child by ensuring that they come to school on time and attend school unless there is a very good reason.

Attendance is monitored on a regular basis by the school and Educational Social Worker. We use a traffic light system to categorise attendance:

Green: 97%- 100%

Amber: 93 – 96%

Red: below 92%

We communicate attendance and the category at the end of every term.

In 2024-2025 we achieved 95.1% attendance.

This year we aim to further raise standards of attendance and achieve: **95.3%**

The Governing Body aim to reduce the number of unauthorised absences:

- Encourage parents to contact school should the pupil be unable to attend.
- Encourage parents, on a regular basis to inform school of any changes to the home telephone number or contact address.
- To continue to personally contact parents / carers should pupils not arrive in school and no message has been received regarding pupil absence.
- Targets for the new school year will involve the reducing the number of pupils who are consistently late onto the premises.

Governors would like to remind parents that holidays, should **not** be taken during term time as it has a detrimental effect on the continuation of education.

SCHOOL DATES

Black Lane School Academic Year dates 2025-2026	
Autumn Term	
Term Opens	Monday 1st September 2025
Half Term Close	Friday 24th October 2025
Half Term Open	Monday 3rd November 2025
Term Close	Friday 19th December 2025
Spring Term	
Term Opens	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term Close	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term Open	Monday 23rd February 2026
Term Closes	Friday 27th March 2026
Easter	Good Friday 3rd April 2026 Easter Sunday 5th April 2026
Summer Term	
Term Opens	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term Close	Friday 22nd May 2026
Half Term Open	Monday 1st June 2026
Common Transfer Day	Thursday 25th June 2025
Term Closes	Monday 20th July 2026
2025-2026 Training Days	
1st September 2025	
24th October 2025	
19th December 2025	
5th January 2026	
13th April 2026	
20th July 2026	