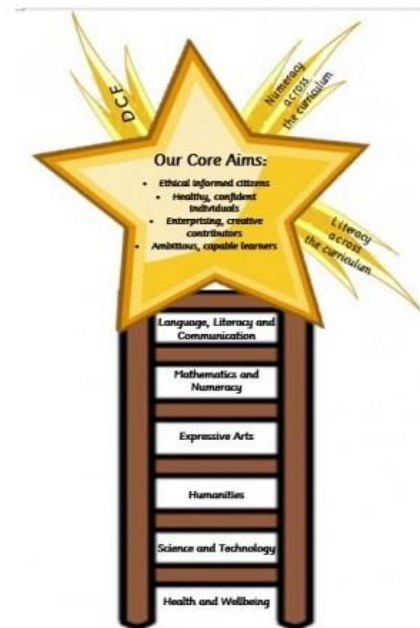


# Garnteg Primary School Annual Governing Body Full Report



## Agenda

Agenda for the Annual Parent's Meeting to be held at Garnteg Primary School on 20.10.2020

### Contents

1. Introductory Remarks
2. Matters arising
3. To receive and consider the Governor's Annual Report for the Academic Year
4. AOB

A full report is available on the school website. [www.garntegprimary.co.uk](http://www.garntegprimary.co.uk)

A copy can also be requested from the school office



Dear Parent/ Guardian,

On behalf of the governing body of Garnteg Primary School, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the Governors Annual Report to parents for Garnteg Primary School for the Year 2019/2020, which provides information on the developments and activities that have taken place in the school over the previous twelve months. Due to restrictions because of the Covid 19 pandemic, we will be unable to hold a parents' meeting this year. However, if you have any questions related to this report you are welcome to contact the school.

You will see from the report which follows that this has been an unusual year due to the Covid 19 pandemic which meant that schools had to close from March to July. Due to this, last academic year brought new demands and challenges that we have never had to face before but once again we as a governing body have worked hard to help the leadership team steer the school through this time.

Mrs Roche and the school leadership have a clear vision to make the school a happy, healthy, reflective and achieving school that always looks forward and continues to improve, year on year. At the heart of the vision is the desire to ensure every pupil is given the best opportunity to succeed in their academic, social, musical or sporting goals. The School Development Plan and Self Evaluation Report continue to provide strategic direction for the school and provide the Governing Body with a real opportunity to challenge and support all members of the school leadership.

All staff and Governors have worked pro- actively to further develop the new Welsh Assembly changes and preparations for the introduction of the curriculum 2022 in Wales. Garnteg Primary School has continued to work with the Welsh government to write essential elements of the new curriculum for Wales in addition to supporting other schools as an Innovation School of which there are only 16 schools in Wales. The school is also working on the NEIR (National Evaluation and Improvement Resource for schools) with Welsh Government.

The school has once again worked in partnership with Educational Achievement Service (EAS) and Challenge Advisor Mrs Alexis Edwards. We have supported other schools from across the authorities and many schools have visited our school to observe exemplary practice in order to improve practice in their own schools. We are all very proud of this achievement and significant success.

Throughout the year the school has continued to strengthen links with external partners within the local and wider community. This has included pupils participating in many community events, which have included on line Local History and Eco projects. In December 2019 we achieved the NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education) re-accreditation award which only about 80 schools in England and Wales have achieved.

Myself and fellow governors would like to thank you as parents for your support over the past twelve months and look forward to ensuring the highest standards for all children at Garnteg Primary in the next academic year. I would also like to thank my fellow governors for their dedication, time and honesty for the benefit of all pupils at our school.

Chair of Governors

Mrs A Skyrme

## Our School Values

At Garnteg Primary School we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the school, irrespective of disability, race, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy & maternity, marriage and civil partnership. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in school life.

All our learners will:

1. Have a flying start in life
2. Have a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities
3. Enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation
4. Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities
5. Are listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised
6. Have a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional well-being
7. Are not disadvantaged by poverty.

The school prospectus for 2020 has been updated to include new staffing and class organisation. Our pupils have also played a primary role in adding statements and checking contents to ensure their views are expressed. A copy of the new prospectus can be obtained from the school website and paper copies are available from the school

### *2020/2021 Academic Year*

#### School Term and Holiday Dates - 2020/2021 Academic Year

<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Begins</b>	<b>Half Term Begins</b>	<b>Half Term Ends</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Autumn</b>	Tuesday 01.09.20	Monday 26.10.20	Friday 30.10.20	Friday 18.12.20
<b>Spring</b>	Monday 04.01.21	Monday 15.02.21	Friday 19.02.21	Friday 26.03.21
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 12.04.21	Monday 31.05.21	Friday 04.06.21	Tuesday 20.07.2

## Garnteg Governing Body

Governor Type	Start Date	End Date
Associate	06/09/2011	NA
Community Gov apptd by GB	09/07/2018	08/07/2023
Chair	14/10/2019	13/10/2023
Headteacher	01/09/2019	NA
Community Gov apptd by Community	30/06/2017	29/06/2022
LA Appointed	14/10/2019	13/10/2023
LA Appointed	01/06/2017	31/05/2021
LA Appointed	23/05/2017	22/05/2021
Parent Representative	20/12/2017	19/12/2021
Parent Representative - Vice Chair	17/01/2019	16/01/2023
Parent Representative	28/03/2017	27/03/2021
Staff Representative	13/11/2019	12/11/2023
Teacher Representative	12/02/2018	11/02/2022

### **Meetings of the Governing Body**

Meetings of the full governing body have taken place on six occasions. At appropriate meetings, the Governors received and considered reports from the Resources and Finance sub- committee, and the Performance and Improvement committee and the Head Teacher reports on the school and its work. Minutes of all those meetings are available at school. In addition to these formal meetings, Governors have visited to enjoy concerts, assemblies and sports/fund raising events.

In accordance with the Welsh Government Guidance it is important to note here, that no resolutions were passed in the last annual meeting of the governing body with parents and thus there is no action, as a result to report.

### **Adopted Policies Agreed by the Governing Body 2019-2020**

The following policies have been agreed and adopted by the governing body during the last academic year. As a result of these policies the GB and School has changed its' provision for Performance Management to correspond with the new requirements of policies passed by the Welsh Assembly. Educational Visits now have to be formally approved by the LA on a system called Evolve.

- Model Pay Policy
- Resource and Staffing Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- School Health and Safety Policy
- SRE Policy
- Torfaen-Schools Partnership Agreement
- Torfaen-Grievance Resolution Procedure
- Torfaen-Schools Re-employment of Former Employees

### **Current Teaching Staff**

The school has 18 full time teachers the Head Teacher and Deputy Headteacher. The school has 22 full time Teaching Assistants and 7 part-time.

### **Current Non -Teaching staff**

The school has the services of three school support officers, one full time and two part- time. One full-time caretaker and one part-time caretaker is employed by the school and we pay a service level agreement to provide a cleaner. One cook and two helpers provide high quality meals.

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## **THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

**The teaching of the National Curriculum is a legal requirement in all state schools.**



Garnteg delivers Nursery provision for 3-4 years part time 9.00-11.30am and afternoon session 12.45-3.15 pm.

\*Due to Covid 19, Times are currently staggered to ensure safety of pupils, parents and staff. We have ensured that siblings have same times. Staggered times are 8:40-9:10 and 3:00-3:30.

Garnteg Primary School teaches the Foundation Phase - aged 3 - 7 years and Key stage 2 of the National Curriculum and involve children at 7 - 11 years at KS2.

Religious Education, whilst not included as a New Curriculum subject, is a statutory requirement for all children unless parents request otherwise.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Pupils identified as having special educational needs are supported in various ways according to the pupil's requirements – within the classroom, on an individual or small group basis. A range of review meetings are carried out throughout the year and parents are an integral part of the process. Liaison with all outside agencies plays a key role in supporting all pupils as we continually assess and improve our services. An annual review will be held for all pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs. A delegate from the Local Authority will be in attendance at this meeting. As a school we provide a range of emotional support groups that best meet the needs of our most vulnerable groups these include sessions for Thrive, Mindfulness, Kiva, Values, SEAL and Forest School. Our Additional

Learning Needs Governor meets on a regular basis with school staff, in particular our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator.

### **Welsh as a Second Language**

Welsh Second Language is taught throughout Nursery to Year 6. Pupils are emerged to the Welsh Language everyday and through a structured teaching programme based on themes. In Foundation Phase, pupils use Hwyl Dan packs and in KS2 pupils use the Antur Anhygoel packs.

Welsh Second language is taught in both discrete sessions and through other areas of the curriculum. Pupils and staff speak Welsh throughout the day both in and out of the classroom.

Learners are developing skills in language patterns used through activities such as ‘Y Gad’r Boeth on a daily basis are practiced in a fun way. Each class identifies a pupil to be ‘Helpwr Heddiw’, each week.

The school holds its own Eisteddfod each year and in 2018/19 both Foundation Phase and KS2 pupils took part in the Pontypool Eisteddfod and won a few competitions including brass, piano, art and craft.

The school planned to take part in the full Urdd eisteddfod, but due to Covid 19 restrictions pupils were able to enter on line for a virtual Urdd in May 20.

### **Skills Curriculum**

The skills Curriculum has provided schools with a progressive framework of skills and knowledge to be taught. Within its structure, the school has the freedom to choose the most appropriate methods in which to deliver it. In Garnteg we match the delivery of the curriculum to the needs of the children and the content of the lesson. The methods used will be class, small group, and individual.

Our endeavour is to provide our children with a curriculum appropriate to their needs now and in the future, enriched with worthwhile experiences and opportunities.

### **Planning, Preparation and Assessment PPA**

It is statutory for teaching staff to receive non-contact for 10 per cent of the timetable. This is to be used for Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA). This takes place during the school week. These activities are provided by SLT and teaching assistants.

**The predominant language spoken by pupils in the school from the 2019-20 Survey is English.**

### **Details of sports and extra—curricular activities for the period 2019-20**

Pupils at Garnteg take part in a range of extra curricular activities, these are as follows:

#### **Foundation Phase Clubs**

Art Club  
Block Play  
Choir  
Gardening Club  
Homework club  
Forest School  
Visual Literacy  
French Club

#### **Key Stage 2 clubs**

Art Club  
Climbing wall  
Choir  
Cycling  
Football  
Homework Club  
Dance Fitness  
Orchestra  
Netball  
Rugby  
Visual Literacy  
Maths Club

The school took part in a number of sporting competitions and festivals during 2019/20 including

EFL cup, Urdd football and Torfaen Rugby festivals for boys and girls. The school Rugby team were Runners Up in the TAG Rugby festival 2019/20.

### **Community Links**

During the year our school has continued to develop numerous close links with the community in and around Garndiffaith and Pontypool. These include performing at various social functions through the year, visits to places of interest linked to our curriculum and invitations for the community to come into our school. There are also close links with the Police through numerous visits each term by the Police Liaison Officer.

### **Friends of Garnteg (FoG)**

The friends of Garnteg play a full and active role in working with and supporting the school. Their significant contributions to school is greatly appreciated. The Christmas Fayre stall and discos took place but planned events after March had to be cancelled as school was closed. We hope to return to these as soon as the current restrictions are lifted.

### **Healthy Schools Initiative**

The school is currently in the process of achieving the Healthy Schools Accreditation. As a school we promote healthy eating and drinking by ensuring pupils only eat a healthy snack during the morning consisting of fruit or vegetables and individual drinking bottles are available to all pupils and these pupils are able to access them throughout the day.

### **Extra-Curricular clubs run by Communities First and Health or other agencies**

#### **2019-20**

#### **Torfaen Outreach**

**Play therapy** – Crownbridge outreach

**Behaviour support** – Crownbridge outreach

#### **Torfaen Counselling Services**

**Go-girls junior after school club** (Bron Afon)

**Living Life to the full** - Flying Start

**Family Links course**- Flying Start

**COMIT**

**Speech & Language**

### **In school extra-curricular support 2019-20**

#### **Foundation Phase**

**Choir** –

**THRIVE**

**Reading support** – parent helpers

#### **Key Stage2**

**Choir** –

**THRIVE**

**Play therapy** (Torfaen counselling services and Crownbridge outreach)

1 day Art project for pupils with Spld in year 4

**Lantern Making workshop** – whole school for Pontypool Christmas Cavalcade

**Christmas craft workshops** – Nursery parents and pupils

**Families Connect Course** for Reception parents and their children

**Multiagency Information sharing afternoon** for parents and the community

### **Pupils on Roll Garnteg Primary School – September 2019**

Nursery	56
Reception	54
Year 1	43
Year 2	64
Year 3	62
Year 4	62
Year 5	56
Year 6	55
Total	452

## Garnteg Primary Attendance

	2018/19			2019/20			2020/21		
	Target	Actual	Unauthorised	Target	Actual	Unauthorised	Target	Actual	Unauthorised
	95%			95%			95%		
<b>Autumn</b>		95.4%	1%		94.5%	1%			
<b>Spring</b>		94.8%	1%		91.8% 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan - 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	0.9%			
<b>Summer</b>		93.0%	1%						
<b>School Average</b>		94.4%	1%						
<b>Wales Average</b>	95%	95%	1%						

## School Council / School Ambassadors Report for the year 2019-20

In September the new School Council members were elected; with pupils from Year 2 to Year 6. 2 representatives were selected from each year group through class elections. The results of which were announced in a whole school assembly and badges were awarded.

As a School Council we analysed pupil questionnaires to find out what we thought about School Life and wrote a new action plan in September 19. Our School Council Aims for 2019-20 were:

1. To ensure all pupils know the playground rules and take part in playground activities.
2. To work with the Health & Wellbeing team to further develop fruit at playtimes and lunchtimes.
3. To use pupil voice to find out what resources pupils need to do their work.
4. To continue to raise money for Charity and the school fund.

In September 2019, we discussed playground rules in assembly. We also helped on the yard at playtimes and lunchtimes with games and as 'buddies'.

During our first meeting we discussed attendance and we agreed that pupils should be rewarded for 100% weekly attendance. Pupils who had 100% attendance received 'Golden Time' on Friday afternoons. This was very successful as we noticed more pupils were achieving 100% each week. We delivered an assembly with Mrs Roche to ask pupils for their ideas on what resources pupils need to do their work. Pupils recorded their ideas and we started ordering these for the classes. We also introduced a kindness box where pupils wrote staff and pupils and why they nominated them.



The School Council also organised events for Children in Need in November 2019 which raised £845.00, ran stalls at the school Christmas Fayre and successfully organised the annual Easter Egg hunt in March 2020.

2 pupils from Y6 were also elected as School Ambassadors and worked with FP and KS2 pupils on pupils' rights and responsibilities. In October 2019, we met Sally Holland, the children's Commissioner for Wales and worked with pupils from across South Wales to learn more about Children's Rights. We delivered assemblies raising pupils' awareness of the rights which we selected, completed termly special missions for the Commissioner for Wales Sally Holland and also gave presentations to governors and visitors to our school. One of our **SUCCESSFUL MISSIONS** was our introduction of GRSU (Garnteg Recycle School Uniform). Families kindly donated school uniform and coats for other families to have. The governors helped us promote this, by telling parents about it. We had a stall at the Christmas Fayre and recycled at least 60 items of clothing from November 19 until March 20.

### **Targets for next academic year.**

1. To work with all pupils to find out what they need to help them with their learning at home and in school.
2. To work with the School Ambassadors to raise pupils' awareness of Children's Rights and supporting the wellbeing of our pupils in school.
3. To work with the Health & Wellbeing team to further develop fruit at playtimes and lunchtimes.
4. To use pupil voice to find out what resources pupils need to do their work.
5. To continue to raise money for Charity and the school fund.

### **Eco Council Report for the year 2019-20**

In 2019 /2020 the ECO Council have made great progress with their many recycling and Forest School ideas to increase biodiversity.

Staff have supported the ECO Council in any new ideas that they wanted to try and if successful, assist in putting into practice. Eco Council members decided they wanted a big push on recycling. They invited our site manager/caretaker to a meeting and discussed having new recycling bins for each class and clear bags for the milk bottles. The Eco Council distributed/monitored and emptied them on a rota. They have continued to give out a recycling trophy and the green award in assemblies, this is done independently by the Council. The ECO Council have implemented new recycling procedures such as the introduction of a new waste company that supplies:

CARDBOARD ONLY BINS

GENERAL NON HAZARDOUS COMPACTABLE WASTE BINS.

DRY MIXED RECYCLING

FOOD ONLY BINS

CONFIDENTIAL BINS

DRAGON CLOTHES RECYCLING BIN

CAPITAL VALLEY PLASTICS – collecting stretchy plastic

Our school caretaker joined the school last summer and has a great knowledge of birds, moths, and many other wildlife features. The ECO council invited school caretaker to join them on a school trip to RSPB Newport Wetlands as he does voluntary work there, the children had a great time and learned a lot.

The ECO council encourage the other school children to get involved, with fund raising recycling and many other things. They also get involved with energy viewer and keep their own folder with evidence of water, gas and electric bills, also comparisons on energy use by looking at graphs and real data between 2019 /2020. The plan is to continue moving forward with the recycling energy saving, and forest schools and any new ideas that the ECO council and school children come up with.

All classes have included Eco activities in their topic work, including making recycling stations, gardening and making bird feeders and different habitats to increase the wildlife we see in our school grounds. We have had two nest boxes used successfully by Great and Blue Tits. Year 3 and 4 looked at world of water where they looked at water habitats and got involved with lots of pond dipping in our wetland area.

On November, 4<sup>th</sup> our eco warriors took part in an Eco day arranged by Eco schools Wales at Greenmeadow Community farm. The theme was migration, pupils thoroughly enjoyed the activities with other Torfaen Schools and made their own games to play at school.

All classes are setting eco related tasks to do at home during this time, at the moment we are taking part in the #30dayswild challenge and #ecoschoolsathome activities.

The school caretaker has spent time during the COVID period working down the pond area clearing unsafe areas removing dangerous branches, and also making a willow tunnel he also has plans and ideas for when the children return to school.

### **Targets for next academic**

1. To continue to recycle food, plastic and cardboard as a whole school.
2. To take part in a scheme called 'Recycle with Michael' where clothes can be recycled and schools are given funding for sports kits and equipment.
3. To develop the use of the wetland area to include other activities as well as use of the pond.
4. To use of on line learning to complete eco activities.

### **Garnteg School Development Plan Statement Summary for 2019-20**

#### **Target 1: Ensure that teaching challenges all pupils at an appropriately high level and develops their independent learning skills effectively.**

The School Ambassadors discussed the UNCRC rights and presented in assembly. They chose 6 rights to work on this year. Children have said they have helped with independent learning zones in their classrooms which they can use if they need help or to get the things they need for their work.

Pupils in upper KS2 choose their own ways of presenting their information using different layouts and genres through independent learning sessions on a regular basis. All KS2 classes have learning stations which pupils access as an integral part of lessons.

Through learning walks, the LLC English team requested that dictionaries were to be put in all classes in independent learning zones. Each class has their own zone with manipulatives that the pupils believe would be beneficial, including RWI sounds and spelling patterns, words to up level their writing etc.

Key priorities identified by the Maths & Numeracy Learning team: In Feb 2020 a Learning Walk for Maths was completed by Lead Governor and Learning Team. Evidence in books showed a range of learning experiences linked to division and more pupils were observed using ICT. It was also clear to see that pupils are transferring skills from Big Maths into topic and science books.

Staff Shine teams for 2019-2020 shared a focus on 'challenge for all'. All Shine teams planned and delivered lessons in March 2020 with staff observing each other. Staff evaluated process and how this could be developed in own practice and throughout the school.

### **Pupil Response**

'Our teachers help us with our work if we get stuck or want to make our work better.'

'We ask our class buddy to help us before we ask our teacher and if they can't help then we ask 3 before our teachers.'

'If we are still stuck we ask our teacher.'

'We have things up on the boards in class to help us too.'

'After finishing our work we do a self-assessment and check our spellings.'

'Sometimes we check our partners work and ask them a question about it.'

## **Target 2: Improve the quality of teachers' feedback to pupils to enable all pupils to improve their work successfully**

A whole staff meeting on marking and feedback in Oct 19 was conducted whereby staff looked at marking in books from the pupils' perspective. This enabled staff to 'see what the children see' and discussed what is a more effective way of marking to move the pupils learning forward.

Through SLT book monitoring, all staff have been reminded that all staff are responsible for marking with learners, not just class teachers. Staff have looked at other classes books as exemplary practice and observed excellent practice during lessons to see how staff move pupils forward.

### **Pupil Response**

We understand where we are with our targets and next steps from comments our teachers write. We talk to our teachers with our teachers during lessons and this help us stay on track and make improvements to our work. When our teachers mark our work they make it clear what we need to do next.

## **Target 3 : To develop a new teaching, learning and leadership strategy in curriculum innovation and pedagogy.**

During Autumn 19 and Spring 20 terms SLT members have undertaken ETLF training. This has also enabled us to build strong relationships with staff from other schools.

We continue to develop improved attitudes through Mindfulness strategies for learner: The PAWS B Mindfulness Programme was delivered to two Y5 classes in the Autumn Term. Foundation Phase classes delivering kindness curriculum embedded into projects and continuous, enhanced and focussed learning. The leader attended the Mindfulness in Wales Conference on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019, sharing and developing the strategy for Health and Education to the First Minister.

The NACE Re-accreditation was successfully completed in on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2019 using school documents and evidence, showcasing transition through a Case Study.

The school continues to work towards the National Nurturing Schools accreditation.

The PASS survey was completed by pupils from year 2-6 in Autumn 2019. Sparkle Spies were selected from the results and carried out their first mission in collaboration with The MET University Students in January 2020 focusing on developing improved focus using yoga and mindfulness techniques. The Sparkle Spies presented their results in the Estyn Remit for Health and Wellbeing.

### **Pupil Response**

At the start of every term we get the chance to plan out what we want to learn in all of the Areas of Learning. We also get to help plan out school trips and experiences such as a cinema trip to Blackwood. We love planning lessons because it's not the teachers always choosing what we do.

**Garnteg Primary School  
Parent Questionnaire 2019-2020**

**“Live Learn Succeed together!”  
“Climb to Sparkle”**

*Your views as parents of the school are very important to us.*

*The purpose of the questionnaire is to seek feelings of parents on the work of the school.*

*The outcomes of the questionnaire along with an action plan for action areas, will be circulated to all parents.*

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
1. I am satisfied with my child's work and progress.	98.0%	0%	2%
2. The school keeps me well informed about my child's achievement.	93%	3%	4%
3. The school achieves high standards of good behaviour.	94%	1%	5%
4. The school's values and attitudes have a good effect on my child.	99%	0%	1%
5. I am happy with the quality of education (including homework) provided by the school.	96%	1%	3%
6. The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught and my child makes good progress.	93%	1%	6%
7. I am satisfied with the help and guidance my child receives from the school.	98%	0%	2%
8. The school is effective in promoting equality and diversity.	95%	0%	5%
9. The school encourages parents/guardians to play an active part in the life of the school.	96%	1%	4%
10. I would find it easy to approach the school with questions and problems to do with my child.	94%	1%	5%
11. My child is encouraged to be healthy and take regular exercise.	98%	0%	2%
12. The teaching is good, staff expect my child to work hard and do their best.	100%		
13. I understand the school's procedure for dealing with complaints.	94%	2%	4%
14. My child likes this school.	98%	0%	2%
15. Can you think of any extra resources the school can buy?			

***Thank you for working in partnership with us and helping to continue improving the provision for our children. As your views are important to us,***

*We have received some lovely compliments and positive feedback from parents/carers.*

**Here are some of the lovely comments below:**

“From what I have seen the school is active in promoting wellbeing within the children from the mindfulness classes which I think are a great idea”

“Very happy with the standards and promotion at Garnteg.”

“The school has great resources”

“We are extremely pleased with our child's progress and are very pleased with what the school provides and offers.”

