

# **THE TWYNN SCHOOL**

**ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S REPORT TO  
PARENTS**

**2013/14**



**LEARNING TO SHINE**

## **Annual Report of the Governing Body to Parents of The Twyn School for 2013-2014**

We are pleased to present the Annual Report of the Governors of The Twyn School in accordance with School Governors Annual Report Regulations (Wales) 2001.

We do not intend to hold a specific meeting to discuss this report unless a significant number of parents (over 5%) ask for such a meeting. If you feel you would like to attend such a meeting could you please make a written request to the school by 14/11/14.

We hope you will enjoy reading about our school's year. You are welcome to get in touch with the Chair of the Governing Body or the Headteacher should you wish to have additional information about anything, or if you would like to make a comment about this report.

### **A Message from the Chair**

**What will the academic year 2013-2014 best be remembered for?**

**The art world in June saw a Claude Monet painting sold for \$54million dollars and on the sporting front those very efficient Germans managed to win the World Cup again! Who can forget their 7-1 drilling of the hosts Brazil? Cardiff were relegated from the Premier league (There was no surprise there!) and the world waits with trepidation on the outbreak of Ebola from Africa.**

**Well what in terms of the Twyn School? December 2013 saw the retirement of our former Head teacher Mrs Isobel Davies after five years at the Twyn School. Mrs Davies decided to spend more time with her family and who can blame her although I'm sure she still misses our school terribly! During January until the end of April, Mrs Williams was acting Head teacher and I would personally like to say a big thank you to her and the rest of the staff for all the help and encouragement they gave me. The summer term saw the arrival of our new Head teacher Mr Lee Thomas from Meadowlane in Cardiff and change and progress has continued at all levels. Our mission**

statement after consultation with the students has changed from 'Together we Succeed' to 'Learning to Shine.' This has been embraced by all the students and staff, although I do think one of the main factors in the change is that Mr Thomas can now play a 'Take That' song to students in assemblies!

Since Easter we have seen a coming together of the school with students from the infants and foundation phase using the Main Hall, Art Galleries and I lounges in the upper Key stage building. In the classroom students have been using the cornerstones Schemes of Work to introduce new topics and the weekly newsletter provides plenty of information about what is going on in school. It continues to be a great source of information. I am told that playtimes have become a lot more structured and active as there are football goals, skipping ropes, giant board games and netball posts available for all to use. I must admit to remembering skipping with the girls while I was in school with a huge piece of rope to a tune called Spanish Ladies? I am wondering if that still exists or whether that was a 1970's phenomenon? There has been a big emphasis placed on Anti Bullying and I am aware of many of the posters that are now visible around the school. The whole school attendance has improved and that's not surprising with all those things to do at Playtime!

On a personal note I thoroughly enjoyed the Year 6 production of Joseph. What a fab performance that was. It was also a sad time for me as it saw my son Daniel leave for secondary school and effectively brings to an end my time as a parent governor. I wonder if the Governing Body will find a place for me as a co-opted governor in the future? 2014 also witnessed the retirement of Mrs Bracey after 25 years and what a way to go! Everybody who witnessed the school lining the streets as she left couldn't have failed to be impressed by the wonderful send off the students gave her. We wish her every success for the future.

And so to the future. Who knows what 2014-2015 will bring? I am sure it will be another exciting and successful year at the Twyn. I wish everyone associated with the school the best of luck. Remember we all need to keep on 'Learning to Shine.'

**Matthew Ferris, 2014**

# **TERM DATES 2014-2015**

Term	Term starts	Half term starts	Half term ends	Term ends
AUTUMN	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2014	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2014	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2014
SPRING	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
SUMMER	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2015

## **INSET DAYS (NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN)**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

## **MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

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4. Various Activities
5. Attendance and Absence

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*Appendix A – Teachers’ Assessments –  
Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 2013*

*Appendix B – Financial Statement*



## **1. Information about the School**

### ***Governing Body***

Chair of Governors

Mr Matthew Ferris  
St. Martin's School  
Hillside  
Caerphilly  
CF83 1UW

Vice Chair

Mrs Jenny Taylor

Headteacher

Mrs Isobel Davies / Mr Lee Thomas

Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Liz Williams

Clerk to the Governing Body

Nathan Kethro

### **Parent Governors**

Mr Matthew Ferris

Mrs Jenny Taylor

Ms Emma Blewden

Ms Mellanie Sweeney

Mrs Catherine McMahon

### **Teacher Governor**

Miss Charlotte George

### **Staff Governors**

Mrs Ann-Marie Owen

### **Community Governors**

Mrs Jane Jones

Mr John Poyner

Dr Alun Withey

Mrs Amanda Davies

### **Local Authority Governors**

Cllr. Stephen Kent

Cllr. Jenny Hibbert

## **Staffing**

(From September 2013 to August 2014)

Headteacher – Mrs Isobel Davies / Mr Lee Thomas

Deputy Headteacher – Mrs Liz Williams

KS2 ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) – Mrs Liz Latham

Foundation Phase ALNCo – Mrs Estelle Reid

School Office Manager – Mrs Leanne Tomsa

Administration Staff – Mrs Nicola Wiltshire, Mrs Joanne Way, Miss Maeve Heath, Mrs Pauline Reid

<b>Year</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant</b>
Nursery	Trisha John	Alison Baynton Rachel Hughes Jess Martin Hannah Elliott Cath Tatnell Sue Poole Ann-Marie Owen Joanne Owen
Reception	Brenda Bracey	
Reception	Michael Lock	
Year 1	Lucy Corbin	Debbie Smith Sam Greenway Ruth Stuart-Hamilton Gill Surridge
Year 1	Dianne Williams / Lianne Davies	
Year 2	Charlotte George	
Year 2	Estelle Reid / Ian Leaves	
Year 3	Sally Madsen	Gaynor Gierak Abi Maguire Rebecca Bowring Natalie Evans Amanda Davies Bianca Peacock
Year 3	Alison Jewitt / Andrea Williams	
Year 4	Anne D'Souza	
Year 4	Keith Johnstone	
Year 5	Jason Lugg	
Year 5	Caroline Williams	
Year 6	Kelly Thompson	
Year 6	Liz Latham	

## **Pupils on Roll – September 2013**

Nursery	-	60
Reception	-	58
Year 1	-	60
Year 2	-	61
Year 3	-	61
Year 4	-	63
Year 5	-	57
Year 6	-	58

Total on roll (Sept 2013) - 478

## **2. Donations to Charity**

- BBC Children in need appeal - £490.70

We had a pyjama day, and some staff made cakes to sell.

- Velindre Snowmen Appeal - £200.00

Velindre supplied us with knitted snowmen, puddings and Santa's with a chocolate egg. We sold them for £1 each.

- Sports Relief (red nose day) - £356.00

All children and staff wore red for the day

- Velindre Easter Chicks Appeal - £200.00

Velindre supplied us with knitted chicks with a chocolate egg inside and we sold them for £1 each.

- Gift for Grace Education Project - £46.40

We set up a stall in the Summer Fayre to raise money for a classroom in Uganda.

- Ollie's Walk (RSPCA) - £139.35

The children could take their dog for a walk and collect sponsors. This money went to the RSPCA.

Total Donations to Charity (2013-2014) = £1432.45

## **3. Curriculum Developments**

### **Teacher Assessments**

The reports of the Foundation Phase Outcomes and the comparative report on the Key Stage 2 Teachers' Assessments can be seen in Appendix A and B

### **Additional Learning Needs**

Many children have additional learning needs during their time at the school. Some children have specific learning needs, physical disabilities or specific talents (more able and talented) which need to be enhanced. Our aim is to cater for every pupils' needs by careful planning and using various visual, audio and kinaesthetic strategies which enable all pupils to reach their full potential.

### **Cornerstones**

In Spring 2014, we purchased a new, exciting curriculum resource called Cornerstones. This resource has engaging and innovative themes from Nursery to Year 6 which is linked to the Literacy and Numeracy Framework. This ensures that full coverage of the Curriculum is in place from Nursery to Year 6.

### **Mathletics**

We are in our second year of running Mathletics as an online tool for pupils to fully engage in developing their Numeracy Skills. Teachers assign specific differentiated tasks to pupils and pupils can compete against online competitors across the world. We have also begun to award certificates for gold, silver and bronze Mathletes each half term.

### **Visits and Visitors**

We fully encourage visits from the local community and beyond to fulfil the curriculum theme and to ensure children have first-hand experiences of the specific issues. These have included the Fire Brigade, Professional footballers and ice hockey players, NSPCC, Ollie's walk charity, PC Kerslake, etc. Each year group experiences a variety of educational visits such as Cardiff castle, Van Road and St Martins

Church, Pantomime, Cinema, Library, Techniquet, Year 6 residential, Castell Coch, London, Butterfly Zoo, etc.

### **Year 6 Summer Show**

It was a great pleasure at the end of the Summer term to see all Year 6 pupils performing Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream coat. It was a fantastic show produced and directed by Miss Thompson and Mrs Latham. This experience was a fantastic way of developing the confidence, literacy and co-operating skills of all the Year 6 pupils and is an important part of the Year 6 curriculum in the second part of the Summer term.

### **Equality and Diversity**

We believe that each individual, of whatever ability, race, religion or background deserves equality of opportunity to succeed in this school. We are proud to be a school that welcomes pupils, staff and parents from different social backgrounds, race, sexuality, disability, religion, language, sexual orientation and age.

### **Accessibility Plan**

As a school, we understand the importance of effective teaching and learning which ensures that we deliver the best experiences possible to every pupil in the school. We ensure that every pupil with a disability has the same experiences as everybody else in the school. We evaluate our performance regularly to ensure that every child's needs are being met. The school has a strategic policy and an accessibility plan.

### **Policies**

The school reviews and assesses the success of the strategies used at the school regularly. A list of the school's policies is available at the school. If you would like to see or discuss any policy you are welcome to make an appointment to see Mr Thomas to discuss this.

### **Health and Safety**

The external doors are secured by the use of a fob to gain entry. Every visitor goes to the school office to sign in and obtain a visitor's badge.

The school yard is suitable for pupils and adults with disabilities. The school has a comprehensive Health and Safety policy to ensure a safe environment to everybody within the school. The toilets are in good condition and are being monitored often.

### **School Prospectus**

The school is situated in the heart of Caerphilly with the children being educated in the medium of English in addition to teaching Welsh as a second language. Children are encouraged to use Welsh with confidence and pride. Our full school prospectus outlining timetables and organisation is distributed to new parents but it is also available via our website or in school on request to other parents.

### **Our Last ESTYN Inspection**

Our last ESTYN Inspection was in February 2010. The report was published in March 2010. The summary of the team's findings were:

- Twyn Primary School offers a sound education and outstanding pastoral care for its pupils, and is a well-led establishment.
- The school succeeds well in providing for pupils over the whole range of ability.
- Pupils are offered various opportunities to develop healthy eating habits and are encouraged to undertake activities that promote fitness and contribute positively to their well-being.

We were awarded Grade 1 or 2 for all seven key questions.

Our areas identified for improvement were:

- Attend to the short comings in teaching within a minority of lessons
- Establish a whole-school strategy for increasing pupils' awareness of sustainability matters
- Revise and update specific policies and schemes of work, so that the 2008 Curriculum and the Key Skills Framework are appropriately incorporated
- Ensure that the development priorities in the School Development Plan are described with clarity and focus

Appropriate action plans were drawn up to act upon these recommendations. We have been addressing these issues since the Inspection and have either fully addressed or largely addressed each area.

### **Way Forward for 2014/15**

- To raise standards of achievement in LLC/English/Maths/PSD by narrowing gaps and raising attainment in the identified areas of:
  - Gender/L4+/L5+/O5+/O6+/Writing
- To develop effective whole school strategies to secure the well-being and safety of all pupils with a focus on:
  - Attendance/nurture provision/Learning Environment
- To promote high standards of Teaching and learning across the curriculum with a focus on:
  - Maths/ICT/Questioning
- To develop the strategic direction of the school with a focus on:
  - Literacy and Numeracy Framework
  - Communication
  - Role of Governors

## **4. Various Activities**

### **Links with Parents**

We forge close links with our parents and offer three parent consolation meetings throughout the academic year. We also an open morning in the Autumn term to encourage parents and carers to visit every classroom and experience the daily life of a school. We invite parents to celebrate special events and occasions with the children and ensure all parents and carers are invited to each musical performance. A very effective parent council is also active at the school and a group of parents / carers meet with the Headteacher on a termly basis to discuss issues relating to the school.

## **Links with the Community**

Our school has a prominent position within the community of Caerphilly and we are proud to host a successful intergenerational project. We have a strong group who visit the school fortnightly and engage with pupils to complete exciting craft projects. We have developed links with a local residential care home and visit monthly to take part in activities with the residents. We fully support all community events and play a strong role in celebrating special occasions throughout the year.

## **Links with St Martins Comprehensive School**

We aim to make the transition between The Twyn School and St. Martin's School as seamless as possible. We have a very good relationship with the school and ensure all transition projects and visits are successful.

## **Sporting Activities and Competitions**

The school takes part in various activities and competitions including the cluster school events. We had a very successful Rugby, Netball and Cross Country team last year and the Football team won the Cardiff Lion's Tournament in the summer.

## **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

The school provides Extra Curricular clubs for the children. These range from Football and Rugby to IT and Choir. The clubs are aimed at specific year groups and the children are then able to apply for the club at the beginning of each term.

## **Breakfast Club**

The school operates a Welsh Assembly funded Breakfast Club. This runs from 8.00am until the start of school. Free breakfast is provided to all of the children.

## **School Communities**

We pride ourselves at the school in ensuring all pupils have a strong voice and are able to share and express their opinions in weekly school council meetings. We also have Eco Committees, Junior Road Safety Officers and Sports Leaders councils.

## **5. Attendance and Absence**

Overall attendance is consistently high for the vast majority of pupils. In 2013-14, the attendance rate was 95.4%. The attendance rate has increased by 1.6% since 2012-13. This is above the Wales and Local Authority average. The percentage of children who are persistently absent is below the Local Authority and Wales averages. We work closely with the Attendance Officer, Nurture support staff and parents to improve the attendance of pupils who are persistently absent. Very few children are late for school, and lessons start promptly.

There have been no exclusions since September 2012. Vulnerable children are supported very closely within the classroom and through our Nurture provision.

## **Appendix A (i)**

### **Foundation Phase Report – 2013-2014**

Foundation Phase Outcome 5 is the expected outcome for children at the end of Year 2.

#### **Language, Literacy and Communication**

National Result 2014 FPO 5+	Twyn School Result 2014 FPO 5+
86.6%	91.9%

#### **Mathematical Development**

National Result 2014 FPO 5+	Twyn School Result 2014 FPO 5+
88.7%	93.5%

#### **Personal and Social Development**

National Result 2014 FPO 5+	Twyn School Result 2014 FPO 5+
94.2%	98.4%

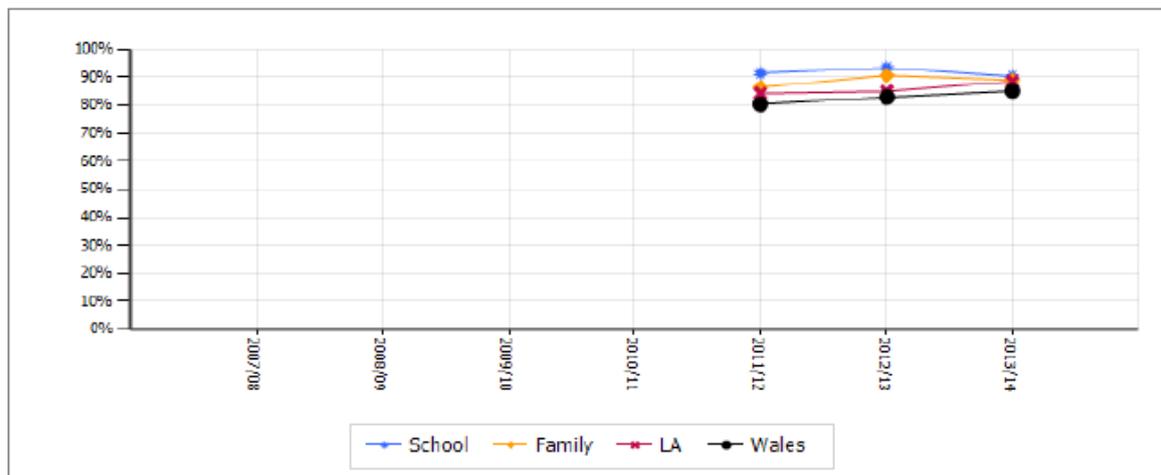
#### **Pupils who achieved FPO 5+ in all 3 subjects**

National Result 2014 FPO 5+	Local Authority Result 2014 FPO 5+	Twyn School Result 2014 FPO 5+
85.2%	88.5%	89.0%

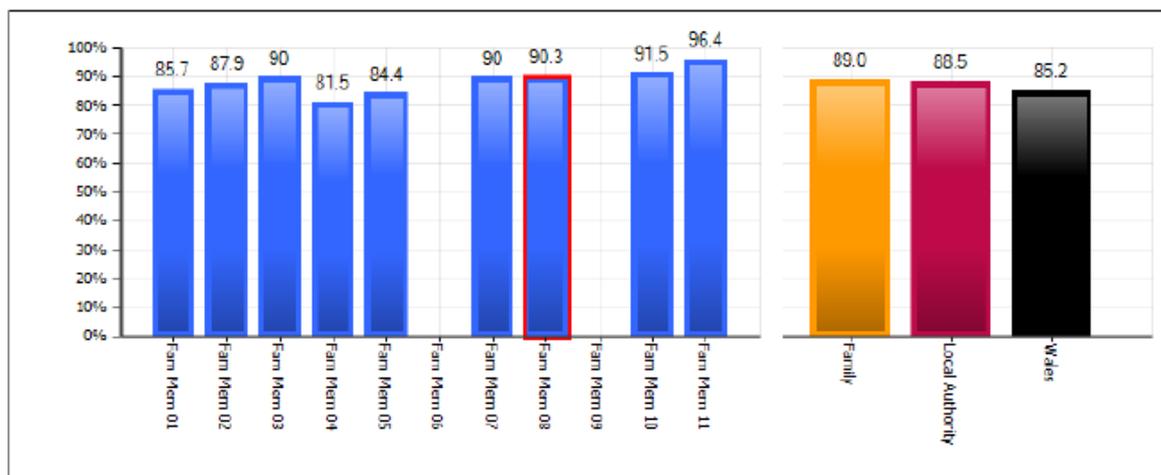
## Section 1 - Foundation Phase Indicator

Home

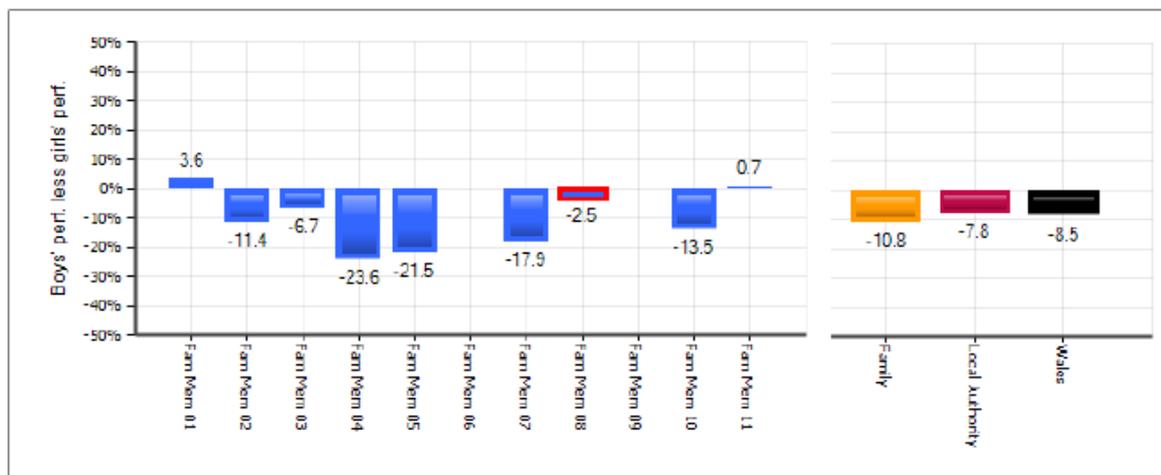
### 1.1a % pupils achieving



### 1.1b Family comparison



### 1.1c Family comparison - gender differences



## **Appendix A (ii)**

### **Key Stage 2 Report – 2013-2014**

Key Stage 2 Level 4 is the expected outcome for children at the end of Year 6.

#### **English**

National Result 2014 L4+	Twyn School Result 2014 L4+
88.4%	91.7%

#### **Mathematics**

National Result 2014 L4+	Twyn School Result 2014 L4+
88.9%	91.7%

#### **Science**

National Result 2014 L4+	Twyn School Result 2014 L4+
90.3%	95.0%

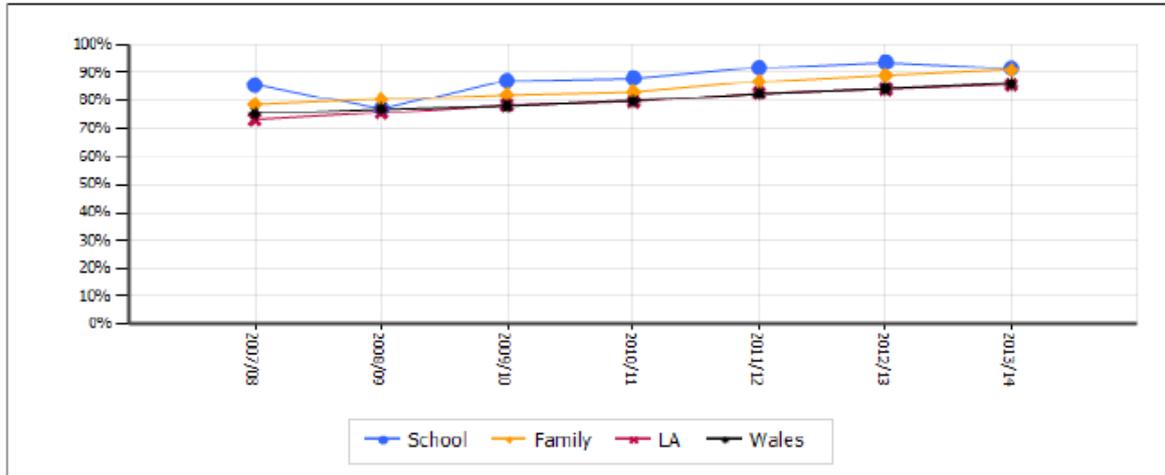
#### **Pupils who achieved L4+ in all 3 subjects**

National Result 2014 L4+	Local Authority Result 2014 L4+	Twyn School Result 2014 L4+
86.1%%	85.8%	91.7%

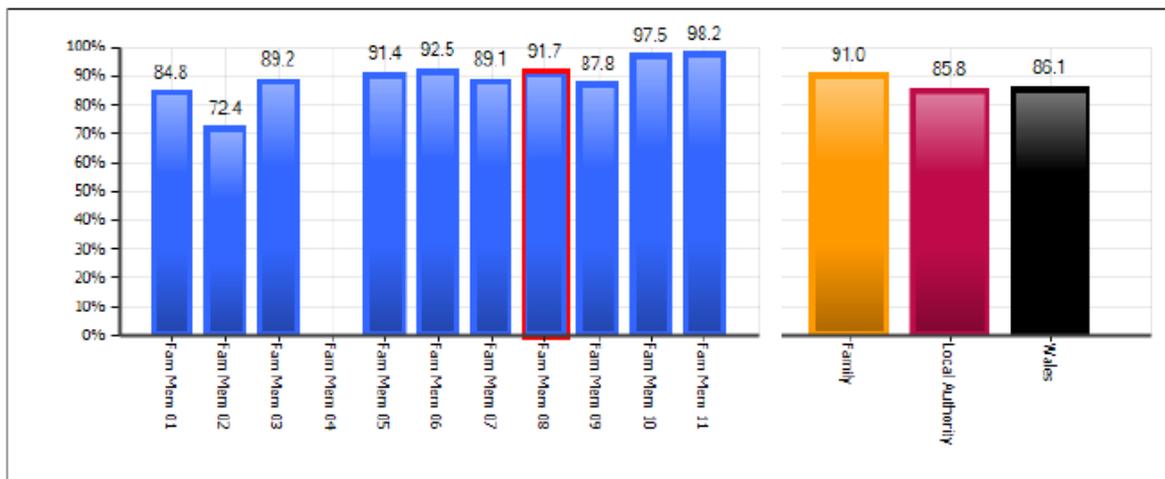
## Section 1 - CSI

Home

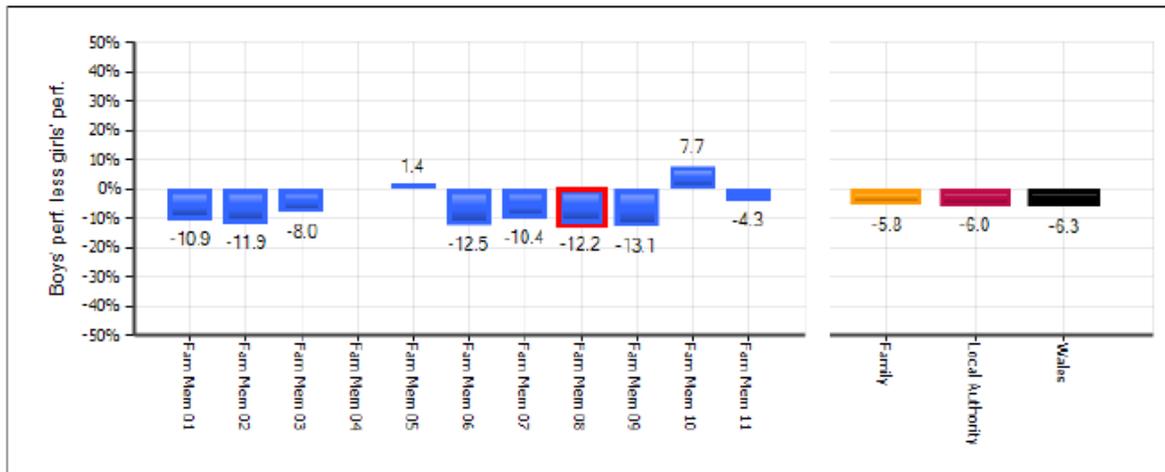
### 1.1a % pupils achieving



### 1.1b Family comparison



### 1.1c Family comparison – gender differences



Appendix B – Financial Statement

<b>SCHOOL NAME:</b>		<b>OUTTURN BUDGET 2013/2014</b>
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>		£
Teachers		832,052.00
Support Staff		380,450.00
Other Staff Related Costs		71,377.00
<b>Total Staffing Costs</b>		<b>1,283,879.00</b>
<b>PREMISES RELATED</b>		
Building Maintenance - Internal		39,141.00
Building Maintenance - External		23,072.00
Planned Maintenance		0.00
Grounds Maintenance		1,027.00
General Maintenance		1,100.00
Planning Control Fees		80.00
Health and Safety		0.00
Gas		19,328.00
Electricity		8,336.00
Rates		16,704.00
Water		7,107.00
Fire Fixtures		0.00
Cleaning Contract		25,737.00
Cleaning Materials		866.00
Window Cleaning		0.00
Insurance (Special Perils)		4,924.00
Insurance (Formula Funded)		6,952.00
Offsite Travel Insurance		306.00
Refuse Collection		4,406.00
S.Units/H. Driers/C. Hygiene		6,578.00
Alarms		0.00
Miscellaneous		0.00
CCTV		0.00
<b>Total Premises Related</b>		<b>165,664.00</b>
<b>SUPPLIES &amp; SERVICES</b>		
Computer Costs - General		145.00
Purch office equip - non I.T		0.00
Computer Leasing Costs		10,731.00
Furniture		
Software Maintenance		
Printer Consumables		6,442.00
Hire of Equipment		0.00
TV Licence		146.00
Wireless		-3,091.00
PPL Licences		250.00
Capitation		28,346.00
Medical		749.00
Postages		524.00
Telephone Charges		4,582.00
Photocopying/Reprographics		9,665.00
Risograph Rental		0.00
Stationery		0.00
Miscellaneous		599.00
Clawback on SEN		0.00
Exclusions Clawback		0.00
Milk Sales		0.00
School Trips		0.00
Beveridges Resold		0.00
Beveridges Not Resold		0.00
Community Focused Expenditure		0.00
BSF Transision Expenditure		0.00
SSA - Exp - IT		0.00
Data Protection		0.00
SEG/WEG/PDG		24,288.00
Activities and Trips		1,447.00
Swimming Lessons		7,584.00
Music		8,001.00
Uniform		0.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>100,408.00</b>
<b>SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS</b>		
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>20,405.00</b>
<b>TRANSPORT COSTS</b>		
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANS</b>		
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>47,109.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>1,617,465.00</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Reimbursement School Meals Energy		2,941.00
Reimbursement School Meals Admin		5,629.00
Reimbursement School Meals Phone		168.00
Supply Compensation		22,760.00
Suspended Staff Scheme		0.00
Training Fees		0.00
Flying Start Reimbursement		0.00
GTC		1,700.00
Miscellaneous		6,445.00
Community Use Reimbursement		300.00
Donations		0.00
Retrospective Funding		0.00
NAFW - KS2 Grant		37,407.00
Foundation Phase		172,502.00
Developed		0.00