



Annual Governor's Report to Parents

July 2026



Our school vision is:

To develop an excellent community focused school, a safe and inclusive community where diversity is celebrated and every individual is valued.

We aim to offer effective learning environments where adaptive learning drives pupil progress through engaging and authentic experiences, ensuring all learners aspire and grow.

Our goal is to provide a school with kindness and respect at its core.

‘aim high, keep safe, be kind, show respect’

Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Councillor Owen Llewellyn Jones

As we see another school year come to a close, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in the fantastic community that is Adamsdown Primary. Staff, parents and governors have all played their part.

I can honestly say that being chair of governors here is one of my proudest achievements as there is so much good work to be proud of. The school has built on the wonderful Estyn report we received in 2023, and we are under no illusion as a governing body that staff are fully committed to ensuring that children here feel safe, welcome and receive a wonderful education.

I hope staff are able to enjoy their well-earned break over the summer. For parents looking for activities, there are plenty of free events going on in Adamsdown, Splott and Tremorfa. I have attached flyer with information.

Diolch once again.

Owen Llewellyn Jones

The Governing Body



Members of the Governing Body for 2025 - 2027

Cllr Owen Llewellyn Jones	Chair, Local Authority Governor
Mr Ian Protheroe	Vice Chair, Community Governor
Mrs Emma Thomas	Head Teacher
Mr John Dixon	Local Authority Governor
Ms Grace Ferguson-Thorne	Local Authority Governor
Mr Joe Redmond	Community Governor
Mr Simon Thomas	Community Governor
Mrs Salma Abdelquadir	Parent Governor
Mrs Husna Hussain	Parent Governor
Vacancy	Parent Governor
Vacancy	Parent Governor
Miss Tabitha Brunker	Non-Teaching Governor
Mrs Stacy Eagles	Teacher Governor
Clerk to Governors	Mrs Janice Knowles

School Context



- Adamsdown Primary is in Adamsdown, Cardiff near the city centre.
- There are currently 335 pupils on roll aged 3 to 11 years old.
- We have an 72 place nursery.
- There are 11 classes altogether, 1 single-age reception classes and 10 mixed age classes.
- Currently, around 60% of pupils are eligible for free school meals, which is well above the national average.
- The school has identified around 9% of pupils as having additional learning needs, which is above the national average.
- Very few pupils are looked after by the local authority.
- Approx 70% of pupils speak English as an additional language. No pupils speak Welsh as a first language at home.
- The number of pupils joining or leaving the school at different times is very high and only four out of ten pupils have completed their education in the school.
- The Head teacher Mrs E Thomas has been in post since 2014 but has worked at the school for over 20 years, Ms H Williams the Deputy Head teacher joined the school in 2015 and was appointed in 2017.

Budget

Formula funding is largely based on the number of children attending the school. Any significant change in that number would have major financial implications. Expenditure needs to be carefully monitored to ensure best value for money when buying resources or services. With this in mind, the Governors have a financial update each term, with the financial sub-committee prioritising resources as needed.

Financial Statement

Governor Approved Budget		
		Gov. Appr'd Budget £'s
EMPLOYEES		
1001*	Full Time Teaching Staff	1,224,804
1002*	School Supply Short Term (Teachers)	-
1005*	Full Time Teachers - ALN Resource Base (Unit)	88,935
1007*	Full Time Teachers - ALN	-
1021*	Foreign Language Assistants	-
1022*	Teaching Assistants - ALN Support Staff	-
1024*	Teaching Assistants	411,404
1026*	Teaching Assistants - ALN Resource Base (Unit)	80,362
1027*	Teaching Assistants - Additional ALN Support	-
1031*	Technicians	-
1033*	Mid day Supervisors	26,431
1043*	Attendance Officers	51,756
1501*	Caretakers	34,951
1502*	Cleaners	-
1605*	Breakfast Club Staff/Other **	11,406
1400*	Administrative Staff	52,355
17015/19122	PILON/Redundancy	-
19131	Staff Advertising	-
19136	Mutual Supply Fund Contribution	47,891
19139	Performance Mgt	-
19141	Staff Training	10,040
19146	PDG/EIG Agency	-
191**	Other Staff Costs	7,819
		App Levy/DBS
PREMISES COSTS		
20***	Premises Related Expenditure	22,336
2100*	Energy Costs	37,200
23001	Rates (Earmarked)	45,431
24002	Water Charges	20,350
27***	Cleaning and Domestic Supplies (Inc Key Holder)	74,152
		26/27 Formula DCM based on 25/26 actual
		2026/27
		25/26 cost + 10%
		26/27 Charge
TRANSPORT AND SERVICES		
30***/63***	Transport Related Costs	-
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES		
40101	Furniture	-
40102	Teaching Materials	27,000
40105	Library Books	19,500
40118	Games & Activities	11,500
40161	Insurances	158
44551	Charges For Music Services	-
47102	Subscriptions	6,500
410**	Breakfast Club Provisions/Free School Meals to St	2,500
43001	Printing/Stationery & General Expenses	10,480
44201	Exam Fees	-
450**	Communications	3,285
45501	Leasing Charges	74,500
46001	General Expenses	-
46016	Clerks To Governors Expenses	1,512
46019/46508	PDG/EIG Expenditure	-
	Other Expenses - clawbacks	42,500
46501	Home/Hospital tuition	1,000
		Upbeat to G&SA To be distributed as 25/26
CENTRAL DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT		
60***	Service Units	17,408
		2026/27 SLAs
GROSS EXPENDITURE		2,763,227
LESS:		
7****	School Income	(3,500)
8****	LA Income	(687,357)
89002/73036	School Interest/Loan/Investment Withdrawal	0
85451	Additional ALN (IMHP / SI)	0
		Cardiff Met/Estyn Grants/Sabbatical Income

GROSS INCOME		(690,857)
NET EXPENDITURE		2,072,370
49981/49982 Unallocated Funds -Surplus/ (Deficit)		(290,184)
FORMULA ALLOCATION/OUT-TURN		1,782,186
23001 LESS: EARMARKED SUMS (*)		45,431 2026/27
NET CONTROLLABLE EXPENDITURE		1,736,755
Balances Brought Forward (C/f + Adj. Investment)		-
Balance Carried Forward		-
		1,736,755

The school is currently operating a budget deficit. This is largely due to a significant fall in pupil numbers over recent years. As a result, the school has needed to realign its staffing and organisation, moving from a 2-form entry model to a 1.5-form entry model. These changes are necessary to ensure the school remains financially sustainable while continuing to provide a high-quality education for all pupils.

No Governor claimed any travel or subsistence allowances during the past year.

What have we achieved this year?



This year has been a very successful and exciting one for Adamsdown Primary School, with a number of achievements that reflect the hard work of our pupils, staff and wider community.

- We are extremely proud to have received the Restorative Justice Council Award, which recognises our strong commitment to inclusion, equity and

positive relationships across the school. This achievement highlights the respectful culture we continue to build and the high expectations we hold for every learner.

- The school has also achieved the Siarter Iaith Silver Award, demonstrating our dedication to promoting the Welsh language and culture throughout daily school life. Pupils have grown in confidence using Welsh both in and out of the classroom, supported by engaging activities and a whole-school approach.
- Another highlight of the year was the opening of our community garden in St Germans Church. This space has already become a valuable resource for learning, wellbeing and community engagement.
- In addition, continued Specialist Resource Base development has strengthened our provision and support for complex needs learners. Improvements to practice, resources and collaboration will ensure that pupils' individual needs remain at the heart of everything we do.

Together, these achievements reflect a year of progress, partnership and pride at Adamsdown Primary School, and we look forward to building on this success in the year ahead.

Attendance

- For 2025 - 26, we have achieved an attendance of 88%. This must improve and we do need your support to continue to improve with the aim of reaching the all Wales target of 95%!

Attendance Percentage	Days missed over a school year
100%	0 days
95%	10 days
90%	20 days
85%	30 days
80%	40 days

- Our school is supported by our Family Engagement Officer Mrs Gallagher.
- If you feel you need support to improve your child's attendance please do not hesitate to contact the school office for further information.

Punctuality – be on time!



We are concerned about a growing number of families who are bringing their children to school after 8.55am.

When your child arrives in school late they are missing vital learning which starts promptly in class at 8.55am.

From September 2026 the following practices will continue:

Late arrivals

- This year we will be opening all gates at 8.45am and close them at 8.55am
- Parents who arrive after that will have to report to the front entrance.
- Class teachers to monitor punctuality and speak to parents directly.
- If there is no improvement the following steps will be worked through:
 1. Formal letter will be issued outlining concerns and showing impact on education and well-being.
 2. Meeting with Deputy Head Teacher and Family Engagement Officer
 3. Meeting with Head Teacher
 4. Advice sought from Local Authority

Admissions

Arrangements for admission of all pupils are detailed in our school admission policy and in the school's Accessibility Plan (which is part of the Strategic Equality Plan). Both are available in school for parents to see.

All new pupils will be offered an admission interview where you can meet staff and some simple assessments will be carried out to ensure we meet your child's needs from day one

High School

Our feeder high school is Willows High School which is based in Tremorfa, Cardiff. Many of our pupils also feed out to other High schools in Cardiff. We ensure all pupils have a successful transition with visits and open communication between schools, parents and children in the months leading up to year 7.



Willows High School

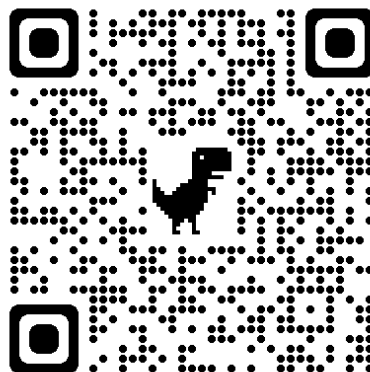
Willows Avenue

Cardiff

CF24 2YE

Tel: 029 2041 4243

Email: contact@willows.cardiff.sch.uk



School Prospectus



This is available to all parents of new pupils to the school. We also publish a special booklet for our Reception pupils. Both documents have recently been updated and revised additions are available for all parents upon request. Any changes to the document refer to staffing changes.

Information for Parents



We use parentpay for any upcoming events, important dates and to send any messages to parents. Details on how to access this is available from the school office.

Our twitter account @adamsdownprm is accessible via our school website www.adamsdownprm.co.uk

The school also has a number of policies which parents/guardians may obtain from the school website or on request from the school office.

Family Engagement

Tracey Gallagher is your Family Engagement Officer.



My role is to offer support for parents, children and families if there are any concerns you wish to discuss and to help with any issues in relation to supporting your children, either at home or in school.

Life is not always straightforward

I am here to listen and help with any worry or query, large or small, that you may feel you need support with. I also have access to a number of agencies who provide advice and assistance.

I organise a range of free courses in The Cwtch, Family Engagement Room (old school building), for parents throughout the year.

Need advice or just a chat?

Ask the office staff to contact me or come to see me when I am at the main gate at beginning or end of the day.



Our School Day

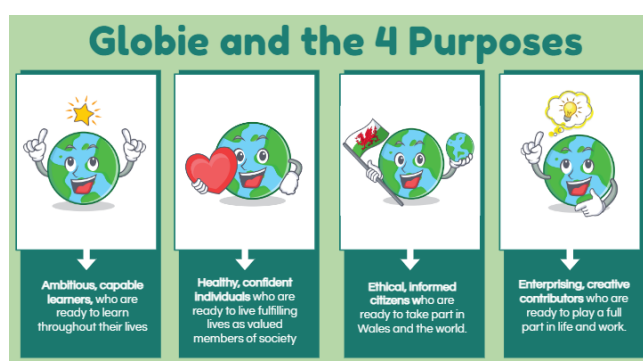
- School Gates open at 8.45am
- All pupils need to be in class by 8.55am
- All classes have a morning play time
- Lunches are staggered all classes have time to eat in the main hall and then play outside
- School gates open at 2.55pm
- School ends at 3pm

Curriculum

It has been an exciting time for all schools in Wales as we have spent the last two years embedding a New Curriculum for Wales. This year we have been fully engaged in trialling new aspects and approaches to the New Curriculum

More information about the New Curriculum and our Curriculum Offer can be found here: <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/a-new-curriculum-in-wales-a-guide-for-parents/>

Or on our School website:



Staff Development



In order to keep abreast of developments, staff attended a wide range of courses and meetings appropriate to their responsibilities and the needs of the school. Each year schools must allocate 6 days to staff training (INSET).

Every teacher receives professional learning time to research, trial and implement different approaches that will benefit their class. This work is then shared with the whole teaching team.

Staff also link with other schools to develop areas of their practice.

The teachers meet every Wednesday after school for Inset. The topics of these meetings relate to the school improvement plan and other important educational developments.

Additional Learning Needs



The named Governor for Additional Learning Needs is: Joe Redmond.

Some children have Additional Learning Needs (ALN) that can affect their progress in school. Through careful observation and assessment, we can identify the difficulties and offer individual support. In some cases we need to refer children to the Educational Psychologist or other agencies who will at some stage visit the school to see a child, evaluate their progress and offer the school support to help overcome their difficulties.

Parents and carers will be kept informed by the pupil's class teacher, Head teacher Mrs Thomas and Ms Williams the ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator), who may invite you into school to discuss the situation. We have a firm commitment to inclusive education and do everything we can to meet every child's individual needs.

If a child requires Additional Learning Provision (ALP) which is different to their peers then an Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be developed. This plan will be formed following Personal Centred Meetings organised by the school. All professionals, parents and the child are invited to attend the meeting and share information and make decisions on next steps.

On occasions, after careful observation and testing, the Specialist Teacher or Educational Psychologist might recommend that a child has particular needs over and above that which the school can provide. This simply means that the child could then be granted additional help either within their class at school, or in a special school or resource base, depending upon the child's needs. In these cases the Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be submitted to a panel in the Local Authority for them to consider and suggest/ offer ways forward. **Parents' wishes at all time will be given strong consideration.**



There are links on the school website with further information for parents and pupils.

The Educational Psychologist (EP), visits the school and gives advice to teachers and parents on how best to support children identified with ALN. **Please remember that we always want to work together with you, so that your children can achieve their full potential.**

Report of her Majesty's Inspectors (Estyn)



Our last Estyn inspection was in May 2023 and were delighted with outcomes of the report. To read it please follow this link:

https://www.estyn.gov.wales/system/files/2023-06/Inspection%20report%20Adamsdown%20Primary%20School%202023_0.pdf

We received an interim visit in February 2026:

[Interim visit letter Adamsdown Primary School 2026](#)

School Improvement Plan



All priorities have been identified by Senior Leaders and Governors as areas for focussed development across the year. Adamsdown Primary School aims to achieve and maintain high standards across all areas of school life.

We report on a termly basis to the Governing Body and also the School Improvement Officer who visits regularly.



SIP Priorities Overview 2026 - 2027

1. Wellbeing To ensure we are safe, inclusive and rights-respecting school where all learners are supported to thrive through strengthened wellbeing provision, improved attendance and punctuality, and the embedding of children's rights across all aspects of school life.	
Objective 1	To strengthen pupil wellbeing through the consistent implementation and evaluation of effective wellbeing provision, inclusive practices and staff training across the school.
Objective 2	To increase pupil attendance and punctuality through robust monitoring, early intervention and collaborative support.
Objective 3	To embed a rights-respecting ethos across the school community and successfully achieve the Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award.
2. Teaching and Learning To strengthen inclusive teaching and learning across the school by embedding consistent classroom practices, removing barriers to learning, and ensuring all pupils are supported to succeed and contribute fully to school life.	
Objective 1	To establish calm, consistent and inclusive learning environments across the school that promote belonging, wellbeing and engagement for all learners.
Objective 2	To ensure teaching approaches are accessible, engaging and inclusive, enabling all pupils to participate fully and make progress.
Objective 3	To remove barriers to learning by maintaining high expectations for all pupils and providing timely, appropriate support based on assessment and observation.
3. Reading To raise standards in reading by ensuring a consistent, evidence-informed approach to assessment, teaching and reading culture across the school.	
Objective 1	Conduct a whole-school audit of reading assessments to ensure systems are accurate, consistent and used effectively to identify pupils' next steps. Complete an audit of reading provision across all classes and intervention programmes to evaluate quality, consistency and impact.
Objective 2	Deliver targeted professional learning to strengthen staff expertise in the teaching of reading, including decoding, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
Objective 3	Develop a strong reading culture across the school by promoting reading for pleasure, increasing access to high-quality texts and creating engaging reading environments.

Equalities



Our previous Race Equality Policy and Disability Equality Scheme has been replaced with a cohesive Single Equality Scheme covering all of the Equality Strands referred to as protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010.

The protected characteristics include: Race, Disability, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Religion and Belief, Age, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity.

Disability

We are an inclusive school and the Governing Body ensures action will be taken to ensure that disabled people are treated fairly and all reasonable adjustments will be made to give more favourable treatment where appropriate. The school has an Access Plan and a Disability Equality Plan.

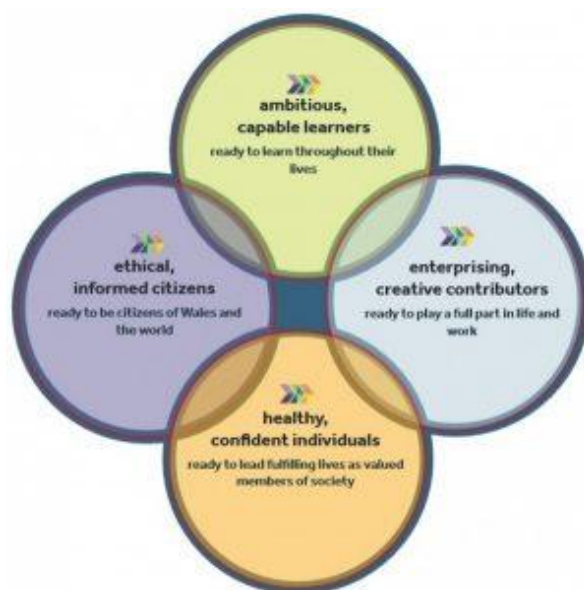
Community Links



We have many community links which support our pupils in school for example:

- Cardiff City Football Club carry out weekly sessions for PE
- Rubicon Dance School join us every week to work with all classes across the year
- No Fit State Circus and Upbeat Music help us with creative projects
- Close links with many departments from Cardiff University and the University of South Wales
- We fundraise for national and local charities every term
- We utilize our great position of being one of the most central schools in the city with regular visits to the museum and castle!
- We have close links with the local police who support our work to ensure safe access to school and a safe working environment for all staff and children.

Our community links are co-ordinated by the teachers and links are made to the 4 core purposes of the new curriculum to ensure that all children have an opportunity to become:



Health and Safety



The Governing Body works with the school staff to ensure all aspects of this important area are complied with in school. Health and safety is reviewed on a termly basis. If parents/guardians have any comments regarding Health & Safety, they are encouraged to pass them on to the Head teacher.

The local authority has made a commitment to all Cardiff schools to provide enhanced support through the services of Health and Safety Officers. Hazel Sweeney is assigned to Adamsdown and rapid work has commenced to ensure all outstanding maintenance from our buildings work and repairs are prioritised. Working with the Head teacher it is hoped that all major repair work will be completed by the end of the academic year.

School Security Arrangements



All visitors are to report to reception on arrival where they will sign in and be issued with a visitor's badge. Access to the school is by key fob which is operated on all external doors. An emergency evacuation plan is in place. A colour CCTV is functional and used to maintain safety. All staff wear identity lanyards and also whistles so that if an emergency arises support can be called.

Food and Healthy Eating in School



In spring 2016 the school won the National Quality Award for healthy Schools. We have now renewed this award twice and are regarded as a sector leading school in healthy schools' education. We follow the Healthy Eating Agenda in school and the school kitchen serves food that is both nutritious and healthy, following the LA menu. Free milk is offered to all Foundation Phase children and chilled fresh water is freely available to all children. We run a Welsh Government Free School Breakfast Club that meets the requirements of the scheme. Approximately 100 children access this club.

Toilet Facilities



There are separate boys and girl's toilet facilities for our Nursery pupils and our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. There are also separate boys and girls toilet facilities for our Key Stage Two pupils.

All facilities are cleaned daily by the cleaning staff employed by the Local Authority.

Sporting Achievements

At Adamsdown Primary School, we are committed to promoting the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. All pupils take part in weekly Physical Education (P.E.) lessons, which include a range of activities such as gymnastics, dance, games, athletics and outdoor learning.

Our P.E. curriculum is built around four key areas of experience:

- Health, fitness and wellbeing
- Creative activities
- Adventurous activities
- Competitive activities

To further enrich our provision, we have strong partnerships with organisations including **Rubicon Dance School** and **Cardiff City Football Club**, providing pupils with high-quality coaching and inspiring opportunities.

We also offer a variety of after-school sports clubs throughout the year, depending on the season. These may include football, rugby, street dance and netball. Information about upcoming clubs is shared with families in advance, with letters sent home when activities are due to begin.

Award Winning

Only the 4th school in Cardiff to win the National Quality Award for healthy Schools



Bronze and now Silver Award winning school for recognising and celebrating children's rights



We have won an award for the peer mediation programme run in our school and local cluster primary schools. We are also an accredited restorative Justice Council setting, the first in Cardiff.



We are a platinum award winning Eco School



We are a Bronze & Silver Cymraeg Campus school for learning Welsh



We are only the 2nd school in Cardiff to achieve the School of Sanctuary award



School of
SANCTUARY AWARD
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary



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Aim High, Keep Safe, Be Kind, Show Respect

Adamsdown Primary School

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Cardiff

CF24 0JF

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Website: www.adamsdownprm.cardiff.co.uk

Instagram: [@adamsdownprm](https://www.instagram.com/adamsdownprm)