

Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Archdeacon John Lewis  
Church in Wales Voluntary Aided  
Primary School  
Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend CF31 2JS**

T: 01656 815520



**Chair of Governors: Mr M J Hawthorne**

# **Governors Annual Report to Parents 2024 – 2025**

**(1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025)**

This Governors' Annual Report to parents fulfils the Governing Body's statutory duty in accordance with The School Governors' Annual Reports (Wales) Regulations 2011 and The Schools Governors' Annual report (Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2013.

This report is also available on the school's website.  
Website: [www.ajlprimary.co.uk](http://www.ajlprimary.co.uk)

If you require a hard copy of this report, please contact the school by email  
[admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru)

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

# Governors Annual Report to Parents Autumn 2025

### The Annual Parents' Meeting.

The Governing Body are no longer required to hold an annual parents meeting. One can be called on demand from parents, subject to a minimum number of parents requesting one.

There was no request by parents for an Annual Parents Meeting.

Governors are always available to meet to discuss issues with parents and attend most school events for this purpose. The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the school.

### Details of the Members of the Governing Body

Chair of Governors                      Mr Michael J Hawthorne  
Chair of Governors  
Archdeacon John Lewis VA CiW Primary School  
Brackla Way  
Brackla  
Bridgend  
CF31 2JS.

Clerk of Governors                      School Governance Solutions Limited  
Mrs Simone Delaney  
8 Acland Road  
Bridgend  
CF31 1TF.

### Names of Members

GOVERNOR NAME	GOVERNOR TYPE	APPOINTED BY	TERM END
Rev'd Mark Broadway	Foundation	Ex Officio	05.08.28
Ms Verity Conlon	Teacher	Teaching Staff	20:10:27
Mrs Liane Forster	Acting Headteacher	Ex Officio	05.08.28
Mr Michael Hawthorne	Foundation	Diocese	24:07:26
Mrs Susan Hawthorne	Foundation	Diocese	30:09:27
Mrs Claire McCall	School Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	27.03.29
Mr Robert Leek	Local Authority	Local Authority	06:02:27
Mr Jeremy Martin	Foundation	Diocese	23:03:27
Mrs Susan Parfitt	Foundation	Diocese	19:09:26
CLlr Richard Smith	Community	Community Council	22.05.28
Mrs Anne Thomas	Foundation	Diocese	27:06:27
Mr Matthew Wombell	Parent	Parents	19.11.28

## **Vision**

(Our School Vision was developed with all stakeholders and finalised in July 2024)

**In our Archdeacon family we place children at the heart of everything we do. We endeavour to create a nurturing environment where everyone feels safe, happy, loved and respected through the values of the Christian faith.**

### **Aims:**

Our Christian ethos is firmly rooted in the daily life of the school. We strive to instil spiritual and moral awareness through the Christian values that will guide our children in a society of diverse faith, belief and culture. We encourage all children to tell their unique joyful story in order to nurture a sense of awe and wonder and to promote an awareness of there being more than yourself in the world.

Our children will actively become confident, healthy, resilient and considerate individuals in an ever-changing world through our purposeful and engaging curriculum designed to inspire a love of lifelong learning. Children are free to be adventurous, imaginative, creative and enterprising to play a full part in school and their life.

We aspire to provide opportunities for our learners to reach their full potential by exploring, strengthening and celebrating their God given talents. We encourage our children to develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes to be independent and reflective learners who will blossom into respectful and responsible adults who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as citizens of Wales and the world.

We ensure our school is a place for friendship to flourish and where children appreciate one another, celebrate differences and overcome challenges together. Through positive and effective partnerships with our families, Church and wider community, we aim for all to develop a sense of 'cynefin' (belonging) within our Archdeacon family where the children know that their voice will be heard.

**Archdeacon John Lewis is** a small Anglican Church in Wales primary school serving the community in and around the Brackla area of Bridgend. We strive to meet the needs of our children and families through the inspiration of our values and our focus on pupil progress in our curriculum. We are pleased to accept children from all faiths, and from no faith, and enjoy serving a school community which is growing in its diversity.

Admissions of children is by school application form, which is available to download on the school website. Completed applications are to be sent or emailed to the school at [admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru).

# Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

## A Message from the Chair of Governors

It gives me great pleasure to present our Governors' Annual Report for 2024 – 2025.

The year has been very eventful with significant changes to the senior leadership team who have worked hard to make changes that reflect their leadership style and improve many facilities within the school. Again this year, all staff have shown great dedication to continue to develop the learning of pupils by encouraging independent and collaborative work.

I wish to record my appreciation for the work of Mrs Forster as acting Headteacher and for the way she has encouraged all staff to accept new approaches and initiatives from Welsh Government.

During the year we had an Estyn inspection of the school which illustrated the dedication of all staff to develop pupil's well-being, social awareness, resilience and progress. The Estyn report states that, *"Staff help pupils to understand how they can improve as they work successfully. For instance, older pupils consider and use feedback from their teachers carefully to make worthwhile improvements to their work."*

It is clear from the report that Estyn congratulate the behaviour of pupils and their positive attitude to learning when they comment that, *"Most pupils (90%+) behave well and demonstrate positive attitudes to learning."*

The school continues to develop the skills needed for tomorrow in the use of technology where Estyn comment that, *"Teachers plan useful opportunities for pupils to develop their digital skills. Most pupils (90%+) use technology competently for a range of purposes, for instance when older pupils make comparisons about heart rates based on digital data."*

Schools cannot develop a child's learning in isolation, and I thank all parents and carers for their continued support of this school and the educational development of their children.

The Governing Body wish to continue to build on these positive comments from Estyn in order to continue to develop the school so that we improve the pupil's skills in order that they are ready for the next stage of their learning.

Best wishes,

Michael Hawthorne  
Chair of Governors.

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

### The Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body has a strategic role. It works closely with the Headteacher, who is responsible for the day to day running of the school, and school staff to ensure the school provides successful learning and raises standards. As the agent of accountability, on behalf of the Anglican community and the community of the school, the Governing Body decides what it wants the school to achieve, in order to secure its mission, and sets the framework to ensure those intentions are realised. Members of the Governing Body work on an entirely voluntary basis and serve a four-year term of office.

Work undertaken by the Governing Body includes:

- Responsibility for the performance of the school.
- Responsibility for school policies.
- Responsibility for pupil admissions, the buildings and associated matters.
- Responsibility for the employment of staff members.
- Advising and supporting the Headteacher and staff.
- Responsibility for ensuring the school meets the needs of all pupils and provides opportunities to develop their unique talents to benefit themselves, the school and the wider community.
- Ensuring the wellbeing and safeguarding of all pupils.
- Promoting high standards of educational achievement, attendance and behaviour.
- Helping decide what is taught.
- Determining how the budget is spent.

### Staffing and Class organisation 2024-25

#### Numbers on Roll

(Total - 143 pupils)

Nursery 1	Nursery 2	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
3	7	19	17	19	19	21	19	19

Senior Leadership Team	
Acting Headteacher	Mrs Liane Forster (DSP)
Acting Deputy Headteacher (Mon-Wed)	Mrs Sarah Richards (DSP)
Acting Deputy Headteacher (Th-Fr) ALNCo	Mrs Emma Bowen (DSP)

Year	Teacher	Class Support Staff
Nursery/Reception	Mrs Sarah Richards (Mon-Wed) Mrs Cheryl Morgan (Th-Fr)	Miss Samantha Tarr (Cover supervisor/ELSA) /Mrs V Tame
Year 1 & Year 2	Mrs Rachel Hodges	Miss Angelina Thomas (Cover supervisor)
Year 2 & Year 3	Mrs Emma Bowen	Mrs Allyson Lucas
Year 4 & Year 5	Miss Verity Conlon	Mrs Alison Wells
Year 5 & Year 6	Miss Louise Doran	

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

Support Staff		Responsibilities
Cover Supervisor and Nurture	Mrs Susan Hulme	PPA cover, Class Cover and Nurture
LSO Interventions	Mrs Ceri Morgan	Interventions/Cover supervisor

School Admin Officers	Site manager	School Cleaners
Mrs Claire McCall (Senior) (M/W/Th/F) Mrs Victoria Lane (Tues) (Admin assistant)	Mr M Mehta	Mrs P Jones Mrs T Victorian

Midday Supervisors			
Mrs Julie Watts	Mrs Hollie Patterson	Mr V Tame	Mrs Alison Wells

Catering/Kitchen assistants	
Mrs J Thomas (Head cook)	Ms C James Miss V Reed

### School Improvement Priorities 2024-2025

<p><b>Priority Area 1:</b> <b>To plan for purpose and progression in the 'School Curriculum'.</b></p>	<p><b>Targets:</b> New School Vision updated and shared with all stakeholders. Pupils are able to articulate how the School Vision meets their needs. Nearly all pupils, especially the more vulnerable, make at least good progress because of well-chosen and revised teaching approaches. High quality modelling is a significant contributor to achievement for nearly all learners. Nearly all pupils identify the scaffolds they need and source them from a good selection available. At least good, and often excellent, progress is made. Nearly all pupils are inspired by the contexts used and the opportunities to shape these. Consequently, they make excellent progress. Nearly all pupils are actively engaged in different modes of learning, selecting sources and evaluating them well. They achieve at least good progress. A significant minority make excellent progress. The innovative, evolving and divergent practices inspire nearly all learners to achieve and make excellent progress. The innovative, evolving and divergent practices inspire nearly all learners to take part and sustain involvement in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. They often pursue interests beyond the school.</p>
---	--

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

<p><b>Priority Area 2:</b> <b>Develop Leadership for all staff</b></p>	<p><b>Targets:</b> Self-analysis against the Formal Leadership Standards is completed. The Acting Headteacher obtains the information that Headteachers require to work effectively on a local basis. Teaching staff draw up Action Plans to improve pedagogical practices across school. The Acting Headteacher promotes highly effective leadership through self-evaluation and reflection, exploring the relationships between leadership, successful schools and the wider community of leadership practice. The majority of pupils make expected, beyond expected or rapid progress in listening and reading, speaking and writing, numeracy and digital skills. The Acting Headteacher implements the seven action-orientated “dimensions” as stated in ‘What Makes a School a Learning Organisation?’ (OECD, 2016). 1) developing and sharing a vision centred on the <b>learning</b> of all students; 2) creating and supporting continuous <b>learning</b> opportunities for all staff; 3) promoting team <b>learning</b> and collaboration among staff; 4) establishing a culture of inquiry, innovation and exploration; 5) establishing embedded systems for collecting and exchanging knowledge and <b>learning</b>; 6) <b>learning</b> with and from the external environment and larger <b>learning</b> system; 7) modelling and growing <b>learning</b> leadership. The impact of this is measured and evaluated. A shared vision is developed. Most pupils make expected, beyond expected or rapid progress in listening and reading, speaking and writing, numeracy and digital skills. Teaching staff update Continua.</p>
<p><b>Priority Area 3:</b> <b>Governing body to take a strategic role in the leadership of the school.</b></p>	<p><b>Targets:</b> Leaders and managers have established and communicated a clear vision. The governing body ensures that food and drink provided by the school complies with legislation. They should report on whether the school has the appropriate arrangements to promote healthy eating and drinking. Leaders ensure that all staff understand and promote the school’s safeguarding culture. Leaders ensure that pupils achieve as well as would normally be expected for their stage of development. Leaders pay due regard to challenging the impact of poverty on pupils’ progress. Appropriate aims, strategic objectives, plans and policies that focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning to meet all pupils’ needs are in place. The governing Body fulfils its statutory obligations and takes full account of relevant legislation and guidance,</p>

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

	<p>including in relation to how it manages complaints and appeals from parents.</p> <p>The GB contributes purposefully to the setting of the school's strategic priorities</p> <p>The Governing Body has a clear understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development.</p> <p>The GB provides an appropriate balance of support and challenge and holds senior leaders to account on behalf of the local community in its role as a 'critical friend'.</p>
<p><b>Priority Area 4:</b></p> <p><b>Improve teaching and learning, specifically in numeracy/mathematical development.</b></p>	<p><b>Targets:</b></p> <p>Nearly all learners seek and relish high challenge whether generated by the teacher or themselves. They meet the high expectations and achieve at least good outcomes, with a significant minority achieving excellence.</p> <p>Nearly all pupils have a positive self-image and accept and respond well to failure with renewed focus and resilience.</p> <p>Accurate analysis ensures that nearly all pupils have the correct degree of challenge and support. They make at least good progress. A significant minority make excellent progress. Pupils demonstrate or articulate this very well.</p> <p>The innovative strategies used, motivate nearly all learners. Nearly all pupils are fully aware that their progress is at least good and is often excellent.</p> <p>Future planning is very tightly linked to plenary outcomes.</p> <p>Very effective questioning underpins high levels of achievement for nearly all learners. Pupils use very effective peer-questioning to extend the learning of self and others.</p> <p>Pupils, including vulnerable ones, are comfortable identifying and sharing their issues and barriers. They make good progress.</p> <p>Nearly all pupils are making decisions to a significant degree in how, and at times what, they learn.</p> <p>Nearly all pupils are inspired by the independence offered. Pupils are highly independent learners able to Plan, Develop and Review with very high levels of effectiveness.</p> <p>Nearly all pupils can demonstrate how they have become better learners.</p> <p>Social learning is highly effective and contributes greatly to standards for nearly all pupils. Learners organise and undertake a range of team roles very well and learn with a wide range of peers. Learners explain clearly how they benefit from collaborative learning.</p>

# Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

## School Policies

All policies relating to the school are available to parents from the school office. Selected policies are also made available via the school website. Policies are reviewed regularly depending on a programme of revision. Any other queries can be discussed with the headteacher.

### Policies Reviewed by the Governing Body 24-25

POLICY	DATE ACCEPTED
CSC Disciplinary Policy	16 September 24
DBS Policy	16 September 24
Exit Interview Protocol	16 September 24
Carers Guidance	16 September 24
Prevent Policy	16 September 24
Safeguarding Policy	16 September 24
Safeguarding Policy (amendments)	25 November 24
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement	25 November 24
Safeguarding Policy (amendments)	10 March 25
Anti-bullying Policy	10 March 25
Attendance Policy	10 March 25
Curriculum, teaching and assessment Policy	10 March 25
Discipline and behaviour Policy (Unacceptable behaviours)	10 March 25
Health and Safety Policy	10 March 25
Marking and Feedback Policy	10 March 25

## Prospectus

Details of the School Prospectus can be found on the school website.

## School Premises

A new fire door was installed by BCBC in the Green Area (Indoor/Outdoor area for Y1/2). New doors and maglocks (CRAMP and Diocesan funding) were installed in the foyer, Y1/2 entrance, Nursery fire door and door to Junior yard.

Combination locks are in use at main pedestrian and carpark gates during school hours. A school mobile phone has been purchased for visitors to obtain the combination and access school grounds.

New flooring was installed by BCBC in the creative studio and Y2/3 cloakroom. Redundant pipes and coat peg areas have been removed from the cloakroom.

A roof survey has been completed. BCBC/Diocesan funding required with an application for WG Urgent Repairs Grant.

## **Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School**

### **Safeguarding**

The Governing Body has met its statutory duties in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection. The majority of Governors completed Level 1 of the Local Authority Training Programmes on Safeguarding. The Chair of Governors completed all three levels for Safeguarding. Safeguarding is a constant item in the Headteacher's Report at all Full Governing Body meetings. The Chair of Governors meets regularly with the Designated Safeguarding Leads.

### **Toilets**

The school has a sufficient number of toilets for pupils. All pupils have direct access to toilet facilities. Toilets are cleaned daily, and the site supervisor ensures that supplies of soap and toilet paper are replenished daily. The school has a disabled toilet that is located in the foyer and two child disabled toilets located in the Nursery classroom and the Reception/Year 1 classroom.

### **Provision for sport**

Children at our school engage in up to two hours of physical activity each week during PE lessons. From Nursery to Year 3, PE lessons focus on developing physical literacy, building core movement skills, and boosting confidence. In Years 4 to 6, the curriculum expands to include games, dance, and gymnastics etc. helping pupils refine sport-specific skills.

From Year 4 onwards, pupils take part in a one or two-week swimming programme, which will be extended to include Year 3 this year. Younger children also benefit from regular access to outdoor areas, where they are encouraged to participate in independent physical play.

Older pupils take part in the Mile-a-Day initiative, promoting daily physical activity and wellbeing. We also participate in out of school sporting events and competitions, including football tournaments.

Physical development is further supported during playtimes, with children encouraged to be active and explore movement. We often invite external providers, such as Forces Fitness, to deliver additional sporting experiences. Our Healthy Schools Ambassadors play a key role in fundraising for new sports equipment to enhance both PE lessons and playtime activities.

Physical activity is embedded across the curriculum, including during outdoor learning sessions. Our older pupils also enjoy a variety of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities during annual residential trips. Additionally, we have introduced Stormbreak across the school, offering children opportunities to engage in movement that supports both physical and mental wellbeing.

### **Provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs**

A pupil is regarded as having Additional Educational Needs if they have significant difficulty in learning compared to the majority of pupils of the same age or has a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities provided for pupils of the same age in school. At Archdeacon John Lewis we have a clear understanding of the Additional Learning Needs & Education Tribunal Act 2018. All staff are familiar with this Act and follow procedures set out in the Code of Practice.

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

The Code of Practice provides guidance for teachers to identify, assess and make recommendations on pupils' progress. Staff meet regularly to discuss the additional needs of the pupils and produce detailed person-centred plans if necessary.

There is named Governor for Additional Learning Educational Needs (ALN). Our objective for ALN pupils is that policy they reach their full potential.

The ALNCo and the Acting Headteacher has overall responsibility for Additional Learning Needs within the school.

The success of the school's policy is reflected in the inclusion of pupils with ALN in the academic, cultural and social life of the school. It is demonstrated by effective means of identification & assessment and also by: Literacy and Numeracy test analysis, progress in levels of literacy, ALN self-evaluation and action planning, tracking system for ALN pupils & Educational Psychology referrals.

Provision for pupils with additional educational needs is effectively monitored by our ALNCo. Individual Development Plans are reviewed annually, through the annual review system and transitional plans for High School prepared as appropriate.

Parents are able to discuss pupil progress during parental consultations.

Consultations with the Local Authority have involved working closely with the school, including ASD (Autism), BESD (behaviour), SLCD (speech and language). ALNCo has participated in regular termly ALNCo works closely with our cluster of school and regular cluster forums and ALNCo meetings organised by the Local Authority take place to discuss the implementation of the Act and share good practice.

### School's Strategic Priorities

Archdeacon John Lewis, through its ethos and Mission statement, which is rooted in the Gospel Values, recognises the rights of the individual for equal treatment regardless of race, creed, colour, sexual orientation or other need. In its strategic planning it actively considers all aspects of providing for the individual in terms of access to the curriculum as well as the physical environment.

### Equality Vision and Equality Objectives

Archdeacon John Lewis is committed to equality and we do not discriminate, either directly or indirectly, against anyone on the grounds of their gender, race, colour, ethnic origin, religion, ability, disability or any aspect of their social/cultural background. Furthermore, we strive to be an anti-racist school.

The Equality Act 2010 requires all schools to have equality objectives in place.

These objectives cover all following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and include the Welsh language in Wales.

We have based our Strategic Equality Objectives on local, regional and national priorities within education.

Objectives 2020-25

- **Equality Objective 1.**  
Review our Anti Bullying Policy in line with Welsh Government 's new Guidance.
- **Equality Objective 2.**  
Reduce Gaps in attainment between Boys and Girls and between other protected groups as identified in local data

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

- **Equality Objective 3.**  
Reduce gaps in levels of attendance between different protected groups
- **Equality Objective 4.**  
Raise awareness of SEP issues among pupils and governors

### Archdeacon John Lewis Pupil Voice

Pupil voice is an important focus and priority at Archdeacon John Lewis and the work of these Groups is essential for pupil participation and improving the school.

Pupil group - Senedd Committee	Responsibilities
<b>School Council</b> <b>Super Ambassadors/ Rights Respecting School</b>	To lead with matters linked to School Mission. Values and Aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School policies and rules.</li> <li>• Anti-bullying.</li> <li>• Pupil voice and wellbeing survey.</li> <li>• School Dinners and play times.</li> <li>• Selection and appointment of staff.</li> <li>• Addressing SIP priorities.</li> <li>• Monitoring activities - Learning Walks, Learning environment monitoring.</li> <li>• Sharing the new curriculum with parents and pupils.</li> <li>• Learning strategies and techniques.</li> <li>• School evaluations.</li> </ul> To lead matters linked to children's rights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform all stakeholders of children's rights.</li> <li>• Carry out special missions for the Childrens Commissioner of Wales.</li> <li>• Start to evaluate and plan for ways in which Children's rights can be further developed throughout the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Criw Cymraeg</b>	To lead with matters linked to Welsh language, Culture and heritage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit school's Progress with the Cymraeg Campus.</li> <li>• Organise whole school Welsh days.</li> <li>• Encourage use of Welsh throughout the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Digital Ambassadors</b>	To lead matters linked to digital learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Running of coding club.</li> <li>• Assistance and support with hardware.</li> <li>• Ensuring all devices are accessible and charged.</li> <li>• Developing resources throughout the school.</li> </ul> To lead matters linked to online safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the online safety policy annually or in response to an incident.</li> <li>• Discuss training needs, including staff, parent/community awareness.</li> <li>• Raise new community initiatives in response to training needs or as a result of polls/surveys.</li> <li>• Coordinate annual events such as Anti-Bullying Week or Safer Internet Day</li> </ul>
<b>Eco Committee</b>	To lead matters linked to the Eco School programme including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eco environmental review.</li> <li>• Delivering Eco Schools action plan.</li> </ul>

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for energy efficiency and recycling throughout the school.</li> <li>• Responsible for ESDGC development in the curriculum.</li> </ul>
<b>Worship and Values Committee</b>	<p>To lead in matters linked to the school's worship, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RE policies and guidance.</li> <li>• Planning and assisting of worships.</li> <li>• Organisation of charitable works.</li> <li>• Co-ordinate links with the Parish.</li> <li>• Auditing liturgy/RE resources.</li> <li>• Christian Value Virtue Pairs</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Schools Committee</b>	<p>Lead on wellbeing issues and targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health and wellbeing throughout the school.</li> <li>• Promote health and wellbeing in the community.</li> <li>• Passionate about sport, health, creativity and mental health.</li> <li>• Organise awareness weeks.</li> <li>• Pupil voice for wellbeing in the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Ugandan Ambassadors</b>	<p>Lead on developing links with a school in Uganda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a partnership based on friendship, commitment and respect.</li> <li>• Raise funds to help tackle poverty, improve health and livelihoods, education and environment.</li> <li>• Send letters and pictures and learn about and respect each other's cultures and ways of life.</li> </ul>
<b>Archdeacon John Lewis Senedd</b>	<p>For groups to share their current activities as well as future plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet once a term.</li> <li>• The elected First Minister acts as chair and elected Deputy First Minister acts as vice chair help run the meeting.</li> <li>• To oversee pupil group activities.</li> <li>• Enable pupil groups to liaise and work together to achieve a common goal.</li> </ul>

### Healthy Schools Initiative

Promotion of emotional health and wellbeing is a key priority within our school community. This year, it has been formally added as a strategic focus on our School Development Plan, reflecting our commitment to nurturing the whole child and supporting their mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing.

Our Health and Wellbeing curriculum enables children to develop a strong sense of self, build resilience, and learn strategies to manage their emotions. Lessons cover topics such as emotional literacy, healthy relationships, personal safety, and physical health. In addition to discrete lessons, health and wellbeing are embedded across the curriculum through subjects such as PE, science, RE, and PSE. For example, in science, children explore nutrition and the human body, while in RE and PSE they reflect on values, empathy, and ethical decision-making.

We also participate in focused activities throughout the year, including Wellbeing Week, which includes mindfulness sessions, yoga, creative expression, and peer support activities; Show Racism the Red Card, which promotes inclusion, diversity, and anti-racism education and Sun Safety Day, where children learn about protecting themselves from harmful UV rays through interactive lessons and an assembly.

## Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

These events are coordinated by our Healthy Schools Ambassadors, a pupil-led group who take an active role in promoting health initiatives across the school. They also plan fundraising activities to support wellbeing resources. In the past, they have successfully raised funds for cooking equipment to support healthy eating lessons and, more recently, have ordered resources for each class to create a calm area—a dedicated space where children can self-regulate, reflect, and access sensory tools or calming strategies when needed.

We have a wide range of support systems and resources in place to promote emotional health and wellbeing, including Nurture provision, offering targeted support for children who benefit from a smaller, emotionally secure environment, ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) sessions, which help children develop coping strategies, build confidence, and manage emotions, SHINE team support, available to children, staff, and parents, providing therapeutic interventions, counselling, and wellbeing workshops.

To promote positive play and peer relationships, we have introduced Playground Peacemakers—trained pupil volunteers who assist during break times to resolve minor disagreements, encourage inclusive play, and model positive conflict resolution strategies.

We actively encourage parental engagement in school life through initiatives such as Messy Church, which fosters community and spiritual development through creative, family-friendly activities, Class assemblies, where children showcase their learning and achievements and drop-in sessions, providing opportunities for parents to discuss concerns, celebrate progress, and connect with staff informally.

Parents are kept informed and involved through our weekly newsletter, school website, and regular updates via digital platforms. We also host parent workshops on topics such as online safety.

Staff are actively involved in shaping school life and wellbeing initiatives. We hold regular staff meetings where we share IDP's, wellbeing check-ins, and we work in partnership with external agencies such as SHINE (CAMHS), Educational Psychology, and Family Support Services to ensure children receive the support they need.

We celebrate children's achievements both inside and outside of school during our weekly assemblies, where children are awarded certificates for including Seren yr Wythnos (Star of the Week), Welsh language use and development and a Values Certificate for demonstrating our school values.

Our outdoor learning environments are used regularly to promote physical activity, creativity, and emotional wellbeing. Activities include forest school sessions, gardening, outdoor storytelling, and nature-based mindfulness.

We have also introduced Stormbreak, a programme designed to improve children's physical and mental health through movement-based activities that build resilience, self-worth, and emotional regulation. These sessions are embedded into the school day and have been positively received by both pupils and staff.

# Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

## Eco School

Archdeacon John Lewis achieved a fourth green flag on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The school is due to receive an Eco Schools Platinum Award assessment. We promote the 'green' message to our children: we recycle whenever possible, and we work to reduce our carbon footprint. Parents are informed of other initiatives as they occur through the school newsletters and on the school website. A Forest School area and an outdoor classroom in the grounds have been developed through a Community Grant. The school also developed the Early Years outdoor area through an Early Years Grant.

## Organisation and Policies

A copy of the School Development Plan for 2025-2026 is available on the school website.

## Language Category

English is the first language for most of the pupils, although we do have 21% of children with English as an additional language. Children learn to speak, read, write and listen in English according to age and ability.

Our school is a Category 1: English-medium School. This means that the main language is English and contact with parents and carers will be in English.

## Use of Welsh language by Pupils

No pupils speak Welsh as a first language. We recognise that creating a Welsh language ethos within the school will support and encourage positive attitudes towards Welsh language use. Welsh is taught as part of the Languages, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning and Experience, and at least 15% of school activities (both inside and outside the classroom) will be in Welsh. Criw Cymreig actively promote the Welsh language. They award certificates each week to children who have shown a development in their use of the Welsh language in class and around the school. The school is aiming to complete the Cymreig Campus Bronze Award. The use of the Welsh language and culture is promoted in whole school worship, concerts and Eisteddfodau.

## Attendance 2024-2025

	Attendance %	Authorised %	Unauthorised %
Autumn	92.0%	7%	0.6%
Spring	92.0%	7%	0.6%
Summer	92.0%	7%	1.0%

## Financial Statement

Budget Allocation	£739,913
End of Year Balance	£35,546

# Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School

## Governing Body Expenses

No expenses were claimed by the Governing Body.

## School Links with the Community

The governing body continues to develop or strengthen and support the school's links with the community including the Ministry Area of Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, specifically St. Mary's Church, Brackla. Parents are invited to School and Parish events e.g. Eucharistic services, Messy Coffee mornings and Experiences. An annual Christmas and Easter service are held in local churches and parents/carers are invited.

A PCSO is allocated to the school and makes frequent visits to discuss his role and deal with any issues raised by the school. He informs us of current issues on the Brackla estate. The PCSO helps to deliver curriculum areas such as 'Stranger Danger' and works with the Healthy School Committee on speed of traffic passing the school.

The school has strong links with charities. A collection for the Foodbank is made at the Harvest Festival. Knitted Easter chicks were sold for Velindre hospital. The children raise funds for Children in Need, Red Nose Day, Show Racism the Red Card and Soccer Aid.

## Term Dates

### BCBC Term Dates for 2025 – 2026

	<b>Autumn Term 2025</b>	<b>Spring Term 2026</b>	<b>Summer Term 2026</b>
<b>Begins</b>	Monday 01 September 2025	Monday 05 January 2026	Monday 13 April 2026
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 27 October 2025 – Friday 31 October 2025	Monday 16 February 2026 – Friday 20 February 2026	Monday 25 May 2026 – Friday 29 May 2026
<b>Ends</b>	Friday 19 December 2025	Friday 27 March 2026	Monday 20 July 2026

School Inset Days as arranged by the school.