



November 2009

Dear Parent

**Governors Annual Report to Parents  
And Annual Parent/Governors Meeting**

Attached is the Governors Summary Report to Parents for the year September 2008 to August 2009. Copies of the full report are available on the school website [www.monmouth.monmoodle.co.uk](http://www.monmouth.monmoodle.co.uk) or on request from the school office.

The Annual Meeting is at **7.30pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December** at the school. Numbers attending this meeting have been very low in recent years and we are changing the format this year in the hope that more parents will come to meet with us. The Governors will be joined by members of the Senior Leadership Team and by members of the Friends' Association. Over a glass of wine and a mince pie we hope that we will be able to discuss with you the continuing development of our school, the involvement of parents and the local community, and answer any questions you might have.

It would be useful to have some idea of numbers and so we would be grateful if you could return the pro forma below by 30<sup>th</sup> November indicating your attendance.

We look forward to seeing you on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Yours sincerely

**Stuart McLester**  
Chair of Governors

**Carole Herman**  
Headteacher

✂.....

**Name of student**..... **Form**.....

I will/will not be able to attend the Annual Governors meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December.  
I have the following question/comment:

**Signed**..... **Date**.....



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**Monmouth** | Ysgol Gyfun  
Comprehensive School | **Trefynwy**

*“Learning to Lead our Lives”*

*“Dysgu Trwy Arwain”*

**Governors’ Annual Report  
to Parents 2009 – Summary**

**Adroddiad Blynyddol  
Llywodraethwyr i rieni 2009 -  
Crynodeb**

# **Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2009 - Summary**

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## **SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Best ever GCSE results. 70% of students achieved 5 A\* to C grades in summer 2009. 75% of students gained 5 Level 2 qualifications. Level 2 qualifications are the equivalent of GCSE A\* to C
- 95% of students gained 5 A\* to G qualifications. 98% achieved 5 Level 1 qualifications. Level 1 qualifications are the equivalent of GCSE grade A\* to G.
- Best ever A' Level results, with a 99% pass rate and 82% getting the top three grades. 97% of students were accepted into their first or second choice of University place.
- 80% of students gained Level 5 or above in the three core subjects – English, Maths and Science - at the end of Key Stage 3. This is 20% above the Welsh national average.
- After a successful introduction, the Y7 skills-based curriculum is in its second year.
- The Welsh Baccalaureate has been introduced into Y10.
- Further courses have been added to the curriculum to ensure that all students are able to select areas of study that suit their abilities and interests.
- Following the change in the timings of the school day, a wide range of extra-curricular activities and academies take place after school. Buses, leaving the school at 4.40pm, ensure that all students are able to participate.
- Refurbishment and re-deployment of some accommodation has created a new library with study space available to sixth form students. Sixth form students now have study space and social space available throughout the day. New ICT suites have also been created to support all students.
- The Board of Associates and The Friends Association are working in partnership with the school to support developments, make links and raise funds. The Monmouth Comprehensive Educational Trust (MCET) has achieved charity status.
- The school is involved in the pilot year of a 4-year research project – "Read to Live" - in association with The Reader Organisation and Liverpool University which explores the link between reading and wellbeing. The project will link the school with Monmouthshire Libraries, Primary Schools and community organisations.

## 1 Essential Information

### 1.1 Term Dates

TERM	BEGINS	Finish for Half-Term	Return from Half-Term	ENDS
<b>Autumn</b>	Friday 04.09.09	Friday 23.10.09	Tuesday 03.11.09	Friday 18.12.09
<b>Spring</b>	Monday 04.01.10	Thursday 11.02.10	Monday 22.02.10	Friday 26.03.10
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 12.04.10	Friday 28.05.10	Monday 07.06.10	Friday 16.07.10

### 1.2 Session Times

Time	Year Group						
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>08:45</b>	Pastoral						
<b>09:05</b>	Pd1	Pd1	Pd1	Pd1	Pd1	Pd1	Pd1
<b>10:05</b>	Pd2	Pd2	Pd2	Pd2	Pd2	Pd2	Pd2
<b>11:05</b>	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>11:30</b>	Pd3	Pd3	Pd3	Pd3	Pd3	Pd3	Pd3
<b>12:30</b>	Lunch				Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>13:00</b>		Pd4	Pd4	Pd4			
<b>13:30</b>	Pd4	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Pd4	Pd4	Pd4
<b>14:00</b>	Pd5	Pd5	Pd5	Pd5	Pd5	Pd5	Pd5
<b>15:00/30-16:00/30</b>	Flexible Period 6						

- 1.3** The School publishes a Prospectus, Sixth Form Prospectus and Key Stage 4 Options information annually. These publications are available from the school on request.

## 2 Who's who on the Governing Body

**Chair:** Mr S McLester  
 Address: 46 Bells Place, Coleford  
 Telephone: 01594 834736

**Vice Chair:** Mr S Clapham  
 Address: Monmouth Comprehensive School  
 Telephone: 01600 775177

**Clerk to the Governors:** Mr R Nancarrow  
 Address: Monmouthshire County Council

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Telephone: 01633 644644  
Email: robertnancarrow@monmouthshire.gov.uk

**Headteacher:** Ms Carole Herman, MA  
Telephone: 01600 775177  
FAX: 01600 775151  
Email: monmouthcomprehensive@monmouthshire.gov.uk

The Governing Body comprised of:

Representative	Name Elected	Appointed by	Term of Office
Parents	Mr Stephen Clewes	Parents	12.12.11
	Mrs Michelle Edwards		12.12.11
	Mrs Ruth Tudor		30.06.10
	Mrs Clare Dow		28.01.13
	Dr Stuart Evans		26.04.11
	Mrs Sarah Bradley		19.05.12
Teachers	Mr Ben Church	Teaching Staff	07.12.10
	Miss Rachel Bowgen		02.05.12
Support	Mrs Jane Baker	Support Staff	31.08.11
Appointed	C Cllr Susan White	L.E.A.	31.08.12
	C Cllr Alan Wintle		31.08.11
	C Cllr Geoff Burrows		31.08.12
	Mr Ashley Thomas		31.08.11
	C Cllr Liz Hackett Pain		17.10.11
Community	Mr Stuart McLester		09.09.11
	Mr Stewart Clapham		12.12.11
	Mrs Victoria Smith		21.06.10
	Mr Stephen Moore		30.09.12

The Headteacher is also a member of the Governing Body.

The main Governing Body is divided into five sub-committees:

Finance Committee

Premises, Health and Safety Committee

Student and Learning Committee

Strategic Advisory Committee

Community Committee

### 3 Performance and Target Information

#### ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2009 AT KEY STAGE 3

##### Level 5 Achievements of students in Monmouth Comprehensive School in 2009

ENGLISH	93%
MATHEMATICS	86%
SCIENCE	85%

##### Percentage of students in Monmouth Comprehensive School achieving level 5 in all 3 core subjects (the Core Subject Indicator or CSI) at the end of Key Stage 3

BOYS	75%
GIRLS	86%
ALL	80%

The mean percentage of students attaining level 5 and above in the three core subjects (CSI of 80%) continues to be well above the national average (60%). For the first time this year boys and girls have out performed their respective national averages by a similar amount (20%).

The gap between the performance of boys and girls – 11% - has closed considerably this year,

These results place the school in the highest level of achievement bracket – level 1 - for all but two subjects when compared to all schools in Wales and at level 1 for all but three subjects when compared to 'similar' schools.

### ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2009 AT KEY STAGE 4

Entered for at least 1 CoEA, GCSE Short Course or Full GCSE		100%
Achieving at least 5 GCSE Grades A*-C		70%
Achieving at least 5 Level 2 qualifications		75%
Achieving at least 5 GCSE Grades A*-G		95%
Achieving at least 5 Level 1 qualifications		96%
Achieving grade C or above in English		74%
Achieving grade C or above in Maths		67%
Achieving grade C or above in Science		73%
Achieving the core subject indicator	BOYS	54%
	GIRLS	68%
	ALL	60%
Leaving without a qualification		0
Unauthorised absence rate		0.8%

The stunning improvements in the 5 A\*-C and level 2 threshold achievements (75%) are due, in the main, to consistently high levels of attainment in the core. This is reflected both in the significant improvement in the 5 A\*-C including English and Maths (61%) and the Core Skills Indicator (60%). A large percentage of students are now achieving four, five or even six higher level grades from within the core subjects. This means that, as a school we can truly say we are strong at GCSE across the entire core; the subjects that every student is required to be examined in. The 5 A\*-G and level 1 threshold results (96%) indicate once again that all but two or three students finish the Key Stage with a broad range of qualifications. In a school which is truly comprehensive it could be argued that it is this figure, above all others, which demonstrate inclusion and access.

The diversification of the curriculum in KS4 to include BTEC Level 1 and First (level 2) qualifications, NVQs and components of the DiDA have clearly supported the improvements in the Level 1 and Level 2 threshold achievement. More importantly the availability of this range of qualifications has helped maintain students' engagement in, and positive attitude towards, learning. One hundred and thirty one students achieved Level 2 Communication Key Skill.

It is difficult to provide a 'cast iron' evaluation for such a broad range of improvement indicators, especially in a school such as ours, where a number of strategic improvement strands run hand in hand. As indicated above the diversification of the curriculum has clearly had its part to play; more importantly the learning and teaching on most programmes of study, especially within the core, are now built around ambitious, consistent and constructive learning relationships. The school has been on a learning journey over the last five or so years; these results provide the first substantial indication that continued improvements in learning and attainment should be expected.

## **Adroddiad Blynyddol Llywodraethwyr i rieni 2009 - Crynodeb**

Most students are now achieving a minimum of 5 level 1 qualifications after following a full balanced curriculum throughout Key Stage 4. The BTEC Vocational Diploma, which was certificated for the first time this year, provided a small group of students with the opportunity to experience vocational learning at level 1 in a range of settings. Most of these students also achieved a mixture of Entry Level and GCSE qualifications.

Thirteen students achieved NVQ Level 1 qualifications in Construction, Automotive Engineering, Animal Care and Catering. The role of their Vocational Mentor in supporting them through this and many other qualifications cannot be understated. The implementation of whole school mentoring programmes is included in our current School Strategic Plan. One student achieved Key Skill and Entry Level qualifications with the support of the Youth Service.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2009 AT KEY STAGE 5**

***Pass Rate 99%                      82% at grade C or above (up 6% on 2008)***

The headline figures speak for themselves. Twenty two students achieved three or more A grades in their A levels; every member of Year 13 achieved certification on their programmes of study. 97% of students (104 out of 107) were accepted onto their first or second choice university course. One of the benefits of the AS/A2 system, with modular exams, is that students can gain externally verified recognition of the progress they are making at interim stages, along with a clear indication of the likely final outcome; they can then take action, and be supported, accordingly. Our performance at A' Level puts us within the top third of schools across the UK.

We continue to evaluate both the appropriateness and diversity of our Key Stage 5 curriculum offer. Along with all other post 16 educational establishments in Wales we are working with our local authority and the Welsh Assembly Government to match the needs of our students to national delivery and funding structures.

#### **Level 3: (Equivalent to 3 A levels)**

##### **BTEC National Diploma in Sports and Exercise Science**

All 12 students were successful, 8 with at least 3 Merits, 4 with all 3 awards at Distinction level. As ever, a number have progressed to Higher Education, by following this route, who might not have done so had they been trying to follow an A level programme.

#### **Level 2: (Equivalent to 4 GCSEs at Grade C+)**

##### **BTEC First Diploma in Sport**

All 11 students were successful, with 6 achieving Merit and 1 Distinction level. A number of these have stayed on for the two year National Diploma.

### **BTEC First Diploma in Business**

All 12 students were successful, with 6 achieving Merits and 1 a Distinction.

### **BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care**

All 4 students were successful with 2 at Distinction, 1 at Merit and 1 at Pass.

Numbers on these courses, and the profiles of the students, vary considerably from year to year. Two out of the three programmes are delivered, for a part of their time, in mixed aged classes alongside Key Stage 4 students. This structure not only promotes course sustainability but also aids peer mentoring and learning.

### TARGETS FOR 2010

Targets for 2010 are regarded as realistic, challenging and achievable. They are:

#### KEY STAGE 3

##### Targets for 2010 for students attaining Level 5

ENGLISH	92%
MATHEMATICS	87%
SCIENCE	88%
CORE SUBJECT INDICATOR	80%

#### Targets for 2010 At Key Stage 4

Entered for at least 1 CoEA, GCSE Short Course or Full GCSE	100%
Achieving at least 5 GCSE Grades A*-C	71%
Achieving at least 5 GCSE Grades A*-G	97%
Achieving the core subject indicator	64%
Leaving without a qualification	0
Unauthorised absence rate	0.8%

The latest available national (all-Wales) comparative information is published as Appendix 1.

# Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2009 - Summary

## Appendix 1

Monmouth Comprehensive School

**Provisional SSSP**

Summary of Secondary School Performance (1)

LEA/School No. 679/4060

### Pupils aged 15

**Number of pupils aged 15 who were on roll in January 2009 : 265**

**Percentage of pupils aged 15 who :**

	entered at least one qualification	achieved the Level 1 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE pass in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Core Subject Indicator (2)	Average wider points score per pupil
School 2008/09	100	97	73	63	62	420
LEA Area 2008/09	97	90	65	56	55	385
Wales 2008/09	99	88	59	47	45	364
School 07/08/09	100	95	66	..	53	403
School 06/07/08	..	..	..	..	49	388

**Number of boys aged 15 who were on roll in January 2009 : 122**

**Percentage of boys aged 15 who :**

	entered at least one qualification	achieved the Level 1 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE pass in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Core Subject Indicator (2)	Average wider points score per pupil
School 2008/09	100	95	64	53	54	390
LEA Area 2008/09	98	87	59	52	52	358
Wales 2008/09	98	85	54	43	42	341
School 07/08/09	100	93	58	..	47	375
School 06/07/08	..	..	..	..	44	358

**Number of girls aged 15 who were on roll in January 2009 : 143**

**Percentage of girls aged 15 who :**

	entered at least one qualification	achieved the Level 1 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold	achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE pass in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Core Subject Indicator (2)	Average wider points score per pupil
School 2008/09	99	99	81	71	68	445
LEA Area 2008/09	97	93	70	61	59	412
Wales 2008/09	99	91	65	51	49	388
School 07/08/09	100	97	74	..	59	430
School 06/07/08	..	..	..	..	54	419

# Adroddiad Blynyddol Llywodraethwyr i rieni 2009 - Crynodeb

Monmouth Comprehensive School

**Provisional SSSP**

Summary of Secondary School Performance (1)

LEA/School No. 679/4060

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**Pupils aged 15**

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	Percentage of pupils aged 15 who :		Percentage of boys aged 15 who :		Percentage of girls aged 15 who :	
	achieved one or more ELQ (3) only	Achieved no recognised qualification (4)	achieved one or more ELQ (3) only	Achieved no recognised qualification (4)	achieved one or more ELQ (3) only	Achieved no recognised qualification (4)
School 2008/09	0	1	0	0	0	1
LEA Area 2008/09	1	3	2	3	0	3
Wales 2008/09	1	3	2	4	1	2
School 07/08/09	2	..	3	..	0	..
School 06/07/08	2	..	3	..	1	..

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**Pupils aged 17**

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	Number of pupils aged 17 who were on roll in January 2009 : 155		Number of boys aged 17 who were on roll in January 2009 : 73		Number of girls aged 17 who were on roll in January 2009 : 82	
	Percentage of 17 year old pupils entering a volume equivalent to 2 A Levels who achieved the Level 3 threshold	Average wider points score for pupils aged 17	Percentage of 17 year old pupils entering a volume equivalent to 2 A Levels who achieved the Level 3 threshold	Average wider points score for pupils aged 17	Percentage of 17 year old pupils entering a volume equivalent to 2 A Levels who achieved the Level 3 threshold	Average wider points score for pupils aged 17
School 2008/09	95	607	98	587	93	626
LEA Area 2008/09	96	600	95	591	97	610
Wales 2008/09	95	645	94	620	97	666
School 07/08/09	..	654	..	603	..	700
School 06/07/08	..	..	..	..	..	..

# Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2009 - Summary

## Provisional SSSP

Monmouth Comprehensive School  
School Type: Comprehensive 11-18  
Linguistic Delivery: English medium

LEA/School No. 679/4060

Number of SEN Unit/Special Classes: 0

Number of Pupils on Roll in NCY 11: 266

Percentage of compulsory school age pupils eligible for FSM 2008/09: 8.8

Percentage of compulsory school age pupils eligible for FSM 07/08/09: 8.8

Percentage of compulsory school age pupils on SEN register: 18.7

Percentage of 15 year old pupils on SEN register: 18.6

### Level of Welsh Baccaalaureate Offered:

	Advanced for Post-16 Pupils	Intermediate for post-16 Pupils	Pilot Foundation for post-16 Pupils	Pilot Intermediate for pre-16 Pupils	Pilot Foundation for pre-16 Pupils
Welsh Baccaalaureate Offered: Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes