



**LONDON WELSH SCHOOL
YSGOL GYMRAEG LLUNDAIN**

Hanwell Community Centre, Westcott Crescent, Hanwell, W7 1PD
Athrawes Arweiniol: Rachel Rawlins
020 8575 0237

info@ysgolgymraegllundain.co.uk

Mrs Suzy Davies
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA
22/5/17

Dear Suzy,

I write on behalf of the Welsh School's Board of Directors to tell you a little about our School. We are delighted that our happy and successful School will be celebrating its 60th anniversary next year.

Our numbers have been constant for a number of years and we are very pleased that the number of pupils will increase next year. Marketing the School is a major priority and our aim is to increase the numbers even more. As we are a small school, it is a challenge to maintain the school financially and we are indebted to the Welsh in Education Development Board of Llywodraeth Cymru for their financial support which funds approximately half of our running costs. To meet the shortfall, fees are payable, we have a continuous programme of fund raising organized by the PTFA and we receive contributions from the London Welsh community. The school is a registered charity and no child is refused due to familial financial constraints.

We follow the Welsh National Curriculum, which ensures that the Welsh language and culture is an inherent part of the pupils' lessons and activities. Our pupils feel part of the wider Welsh community in both London and Wales. Welsh is spoken completely naturally during playtimes. The School is a shop window for Welsh culture in London – the pupils sing and recite in the annual St David's Day service in Westminster; they take part in local events such as Hanwell Carnival and hold concerts in the London Welsh Centre.



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The annual participation in the service in Westminster underlines the status of the Welsh language beyond Wales. Our families will move or travel great distances to enable their children to attend the school. This demonstrates an indefatigable support for Welsh language education in London.

A number of families return to Wales and the children integrate easily into Welsh medium schools. The influence and existence of the School, for example, parents learning Welsh, will contribute to the target of a million Welsh language speakers by 2050.

We are aware that there are financial constraints on the Welsh Government but we urgently need and would greatly appreciate continued support for the school from you and your party members when the time comes to distribute funds next year. It is a worthwhile cause.

Finally, we would like to invite you to visit us. A very warm welcome awaits you and we are confident that you will not be disappointed by the unique Welsh atmosphere of our happy and vibrant school,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Jones, Chair of Board of Directors