

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
GOVERNING BODY of Y PANT SCHOOL

**ANNUAL REPORT
TO PARENTS**

2008 – 2009

Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Governing Body of Y Pant School

Annual Report to Parents

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of its functions during the period September 2008 – August 2009.

1. SCOPE OF BUSINESS

(a) Number on Roll

Year	September 2008	January 2009
07	212	213
08	192	196
09	199	199
10	199	198
11	189	189
12	99	93
13	89	80
	1179	1168

Teaching Staff: 63 full time
@ 31.01.09 8 part time (equivalent to 5.76 f/t)
Pupil/teacher ratio 16.98.

Non-teaching staff:

- 1 Business Manager
- 6 Clerical
- 2.4 Laboratory Assistants
- 2 I.C.T. Technicians
- 1 Caretaker
- 1 Assistant Caretaker
- 1 D.T./Art Assistant (part time)
- 1 Home Economics Assistant (part time)
- 15 Learning Support Assistants
- 14 Cleaners (part time)

(b) Staff Appointments/Changes

Mrs. Bev Cheetham	Assistant Headteacher/Head of Middle School
Mrs. Gill Lee	Teacher of Home Economics
Ms Denise Jones	Temp. p/time Teacher of English
Ms Gail Biggs	Temp. teacher of SEN
Mrs. Gill Matthews	Learning Support Assistant
Mr. Mel Whitter	Learning Support Assistant
Mr. Mark Davies	Acting Head of Middle School
Mr. Ray Fisher	Acting Head of Maths
Miss Annie Purcell	Acting SENCO
Miss Jayne Gavaghan	Head of Year 08
Mrs. Jen Dyson	Assistant Head of Year 08
Mrs. Ele Jones	Head of Film & Media Studies
Mrs. Gail Hoare	Head of Modern Foreign Languages
Miss Rebecca Clark	Co-ordinator of the 'Learn Smart' Programme

(c) School Term and Holiday Dates for 2009/10

	TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM STARTS	HALF TERM ENDS	TERM ENDS
Autumn 2009	Wednesday 2 September	Monday 26 October	Friday 30 October	Friday 18 December
Spring 2010	Monday 4 January	Monday 15 February	Friday 19 February	Friday 26 March
Summer 2010	Monday 12 April	Monday 31 May	Friday 4 June	Friday 16 July

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY – MONDAY 3rd MAY 2010

2. Student Achievement
 a. SSSP Statistics (see appendix 3).

External Examination Results

	School	LEA	Wales
KS3			
% achieving level 5+			
English	84		70 (2008)
Maths	89		73 (2008)
Science	85		74 (2008)
Core Subject Indicator	79		60 (2008)
GCSE			
Level 2 Threshold	70	55	59
Level 1 Threshold	93	86	88
Core Subject Indicator	57	40	45
A2			
Based on 2 or more A Level examinations			
Level 3 Threshold	97	95	95
% pass rate A - C	85	65	70
Average score per student	714	618	645

(SSSP statistics are available in the full report)

Congratulations to students and staff on another set of superb results in the external examinations.

Once again Year 11 students produced an outstanding set of examination results which surpassed expectations. Over 70% of pupils who sat, attained the benchmark 5 A*-C grade at GCSE or equivalent level, while 25 pupils were awarded 10 A/A* grades or better. Natalie Hopkins and Hannah Sutton both achieved 10 A* passes and 3 grade A passes.

At AS level Year 12 students celebrated an excellent set of results. These included 71 passes at grade A and 75 at grade B. Ten students attained at least 3 A grades with Rachel Hughes, Thomas Rowlands, Bethan Smyth and Kirstyn Udy all receiving 4 A Grades.

At A2 level, results were outstanding and might be judged our best ever. Four of our students, Lauren Donovan, Alice Thompson, Lauren Selby and John Rogers have been successful in gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge. John Rogers, in fact, received 5A grades and 1B grade, a massive achievement. It is always a tremendous achievement when a student is successful in applying to Oxbridge, so for us to see four of our students accepted into these universities is a matter of great pride. Three other students achieved 4A grades, Sam Evans, Catrin Greaves and Harriet Orrell. Once again a tremendous achievement. Overall, 12 of our students achieved at least 3A grades at A2 level – a record for the school.

Our pass rate at A2 level was 99.5% with almost 70% at grade A and B. These are results that any school in Wales would be proud to achieve.

The school continued with its ‘early entry’ policy for selected subjects in Year 10.

Year 10 Results

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	A*-G
Religious Education	64	26.6	23.4	37.5	7.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0	95.3	100
English Literature	196	6.6	18.4	26.5	15.3	13.3	8.2	8.7	2.0	1.0	66.8	99
Sport/P.E. Studies	2	0	50.0	50.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100

KS3 Results

	School	Wales
% achieving level 5+		
English	84	70 (2008)
Maths	89	73 (2008)
Science	85	74 (2008)
Core Subject Indicator	79	60 (2008)

At Key Stage 3, 78.79% of students in Year 09 gained the ‘Core Subject Indicator’, an increase of 3.92% on the 2008 figure and a record for the school.

b. Sporting Achievements

The school takes part in a full range of sporting activities throughout the year. International and other representative honours were gained by students in the following sports.

<i>Swimming:</i>	Danielle Stirrat	(Wales & Great Britain)
	Alex Flint	(County)
	Harry Flint	(County)

<i>Cricket:</i>	Jonathan Edwards	(Wales)
	Oliver Smyth	(County)
	Sean Maisey	(County)
	Nathan Robinson	(County)
	Connor Brown	(County)
	Tom Ryan	(County)
	Steve Rowley	(County)
	Ashley Thomas	(County)
	Virajit (VJ) Pahari	(County)
	Sam Davies	(County)
	Alex Hickman	(County)
	Jack Bunyan	(County)
	Harry Flint	(County)
	Ieuan Jones	(County)
	Sam Pryor	(County)
	Dominic Grossett	(County)
	Sean Richards	(County)

<i>Judo:</i>	Demi Brooks	(Wales & UK Schools Games)
	Rudi Brooks	(Wales)

<i>X-Country:</i>	Nikita John	(Glamorgan Valleys)
	Terri-Casey Barter	(Glamorgan Valleys)
	Rebecca Evans	(Glamorgan Valleys)
	Ellen Havard	(Glamorgan Valleys)
	Emily Christopher	(Glamorgan Valleys)
	Sophia Christopher	(Glamorgan Valleys)

<i>Golf:</i>	Joe Francis	(Wales)
	Josh Jones	(Wales)
<i>Boxing:</i>	Tony Pace	(Wales)
<i>Tae Kwon Do</i>	Shannon Holley	(British Champion)
<i>Fencing</i>	James Duggan	(British Club Championship)
	Elliot Riella	(British Club Championship)
	Ethan Ridsdale	(County)
<i>Girls Football</i>	Georgia John	(Boys & Girls Club of Wales & Welsh Development Squad)
	Ffion Davies-Cale	(Represented Boys & Girls Club of Wales)
<i>Football</i>	Will Taylor	(District & Cardiff City)
	Liam Hopkins	(Wales)
	Kieran Lawrence	(County)
	Lewis Miller	(County)
	Sam Shilton	(County)
	Sean Richards	(County)
	Sam John	(District)
	Scott Thomas	(District)
	Luke Humphreys	(District)
<i>Rugby</i>	Lewis Morgan	(District)
	Sam Pryor	(District)
	Jordan Chan	(District)
	Morgan Raison	(District)
	Kieran Moroney	(District)
	James Little	(District)
	Jack Bunyan	(District)
	Ed Jones	(District)
	Adam Robins	(District)
	Huw Consitt	(District)
	Oliver Smyth	(District)
	Tom Williams	(District)
Jason Franklyn	(District)	
Rory Woodland	(District)	

<i>Rugby Cont...</i>	Jack Bowen	(District)
	Stuart Hill	(District)
	Elliot Jones	(District)
	Llewellyn Rees	(District)
	Ben Burgess	(District)
	Harry Davies	(District)
	Jack Waite	(District)
<i>Rugby League</i>	James Little	(Celtic Crusaders & Wales)
<i>Basketball</i>	Aaron Li	(County)
	Conor Robins	(County)
	Ahlen Decipolo	(County)
	Sean Richards	(County)
	Robson Wiggin	(County)
	Gian Lacsamana	(County)
<i>Volleyball</i>	James Little	} All pupils } trained as part } of the S.W. } Volleyball team } - and - } they took part } in the UK } School Games }
	Bethan Gray	
	Mitch Cabilies	
	Angharad Evans	
	Cherry Barrion	
	Rachel Pugh	
	Sophie Parr	
	Alex Stallworthy	
	Amy Bridges	
<i>Badminton</i>	Tsung Fong Mo	(Wales)
<i>Bowles</i>	Nick Gray	(County)

Congratulations to all on a real achievement!

c. Prize Giving

The annual Prize Giving Ceremony was held on March 31st 2009. Mr. Gareth Rees, Acting Service Director School & Community Learning from RCT, gave the address. The awards were generously sponsored by local companies and businesses.

d. School Activities (selected examples)

London Theatre: 'The Woman in Black' – July 2009

As part of the GCSE Drama course Year 10 students visited a London theatre on 23rd June 2009 to see a matinee performance of the acclaimed West End show 'The Woman in Black'.

Water Sports – La Fosca, Spain – July 2009

This was the second year in succession that pupils were given the opportunity to go on a water sports trip to La Fosca in Spain. This year included a stopover in Paris and a visit to Disneyland on the way to Spain. The party consisted of 44 staff and pupils.

Year 12 Trip to Provence 11th – 16th July 2009

Seven Year 12 pupils accompanied by Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Davies flew to Marseille and onto Avignon where they lodged in a hotel just outside the city centre. Avignon is a beautiful walled city steeped in history and culture: home to the Popes of the 14th Century, a famous bridge over the river Rhône and a festival akin to the Edinburgh Festival every July.

Fashion Show- June 2009

E3+ students took to the catwalk on Wednesday 17th June 2009 in the first ever fashion show held at the school. The students modelled a series of clothes that illustrated everything that is great about British weather.

Copa Catalunya — June 2009

In June Y Pant football team flew into Gerona airport to take part in one of the biggest youth football festivals in Europe. The first game saw the boys play the reigning Copa champions EMF Torrijos. The following day they played another Italian side A C Sagnino. The final game saw Y Pant gain an impressive 3-3 draw against Italian opposition CGSD Pressing.

Alongside the football, the boys embarked on numerous excursions which included a day trip to Barcelona (Camp Nou), Water-world and various team building exercises outside of the hotel. On the penultimate day Komm Mitt organised an award ceremony, with all the players receiving a medal, followed by the cup presentation.

Trip to Northern France - March 18th to 21st 2009

On Wednesday 18th March 48 Year 8 and 9 students, together with their French teachers and Mr. Sweet, left Y Pant School en route to the Château d'Ebbleshem near St. Omer in the north of France. The party visited a village bakery in Neufchatel-Hardelot, where the owner demonstrated the bread-making process and the students had a go at making croissants.

They also visited the site of the battle of the Somme in 1916, where students saw trenches, a massive crater caused by an underground explosion and the incredible Thiepval Memorial. The students of Y Pant laid a wreath on behalf of the football association of Wales. On the final day pupils had the opportunity to visit the Cité Europe shopping mall outside Calais, before returning home.

Y Pant's Got Talent – March 2009

On Friday 13th March 2009 the school held its annual show at the Muni Arts Centre, Pontypridd. The evening was a showcase of the talents of 100 young people from right across the school. The evening was a fantastic success.

Ski Trip - Altenmarkt, Austria in February 2009

The annual ski trip this year was to Altenmarkt with a total of 94 staff and pupils. The snow conditions were wonderful and the pistes superb. Everyone had an enjoyable time and it was a great success again this year.

Trip to New York – February 2009

In February of this year, Y Pant School visited New York. It was another action packed, multi cultural tour of a fantastic city. All students enjoyed this educational trip and all had a greater appreciation of what our world has to offer.

Christmas 2008

- Saturday 8th December, Sixth Form students went bag packing in M&S to raise money towards the Senior Citizens Party. They raised an impressive £600.
- Carol Concert—December 9th at Bethel Baptist Church.

- A Salvation Army collection was organised by Mrs. Jen Dyson. A generous wealth of gifts was donated to the Salvation Army on Thursday 11th December.
- Senior Citizens Party on the 12th December.
- Our Music students performed at the Christmas Tree Festival, organised by Llantrisant Parish Church, on Saturday 13th December.
- Year 07 Carol Service at the Catholic Church in Miskin on December 17th.
- Year 07 —cinema trip on 17th December.

DT Engineering Challenge 16th September 2008

On the 16th September twenty Year 10 pupils took part in an Engineering activity provided by the Patent Office and run in conjunction with EBP. The activity was school based and it involved theory and practical aspects that pupils could transfer into their relevant area of study.

Spanish Department - Year 13 Visit to Mallorca October 2008

In October the A level Spanish group, accompanied by Mrs. and Mr. Hoare visited Mallorca. The purpose of the visit was to gain first hand experience of the island in preparation for the production of an A level project entitled “The Different Faces of Mallorca”. The work included several cultural visits, an investigation of various forms of tourism on the island, tourist accommodation, local food, customs and festivals.

Duke of Edinburgh - COPE Update

Eighteen pupils from yr12 completed their expedition section in July. Currently 13 pupils are in the Yr11 CoPE group and 11 have opted for the course in Yr10. Both groups will continue to be involved in a variety of community based voluntary activities.

e. Friends of Y Pant School (FOYPS)

The aim of FOYPS is to raise money for resources that will benefit the whole school. FOYPS was established back in December 2007. Subsequent meetings have seen the committee grow, resulting in the election of the following officers:

- Chairperson – Sian Bolton
- Vice Chairperson – Rhian Horsey
- Treasurer – Matthew James
- Vice Treasurer – Karen Brown
- Secretary – Caroline Wool
- Vice Secretary – SJ Brewer

FOYPS has held two major fundraising events: a quiz night and the May Ball at the Vale Hotel. They have also held raffles at major school events such as Y Pant's Got Talent at the Municipal Hall, Pontypridd and the Christmas concert held in the Bethel Baptist church. These events have raised £1,500.00.

Each department within the school has the opportunity to bid for money raised by FOYPS. This year the successful departments have been Maths, Science, Music and Land and Environment.

f. Education Business Partnership

The Education Business Partnership delivered a programme to all year groups including:-

Year 07	Industry Day - July 10 th .
Year 08	Industry Visits - May & June.
Year 09	Sustainability Challenge – July 10 th .
Year 10	Enterprise Day – July 10 th .
Year 11	Mock interviews – January 28 th – 30 th .

g. Community Links

- (i) The Christmas Carol Concert was held at Bethel Baptist Church in Pontyclun on 9th December 2008.
- (ii) A collection raised a wealth of gifts which was donated to the Salvation Army on 11th December 2008.
- (iii) A Senior Citizens party was held at the school on 12th December 2008.
- (iv) Our music students performed at the Christmas Tree Festival, organised by Llantrisant Parish Church, on 13th December 2008.
- (v) Pupils from the feeder primary schools attended and contributed to a concert in school on December 15th 2008.
- (vi) The Christmas Carol Service for Year 07 was held at the Catholic Church in Miskin on December 17th 2008.
- (vii) Fund Raising
 - Children in Need - £2,800 was raised.
 - Sponsored Walk - £2,709 was raised.

h. In Service Training for Teachers

In the past year, all teachers at Y Pant have received training in Interactive Learning, Stress Awareness and Management, Child Protection and Drugs Awareness. The Y Pant cluster of schools had joint training on The Multiplier Effect in Education. Several teachers volunteered to undertake training as Assertive Mentors and a group of teachers successfully secured GTCW funding for a group bursary which they used to further develop strategies for provision for More Able & Talented pupils. Many teachers attended training outside the school in such fields as Behaviour Management, Exam Board feedback, preparation for new syllabi and Learning to Learn (L2L). Regarding the latter, 16 teachers have been trained to deliver the L2L course to pupils in Years 7&8.

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i. School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is updated annually to include any changes required by the National Welsh Assembly Government or other related bodies. A copy of the prospectus is generally issued to parents whose children are starting school for the first time or transferring from Primary to Comprehensive School.

Parents have been informed if any amendments were made to the existing prospectus. The school prospectus is also available on-line on the Y Pant website www.ypant.co.uk.

j. School Policies

The following policy statements are available on request from the Headteacher:-

Bullying	Sex Education	School Uniform	Equal Opportunities
Health & Safety	School Rules	Drugs	Pastoral
Minibus	Charging	Race Equality	Complaints Procedure
Assessment	Behaviour	Discipline	Careers
Homework	Child Protection	Computer Misuse	Cross Curricular Themes
Exam Entry	Home/School	Gifted & Talented	Induction
INSET	ITT	Literacy	Numeracy
Pay	Work Related	Attendance	Performance Mgmt
Self Evaluation	Special Needs	Spelling	Transition
Charging & Remission		Staff Attendance	Pregnant Women at Work
Schools Disability & Equality			

k. Policy for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

The School Policy on Special Educational Needs conforms to the Code of Practice and successfully identifies and caters for the specific needs of each pupil with SEN. The school works closely with the Educational Psychological Service and the designated Learning Support Governors are Mrs. Sian Bolton, Mrs. Rhian Horsey and Mr. Phil Sweet.

The Headteacher and Governing Body use funding from their Formula Allocated budget to help pupils with Special Needs. Regular consultation takes place between school and Local Education Authority to identify, assess and provide for pupils who have Special Needs in particular areas.

l. Attendance 2008/09

Overall % Attendance	90.68
% Authorised Absence	6.54
% Unauthorised Absence	2.78

m. Pupils with Disabilities

The LEA is continuing to review facilities and access for disabled pupils. In the new teaching block, full facilities for the disabled are in place.

A shower, toilet and rest room facility for pupils with disabilities has been installed opposite Room 1 in the main block.

n. Planned Programme of Minor Works and Repairs

Works undertaken in school during the year include:

Location	Works
External	Installation of new storage container
External	Continued development of re-cycling area
External	Construction of large shed for land and development course
External	Creation of gardening and composting area
External	Installation of 6 no. external doors (funded in partnership with LEA)
Internal	Upgrade to school's electricity supply with modern switch gear in the substation and switch room
Internal	Revamp of photocopying area
Internal	Front desk worktop installed in number of classrooms
Internal	Extensive computer networking
Internal	Erection of digital projectors in classrooms - objective is to have one per class
Internal	Rolling programme of painting and decorating - to create environment which is conducive to teaching and learning

The programme of repairs and improvements is continuous however the following priorities for site development which require substantial capital investment have been identified by the Governing Body. These have been brought to the attention of the L.E.A. over several year:

- Modernisation of the Design and Technology block;
- Replacement of all portacabins with permanent structures;
- Provision of upgraded and expanded changing room facilities;
- Refurbishment of toilet facilities in the old buildings;
- New windows and doors throughout most of the older buildings;
- Improved provision for catering and dining.

o. Service Level Agreement

The Governors approved the purchase of the following Service Level Agreements from the Authority:-

Peripatetic Music; School Meals; Repairs and Maintenance; ESIS Governors' Support, Human Resources, Payroll, SIMS and Grounds Maintenance.

p. Destination of School Leavers

(information will be provided in a separate letter, once available, at a later date).

q. Targets 2008-09

The Priority continues to be an improvement in the quality of teaching and learning and raising performance in all subject areas. Each pupil will be encouraged to achieve his/her full potential.

Evaluation / Review of Targets 2008 - 2009

To Continue to Improve Teaching and Learning and Thus Raise Standards Across All Key Stages

To facilitate and ensure implementation of new National Curriculum orders.

All schemes of work have now been adapted to address the changes in range. The new skills framework is becoming assimilated into lesson planning as evidenced by departmental documentation (including minutes) peer observations, departmental reviews and ESIS R&D visits (the latter will be discontinued as of September 09 due to policy and budgetary changes in ESIS and in light of the fact that our departments have performed impressively in the most recent cycle of reviews).

To audit, facilitate and ensure cross-curricular delivery of core themes and skills as outlined in new National Curriculum.

All departments completed their audits in Autumn Term 2008. The documented whole school mapping exercise is available for reference on the Staff Area. All areas of skills and themes are covered although the next challenge will be the assurance of progression in skills in particular.

To introduce and deliver new LearnSmart programme

LearnSmart appeared on the school timetable for the first time this year. Year 7 received 4 lessons per fortnight in which they followed a thematic approach to Thinking Skills with lessons planned by the team of teachers delivering the subject. Pupil feedback to this approach was mixed although the performance of Year 7 pupils in the Eco Project ('better than Eton' according to one facilitator) provided evidence of the relevant skills in effective practice. Next year the shift will be from pure Thinking Skills to Learning to Learn with Years 7&8 following the ALITE L2L programme. Miss Rebecca Clark has now been nominated LearnSmart co-ordinator.

To increase the profile of bilingualism throughout the school.

A task group of teachers volunteered to devise the action plan and draft the whole school policy on bilingualism. In the Summer Term Achievement Assemblies Mr Ian Mitchell launched the policy with pupils. Teachers and LSAs will receive training from our colleagues in the Welsh Department in incidental Welsh in September. Already the evidence of spoken Welsh about the school is very apparent as the policy becomes increasingly embedded.

To introduce ASDAN/CoPE course to Year 10 pupils.

CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness) was available as a Key Stage 4 curriculum option for the first time this year. This Level 1 qualification provides a valuable curricular facility for pupils for whom the more traditional curriculum is inappropriate. Ms Annie Purcell has developed the CoPE group into one which is characterised by the real daily achievements of the pupils and the contributions they make to the school and the community at large. Current pupil numbers stand at 13 in Year 11 with a further 12 pupils opting for CoPE next year.

To audit and raise profile of Curriculum Cymraeg

See Action 2.

To introduce CPD opportunities for colleagues aspiring to senior leadership

Middle leaders have been given whole-school responsibilities with which to develop their portfolio of leadership and management skills. Appropriate targets have been identified in Performance Management rounds. The school supported Mr. Paul Rowlands, Mr. Andrew Hurley, Mrs Eleanor Johns, Mr Mark Davies and Mr Mike Stephens in attending a seminar for middle managers aspiring to senior management. An in-house CPD prospectus for 09-10 has been produced and includes 'Applying for Senior Leadership Positions' and 'Developing Leadership and Management Skills.'

To Develop ASDAN as a Whole School Tool for Raising Achievement

To audit aspects of CoPE levels 1&2 which are already covered in school

An initial consideration of this action led us to the conclusion that this is not currently the most appropriate means of accreditation for skills-based activities.

To continue to offer CoPE as KS4 option

12 pupils have signed up for the CoPE course for academic year 09/10.

To seek Wider Key Skills accreditation for all pupils in KS3 through avenues such as LearnSmart

The change in approach to LearnSmart lessons has determined a year's delay to this process.

To use ALAN as a means of accrediting pupils who have been disaffected

Investigations into the ALAN qualifications raised serious doubts as to whether the tests were fit for the purpose that we wanted.

To Introduce 'Assertive Mentoring' into Key Stage 4

Following the decision to implement Assertive Mentoring (AM) in February 2008, Mr. Mark Davies was appointed as Assertive Mentoring Senior Leader (AMSL) and a team comprising Mr. M. Davies, Mr. I Dyson, Mr. A. Hurley and Mrs. J. Griffiths formed to develop the AM programme.

The AM model was presented to staff and a calendar for implementation produced. The team of 26 mentors was formed from senior management team (SMT) and staff volunteers and training was provided in the **assertive** mentoring process by Mr. Hurley and Mr. Dyson using feedback from the AM conference and by Mr. Davies via the booklets "Guidance for Assertive Mentors".

In the mean time, Mrs. Griffiths, as Head of Year 10, introduced AM to the pupils and outlined the mentoring process to them. Mr. Davies gave a more detailed presentation to pupils in October at a Year 10 assembly, to parents at the Year 10 Achievement Evening and also to the Governing body. Year 10 pupils were allocated to mentors. SMT members are responsible for more pupils (11/12 each) than other members of the team (4/5 each).

In November data became available from the Fischer Family Trust (FFT) and the Type D data was used to produce aspirational targets for all pupils in all of their subjects. This provided the standard against which all pupil progress would be judged in the AM process. Some of these targets were amended in the light of a professional discourse with Heads of Departments but once set they are only able to be amended **upwards** by agreement between the student, the mentor, the teacher and the AMSL.

Pupils were issued with their targets and the initial meeting between mentor and students took place in December where these targets were discussed and the process again explained in detail.

There were three mentoring meetings held, in February, April and July. Prior to these meetings the individual class teachers entered a “currently working at” grade for each pupil. This grade should reflect the grade that “the pupil would be expected to achieve at GCSE if they continue working in this manner” and requires careful professional judgement using all the evidence available. Departmental time was made available for this process to take place.

The vast majority of the pupils have been very enthusiastic about the whole process as have the mentors and feedback from parents has also been almost wholly positive. Only one parent, of a very capable pupil, was concerned about unnecessary pressure being placed on her child. In most cases this pressure is seen as a positive way of helping to motivate and focus pupils.

For some pupils it has been necessary to implement interventions into their learning to help overcome barriers to progress. These have taken the form of the simple quick word with the class teacher to the imposition of an academic detention. On the whole pupils have responded well to these interventions as they can see the beneficial effect on their progress.

All the data collected is entered into the LISOL management system and we are able to track pupils' progress against their targets and use detailed analysis to extrapolate the data towards the GCSE results. By discussing this with Heads of Department and in turn with their subject colleagues, all staff have become more aware of their own contributions to the school targets as well as their own targets for the pupils they teach.

The AM process will continue in 2009/10 with the current Year 10 beginning in February as Year 11 move towards final preparations for the external GCSE examinations.

To Implement a New 'More Able & Talented (MAAT)' Programme and Work Towards the NACE Challenge Award

The school has made significant progress in raising the profile of MAAT students and strategies in the past year. The key foci of raising awareness of MAAT issues, developing the ethos pertaining to MAAT, celebrating success of MAAT students, developing teaching and learning strategies to accommodate MAAT and generating opportunities for MAAT have all been substantially met.

The development of awareness and the cultivating of an ethos have improved in the following ways. The school has initiated two working groups to tackle this issue. The Monday strategy group began the process of defining and meeting the needs of the MAAT. Heads of Department have generated subject specific criteria to help define an MAAT student.

A smaller group applied for a GTCW group bursary. The group visited Treorchy Comprehensive, the only secondary school in Wales currently holding the NACE Challenge Award. We also met with a former NACE Challenge Award inspector who took us through the requirements for achieving the status. The group completed an audit of the current provision for MAAT in the school, generated an MAAT register across the year groups, undertook a staff training session to identify classroom strategies for MAAT, began the process of collating an evidence portfolio and produced an action plan for the engagement with parents. This process will continue this year in readiness for obtaining the NACE Challenge Award.

The foyer area has been significantly upgraded to reflect the success of MAAT students – the academic boards are now up-to-date and there is an online facility to share success on the large screen television. The Assessment policy for the school has been completed and agreed and the school's website has been significantly improved, offering ample opportunities to celebrate our pupils' successes. The Peer Observation programme undertaken by all staff included a focus on provision for MAAT, leading to a fantastic opportunity for widespread sharing of best practice.

The Assertive Mentoring programme (see above) has been established in the school this year, using the most aspirational predictive GCSE targets and closely monitoring all students to achieve their full potential. Transition projects and meetings have further enhanced the pupils' familiarity and opportunity in the school and meetings with the cluster Primary schools furnished with the most detailed information we have received on MAAT pupils. Key Stage 5 programmes to develop aspiration in university choices led to our best ever numbers being accepted into Oxbridge this year.

E3+'s extensive programmes and specifically targeted Challenge Days added to the range of enrichment opportunities offered by departments have all contributed to an incredible array of opportunity and success for students at Y Pant this year. The briefest glance at the Success and News pages on the school website emphasises achievements. Regional qualification for Oxford Union Debating, participation in a model UN Conference, participation for a programme on Boys' Literacy for Teachers TV, Design Technology Transition Project, COPE participation in raising money for the homeless, Winners in the English Speaking Union Public Speaking competition, a number of students achieving GB status in swimming, judo and boxing, winning entry in Future Chef competition ... the list goes on.

It has been a significant year in the provision of MAAT students at Y Pant: a fantastic foundation for even more progress next year.

To Continue to Develop 'Key Skills' in Key Stage 5

In early June teaching staff were allocated to form the Key Skills teams for the academic year 2008-09. This was in preparation for the one-day visit by OCR Key Skills Moderator, Mary Crandon. All undertook training in one or more of the Key Skills of Communication, Application of Number, Improving Own Learning and Performance or ICT depending on their commitment in the coming year. Staff involved included: Mr. Davies. Mr. Jones, Mr. Battle, Miss Purcell, Miss Neill, Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Pearsall, Mr. Breeze, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Harbour, Mr. Hurley, Ms. Jones, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Howells, Miss Crook, Miss Bunce and Mrs. Lloyd-Davies.

At the beginning of Year 12 all students receive information regarding Key Skills from Mr. Davies as part of the induction process. All students in Years 12 & 13 were timetabled for one lesson a fortnight in each of the Key Skills of Communication & Application of Number, where they were given guidance and support in completing tasks to meet the criteria for that KS from teachers with a specialism in that area. They also followed a programme to help compile a portfolio of evidence for IOLP in their "Form Period" under the guidance of the Form Tutor.

Throughout the year students worked at producing their portfolios with varying degrees of enthusiasm and success; the two being directly related. By the end of June many students, particularly Year 12 had completed portfolios and these have been checked by the tutors. These will now undergo a process of moderation with any substandard portfolios being returned to the students for completion.

All students have been registered with OCR and an initial visit by the OCR moderator will take place in November with the accreditation visit to follow. A significant number of students will gain accreditation at Level 3 in at least one of the Key Skills.

The Key Skill of Problem Solving will be addressed via the Sixth Form's reflection on their future and participating in the UCAS application process. This has been addressed in the Sixth Form Conference by Mr. Jones & Mr. Battle.

Other areas where Key Skills are being addressed are within Duke of Edinburgh, Mentoring, Engineering Scheme et al. Portfolios of evidence are to be developed for students working in these areas.

As these processes become embedded in the Sixth Form curriculum the numbers of Key Skills Awards will steadily increase.

To Continue to Develop Y Pant as a Community School

E3+ has achieved the aim of the project this academic year of extending, enriching and exciting young people. The programme offered over 60 different activities for young people to access, ranging from wood burning, playing in a rock band, IT game making, theatrical make-up, and exciting off-site activities of skiing, horse riding, rock climbing, archery and many more. The two sessions run from 3.15pm-5.15pm and 6.00pm-8.00pm, during the break a café bar is open where refreshments can be obtained at a reduced cost. During the year over 18,000 spaces were filled with 60 different activities for young people to access.

Adult Learning has been developed throughout this academic year with classes being offered to the community from 6.00pm-8.30pm. Linking with the University of Glamorgan we delivered German Level 1 and 2, Spanish Level 3, Introduction to Counselling and Level 1 and various IT courses. Over 50 adults accessed these courses.

Students of the school can now access counselling via the Eye-to-Eye Counselling Service, who attended the school twice a week, enabling them access to 3 pupils per week. Students can self-refer or can be referred via their Heads of Year. The scheme has been very successful and as a result the counselling service has received additional funding to extend the hours they provide within the school for the next academic year.

Working in partnership with the 5x60 Officer we have encouraged young people to increase the number of hours that they participate in physical activities. This academic year 61% of young people attended at least 1 activity with 40% accessing 5 or more. Sporting opportunities are offered during both the lunchtime and the e3+ programme.

For three weeks during the month of August, Y Pant played host to a free holiday play scheme for young people in the age range of 8-14 years. The provision was run from 9.00am – 4.00pm every day. Additional funding was provided through the Fframwaith framework designed to support holiday provision throughout Rhondda Cynon Taff. It was decided that part of the funding would be used to employ Introsport, a company known to many schools and partners throughout the Local Authority area. Introsport, as the name suggests, offers sporting opportunities for young people. The young people booked into the activities and could attend on individual days or for the whole week.

During the planning stages it was decided that the E3 staff and the Cluster Worker would run the Art and Craft sessions and that Introsport would support the sport activities. Funding for the Art and Craft was paid primarily from the E3 budget for materials to enable the sessions to be interesting and fun but also to provide quality provision.

Attendance was based upon young people attending on individual days or being booked in for the whole of the 3 weeks. Around 50-65 young people attended every day for the three week period. All had the choice of attending the sporting activities or the art and craft sessions. Attendance seemed to be evenly split between both activities but the sport was predominately attended by more boys. The Art and Craft sessions consisted of clay modelling, portrait painting, card and mask making, marble art and t-shirt design.

Evaluations showed that both activities were enjoyed by all. The benefits to young people attending provided opportunities for Year 6 pupils starting at Y Pant in the new term to familiarise themselves with the school, E3 staff and make new friends thus aiding the transition process.

YPF'09 was held at the school on the 10th July 2009 to promote the continued success of the E3+ scheme and music department. The concert was held outdoors in the school grounds with a specially-erected stage. It was a fabulous opportunity to showcase the tremendous talent that has been nurtured and developed at the school throughout the past year, together with performances from young people who have participated in various activities on the school's E3+ programme. Over a 100 young people participated in the event with acts ranging from rock bands, solo artist, drum group, break dancing and many more.

Supported by The Friends of Y Pant Comprehensive School, the evening also included children from the local cluster schools as part of a transition project, performing in a youth orchestra. Y Pant Summer Festival, which was created with the partnership of E3+ and the school's music department, has proved beyond doubt how successful this initiative continues to be.

As part of the transition programme we held a launch day on the 30th June 2009 for our cluster primary school pupils from year 5 and 6. This gave the pupils the opportunity to sample activities such as rock climbing, circus skills, basketball, street dancing and many more. Schools were mixed to aid the transition process and pupils follow a carousel route of the activities, to have the opportunity to sample them all. 330 young people attended the day, which allowed them to also familiarise themselves with the school environment.

E3+ supported the annual Christmas Senior Citizen's party held in the main hall of the school. Supported by year 12 and 13 pupils, we bag packed at Tesco, Talbot Green, to raise additional funds to purchase Christmas decorations and presents for each person attending. Transport and refreshment were available and the school's music department provided the entertainment. Over 100 Senior Citizens attended, representing every Sheltered Accommodation and Senior Citizen's Association within our cluster community areas.

To Improve Performance in Basic Skills

The school is still awaiting the annual review report which was carried out by Mr. Lynn Williams from ESIS on July 1st 2009. However, all targets were met with the following exceptions:-

- Review of literacy across the curriculum - Oracy - Not required to be completed by ESIS.
- Audit of numeracy across the curriculum - this will take place after the new mathematics syllabus implementation at KS3.

All pupils in KS3 were issued with a Pupil Learning Kit (PLK), which contained literacy and numeracy guidance as well as subject specific information and a glossary. Basic skills pupils were also provided with a booklet showing individual targets. Both Literacy and Numeracy were taught by subject specialists as far as possible

2008-2009

There were two target groups for Basic skills for both Literacy and Numeracy in each of years 7, 8 & 9. All classes were taught by Mrs. M. Llewellyn with great success. Pupils were withdrawn for 2 hours per 2 week timetable cycle.

Testing

CATS – annually.

Usage of number workout in years 7, 8 and 9.

Trial of Sumsville CD Rom for maths skills.

Literacy – NFER, Schonell or Nealls -3 times per year.

To Continue to Develop E-Learning Within the School

E-learning Highlights

The Local authority has once again stated that Y Pant's position is firmly at the forefront of VLE use and development. We are the 'first port of call' for pilot projects, and requests for case-studies of successful use of virtual learning.

Our innovative pilot project for the new VLE was launched earlier this year, with more able and talented pupils using the system with 'teacher rights' to carry out independent research. The delivery of the launch day was undertaken entirely by other staff, proving that proficiency in the use of Moodle is spreading throughout the school. Unfortunately, RCT's new Moodle installation (which was the reason for RCT's request for a pilot project) was not ready in time, so we had to use our own Moodle instead.

The new photocopying/scanning machines, combined with e-copy software, have huge potential for helping encourage departments to create electronic resources. They should also help to free up significant amounts of administrative staff time.

There continue to be encouraging examples of staff enthusiasm for various aspects of e-learning. These include the successful testing of digital field recorders by Welsh, the enthusiastic approach of Mrs. Philippa Grant towards getting involved with Moodle and seeing the potential of the scanning machines (and passing this on to teaching staff!), and the pleasing response to Fi Hook-MacKenzie's Moodle training sessions.

A new Music Department website was launched which allows pupils to write and comment on the site.

E-learning Issues

RCT have been unable to move as quickly as we would like in setting up their new unified VLE. Earlier this year, Corporate ICT finally admitted defeat and passed on the hosting and support responsibilities to the University of Glamorgan. We may have a working system from RCT by the end of the academic year, but this is by no means certain.

The vision of having wifi access available in a large proportion of the school site stalled at a very early stage. The test installation in the music department is in daily use, and some sixth form students make use of it with their own laptops which they bring to school. We have moved the test installation slightly so that coverage is available in some parts of the English department. In addition, a new access point was set up near the Drama department, but this was only in order to provide Mr. Owen Thomas with connectivity so that he could take the register when his main computer was broken.

In informal conversation, several staff have identified lack of time and lack of computers as the two main issues preventing a greater adoption of e-learning. Hopefully, the new 'CPD hours' system should deal with the first of these. With regard to the second, lack of new computers is not necessarily an insurmountable problem but certainly one which can put off staff who are not entirely sure they want to get involved in e-learning in the first place!

Another problem frequently mentioned to me is lack of technical support, with our two technicians being asked to deal with increasing volumes of work, and increasingly complex requests (particularly by departments like Music, testing the limits of technology and making difficult and complex requests) while still having to deal with 'run of the mill' issues with the 300+ computers in the school.

We continue to have problems with our Internet connection, with the RCT-supplied machine running the user accounts being a PC (not even a server) which is underpowered and unreliable. Our actual connection to the outside world runs very slowly at times as well.

To Continue to Improve the School Environment and Accommodation

Works undertaken in school during the year include:

Location	Works
External	Installation of new storage container
External	Continued development of re-cycling area
External	Construction of large shed for land and development course
External	Creation of gardening and composting area
External	Installation of 6 external doors (funded in partnership with LEA)
Internal	Upgrade to school's electricity supply with modern switch gear in the substation and switch room
Internal	Revamp of photocopying area
Internal	Front desk worktop installed in number of classrooms
Internal	Extensive computer networking
Internal	Erection of digital projectors in classrooms - objective is to have one per class
Internal	Rolling programme of painting and decorating - to create environment which is conducive to teaching and learning

The programme of repairs and improvements is continuous however the following priorities for site development which require substantial capital investment have been identified by the Governing Body. These have been brought to the attention of the L.E.A. over several years:

- Modernisation of the Design and Technology block;
- Replacement of all portacabins with permanent structures;
- Provision of upgraded and expanded changing room facilities;
- Refurbishment of toilet facilities in the old buildings;
- New windows and doors throughout most of the older buildings;
- Improved provision for catering and dining.

3. Composition of Governing Body 2009/10
(see Appendix 1).

4. Financial Statement
(see Appendix 2).

5. Information for Parents
In accordance with the requirements of Section 20 of the 1986 Education Act, the Governors will make arrangements, via the Headteacher, for any information not included in this Report to be made available to parents during the ensuing academic year.

6. Clerk to the Governing Body

The Clerk to the Governing Body is :-

Mrs. J. Stuckey

Assistant Head of Governor & Liaison Services

Rhondda Cynon Taf C.B.C.

Ty Trevithick

Abercynon

Mountain Ash

CF45 4UQ

Tel. No. (01443) 744000

Fax No. (01443) 744024

Chairperson of the Governing Body is:-

Mrs. R. Barnes

c/o Y Pant School

Cowbridge Road

Pontyclun

Mid Glamorgan

CF72 8 YQ

Tel. No. (01443) 237701

Fax No. (01443) 229248

APPENDIX 1 shows the composition of the Governing Body, including the category of each governor which denotes by whom they were appointed/elected and the cessation of their term of office, which is in compliance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Y PANT COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

GOVERNING BODY

	<u>End of Office</u>
<u>LEA Representatives (5)</u>	
Mr R Dodd	20 th September 2012
Mrs E Davies	20 th January 2010
Mrs K Selby	8 th March 2012
Mrs R Horsey	23 rd April 2013
Mr A Matheson	10 th January 2010
<u>Teacher Representatives (2)</u>	
Mrs S Rose	1 st October 2012
Mr P Sweet	31 st August 2012
<u>Support Staff Representative (1)</u>	
Mrs S Hanover	31 st August 2013
<u>Parent Representatives (6)</u>	
Mr S Duggan	1 st October 2012
Mrs H Morgan	1 st October 2012
Mrs M Hammouden	1 st October 2012
Mrs S Bolton	28 th November 2009
Mrs N John	6 th November 2010
Mr P Rowley	4 th November 2011
<u>Community Governors (5)</u>	
Mrs R M Barnes (Chairperson)	6 th October 2012
Mrs L Ferris	6 th October 2012
Mr M J Harris	6 th October 2012
Mr D N Davies-Thomas	6 th October 2012
Mr J Woodington	30 th September 2011
<u>Headteacher Representative</u>	
Mr S W Tucker	

Arrangements are in place to fill any vacancies, in the appropriate manner, as they arise.

Appendix 2

Summary of Expenditure and Income 2008 - 2009			
Expenditure			
		£	£
Salaries	Teaching Staff	3116352	
	Caretakers	46074	
	Cleaners	100510	
	Support Staff	301438	
	Advertisements	1700	
Supplies and Services	Teaching Materials	130425	
	Examination Fees	84707	
	Equipment and Furniture	4557	
	ICT Costs	44688	
	Administrative Costs	25584	
	School Meals/Uniforms	33360	
	Clawback	16628	
	Contracts (SLAs)	8282	
			348,231
Premises Related	Repairs and Maintenance	61941	
	Site Development	9516	
	Grounds Maintenance	10872	
	Utilities	80369	
	Rates	82016	
	Cleaning materials and equipment	6521	
			251,236
	Transport Costs	9024	9,024
	Total Expenditure		4,174,564
Income			
	Brought forward from 2007/08	37340	
	E3 Reimbursements	10415	
	Miscellaneous Income	80249	
	Net Formula Funding	4179770	
	Welsh Assembly Grants	16360	
	Interest	3216	
	Total Income		4,327,350
	Reserves Carried Forward to 2008/09		152,786