



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |
Bryntirion Comprehensive

Annual Governors' Report to Parents



Academic Year 2019/2020

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A WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

How quickly a year passes again – and what a year this has been! The Governors take this opportunity to outline the responsibilities of the Governing Body in the discharge of their duties.

Much of the life of the school, its statistics and achievements are listed in the report. The work of the Governing Body continues to operate through Standing Advisory Committees. I, as chairman, wish to thank my colleagues for their support and commitment throughout the past year.

Each year the report also gives me the public forum to thank the Headteacher and the whole staff for their unfailing dedication to the education of our children. However this year staff have been called upon to do things to ensure the safety of our children that we would never have contemplated the need for. All the procedures, and constant updating of them, which have been put in place have meant an additional burden for everyone. The way in which all staff have responded to these extra demands has been exemplary. Words alone seem not enough to express our immense gratitude to everyone who has been involved on a daily basis to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all in the Bryntirion family. Pupils too have to be thanked and congratulated on the way in which they have responded to this new environment. It hasn't been easy for them or their teachers to have to adapt to new ways of teaching and learning, but as they always do, they have risen to these challenges and successfully met them.

I also want thank you, our parents for the part you have played in all of this. Your co-operation in all the school asks of you is gratifying and it is of enormous help and encouragement to the staff to know that you have supported all that has been done to ensure your children continue to be educated, perhaps in ways which are strange and new to many but nevertheless have been successfully implemented to ensure the education, well-being and safety of our pupils, your children.

Bryntirion Comprehensive School has had, and continues to have, a great future. It is indeed a school to be proud of, where every student is helped to achieve their full potential, for their own future and the future of our community in spite of all the challenges the current pandemic has thrown at us. We look forward to a more "normal" year very soon. Until such a time working together - staff, parents, governors and students - we can all face with enthusiasm the challenges which lie ahead.

Revd. Canon E. J. Evans
Chair of Governors
Bryntirion Comprehensive School
Merlin Crescent
Cefn Glas
Bridgend
CF31 4QR

GOVERNING BODY OF BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Termination Date

LEA Representatives

Mr J Lewis	18/02/23
Mr I Dowie	17/06/23
Cllr J P Blundell	02/10/21
Cllr C Green	19/06/23
Vacancy	

Community

Mrs C Clark (VC)	25/01/21
Mrs J Cleaton	04/02//23
Mr P Sawtell	05/10/21
Mrs C Goldsworthy	16/05/22
Rev Canon E J Evans (C)	30/09/24

Parent

Mrs S Bimson	27/03/23
Mr G Clifford	15/11/20
Mrs P Evans	15/11/20
Mrs R Pratchett	15/11/22
Mr I Roberts	15/11/20
Mrs S E Vaughan-Williams	15/11/20

Staff

Mrs A John	04/10/21
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Teacher

Mrs J Walker	20/05/22
Mrs C Herbert	15/05/23

Headteacher

Mr R Pawar

Arrangements are in place for elections/appointments of governors as/when the need arises.

GOVERNING BODY OF BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Governors' Functions

The Governing Body meets regularly to consider issues underpinning the effective running of the school. Half-termly meetings are supplemented by regular meetings of sub-committees covering issues such as:

Finance

Standards and Curriculum

Staffing

Appointments

Pay Review

Performance Management

The Headteacher distributes a written report prior to each meeting for discussion and minutes of all meetings are available from the school.

Governors frequently participate in training and other seminars and courses and in the many functions organised by the school. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed group of Governors who take an active interest in all aspects of the life and work of the school.

The most recent Estyn report states that the governing body Governors understand their roles well, and provide a clear sense of direction for the school. They know its strengths and weaknesses, the departments and subjects that perform well and those that are not performing to the high standards required. The standards committee provides effective challenge to departments. Governors understand and use data very well to effectively support and challenge the school on its performance.

A Financial Report for 2019.20 can be found in the appendix to this report. Governors have a key responsibility to ensure that this school makes the most effective use of the resources it is allocated.

The school prospectus was issued to prospective parents in June 2020 and there have been minor adjustments since its publication. A copy of this document is available from the school and can be viewed on the school's website.

No resolutions were passed at last year's annual meeting.

Information for Parents

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in the discharge of its functions during the period of the Autumn Term 2019 to the Summer Term 2020.

In accordance with the requirement 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.

The school prospectus is revised annually and available to all new and prospective parents. The Authority's Curriculum Statement is available for inspection at the school upon arrangement with the Headteacher.

1. Context

Bryntirion Comprehensive is an 11-18 mixed, purpose built community school maintained by Bridgend Unitary Authority. The school serves the western parts of Bridgend. There are 1250 pupils on roll, including 196 in the sixth form. Around 12.0% of pupils are eligible for free school meals which is below the national average of 17.0%. A few pupils are from other ethnic groups (4.9%) and around 0.6% of pupils speak English as an additional language. Very few pupils are fluent Welsh speakers. Approximately 21% of pupils have special educational needs. The percentage of pupils who have a statement of special educational need is 0.9% and is also lower than the national average of 2.2%. There is a communication resource base for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder attached to the school. Pupils who attend the resource base are included within the school roll and fully integrated into the life of the school.

The school's curriculum complies with all Welsh Government legislation across Key Stage 3 & 4 and the sixth form. The language of instruction is English although the school has extensive provision for pupils to study Welsh. It is compulsory for all pupils to study Welsh to GCSE and post-16 pupils are able to study the language as an option subject. Bryntirion has a Learning Resource Base.

2. Parents' Meeting with the Governing Body

Statutory regulations provide for the opportunity for parents to convene a meeting with the school's Governing Body, for up to three times during any academic year. For such a meeting to take place, over 10% of parents will need to make this request.

If you wish to request a parent's meeting with the Governing Body to be convened, please make your request in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school, or by email to:-
admin.bryntirioncomp@bridgend.gov.uk

Please note large print reports are available on request and this Annual Report is also available on the school website.

3. Staffing

As of January 2020 there were 1207 pupils on the roll of Bryntirion Comprehensive School with a staffing complement of the Headteacher, 77 assistant teachers and 30 Support Staff.

The Governors made the following appointments during the academic year:

Ryan Herbert - Head of Business Studies
Amy Perry - Art and Skills Teacher
Siobhan Sullivan - English Teacher
Nicola Jones - Health and Social Care Teacher
Rachel Thomas - Mathematics Teacher
Chloe Phillips - Learning Support Assistant
Angharad Bissmire - Learning Support Assistant
Adam Lam - Learning Support Assistant
Abigail Rees - Learning Support Assistant

The following staff left employment this academic year:-

Julia Holloway
Ben Sillence
Nia Phillips
Louise Gray
Laura Clarke
John Williams
Richard Cattell
Victoria Howells

4. School Policies

The Governing Body has a range of policies, covering staffing, curriculum and management in place. These documents which are subjected to regular monitoring and review are available at the school. There is a specific policy detailing the arrangements for pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

5. Curriculum

This is the means by which the aims and objectives of the school are delivered. A copy of the school's curriculum policy is available to parents. An outline of the curriculum is produced in the school prospectus which is published in July, and this is extended in the options booklet for Year 8 and Year 11 parents in January each year.

In Years 7 – 8 students followed the National Curriculum studying English, Maths, Science, Welsh, RE, PE, Health and Wellbeing, Art, Design and Technology, French, Geography, History, ICT and Music.

In Years 9 - 11 all students followed English, Maths, Science, WBQ and PE courses. In addition they can select from a wide range of options, details of which are available on in the Year 8 booklet or on the school's website.

At GCSE, pupils are able to take modular exams in certain subjects throughout Years 10 and 11 with controlled tasks, undertaken under the supervision of the teacher. In some subjects, such as Mathematics, all assessment is completed at the end of the course. In subjects other than GCSE (such as BTEC), other assessment arrangements are in place.

Similar arrangements are available post -16 for pupils in Years 12 and 13.

We try to ensure that our courses and the combination of courses studied by our pupils enable them to make progress into further and higher education. We do not construct our curriculum in order to improve the school's profile and we are very pleased that nearly all pupils progressed to further education or work in 2020.

We feel we offer our pupils a wide and varied curriculum at all key stages but we are, as always, looking for ways of developing. Our aim is to ensure that all our pupils are provided with learning pathways which are suited to their interests and career aspirations. However, we realise that a traditional academic curriculum based on GCSEs is not necessarily suitable for all pupils, and have amended aspects of our own curriculum to ensure it is broad and balanced enough to meet all pupils' needs.

In 2020 all examinations were cancelled by Welsh Government. Qualifications were awarded to all learners based on a range of criteria, including 'Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) or prior attainment information.

6. School Facilities

The school's toilet facilities are cleaned on a daily basis to ensure that they are of a high standard and are regularly inspected by the school cleaning staff and caretaker for hygiene and cleanliness. The school caretaking staff ensure that the facilities are kept to a high standard. They repair and refresh the exteriors of many buildings; this work has brightened the school considerably. Our grounds maintenance contractors have worked well to ensure the school grounds are attractive and well maintained.

The most recent Estyn report states that there are good facilities for physical education and sports, and the school grounds are secure and well maintained. There are ample information technology learning resources and pupils have enough books and equipment to do their work.

7. Facilities for the Disabled

The Governors seek to comply with all guidelines regarding provision of education for disabled pupils. A lift is available for wheelchair users, providing full access to the whole school site. From September 2003, Bryntirion has worked in partnership with the Local Authority to provide a base for pupils with communication disorder difficulties. During this academic year, provision for wheelchair users has improved and includes new ramps, additional lifts and widened door spaces. Provision for visually impaired learners has also been introduced.

The school's Admissions Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy together with the Accessibility Plan contain further details on the arrangements for pupils with disabilities.

8. Strategic Equality Plan

From April 2012 the Bryntirion Strategic Equality Plan (updated October 2016) was written by the Governing Body to identify how we are fulfilling our strong commitment to equality and inclusion within the school. These objectives will be reviewed in the academic year 2020.21

9. School Inspection October 2016

The school and Governors continue to address the recommendations of the ESTYN Inspectors following the successful inspection of October 2016 (Estyn Report available on school website).

The recommendations in this report are as follows:

- R1 Improve the quality of written feedback to pupils and their response to it
- R2 Improve arrangements to develop pupils' Welsh language skills

Pupils of Bryntirion Comprehensive enjoy many sporting activities and have achieved success in a number of sports.

10. The Welsh Language

In our curriculum planning, we take into consideration Welsh Government policy, objectives and guidelines as identified in documents such as 'Our Language: Its Future', 'Iaith Pawb'. There is a very high level of GCSE uptake and entry, leading to good outcomes in GCSE full course. Full course GCSE Welsh is allotted generous curriculum time and all pupils study Welsh to age 16. Nearly all pupils complete the full course qualification.

A wide range of curricular and extracurricular activities effectively contributes to the development of the Cwricwlwm Cymreig, including Eisteddfodau and residential courses. Pupils participate in a high quality Eisteddfod which brings together curricular aspects of the Welsh dimension.

Transition cluster arrangements are good with regular meetings taking place to ensure consistency in approach and in teacher assessment.

11. The sporting aims of Bryntirion are:

To encourage and support every pupil to participate in and enjoy sport and to encourage skill and prowess at all levels.

Bryntirion continues to excel at sporting and cultural activities. We are proud that many of our children actively participate in a wide range of sporting and other enhanced learning activities. All pupils receive at least 2 lessons of PE every week as part of the taught curriculum. Pupils opting for GCSE PE or BTEC Sport receive an additional 5 lessons. The school has an extensive range of extra-curricular sporting activities delivered by the teaching team. Full details can be obtained from the school.

The Future at Bryntirion Comprehensive School

We are absolutely delighted with the Estyn inspection report from October 2016. With overall judgements of 'Excellent' for current performance and 'Excellent' for prospects for improvement, we are extremely pleased of the recognition received. It is an exciting time at Bryntirion and we are proud of the achievements of all our students. The future is bright and we will continue to strive to improve further and ensure all pupils at Bryntirion continue to thrive and succeed in all aspects of school life.

The School Improvement Plan focuses on three strategic objectives:

A - To fully establish the principles of 'The Bryntirion Way' in all aspects of school life to enable all learners to succeed.

B – To secure positive attitudes to wellbeing and learning through excellent care support and guidance.

C – To develop and improve the school's physical environment for learning.

The school regularly and routinely reviews progress in relation to these objectives. Evaluation of progress at regular intervals is discussed with the Governing Body, Local Authority and Central South Consortium.

The latest National Categorisation of Schools by Welsh Government (January 2018) gave Bryntirion Comprehensive School an 'A' rating for Improvement Capacity and Green categorisation overall. Full details on school performance are available at www.mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk. We are very focused on ensuring that the school continues to improve and sustain the levels of excellence achieved.

School Terms and Holiday Dates for 2020/21 Academic Year

	Term Begins	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn 2020	Tuesday 1st September	Monday 26th October	Friday 30th October	Friday 18th December
Spring 2021	Monday 4th January	Monday 15th February	Friday 19th February	Friday 26th March
Summer 2021	Monday 12th April	Monday 31st May	Friday 4th June	Tuesday 20th July

The Headteacher is given the discretion to choose the five in-service staff days (and any additional allocations).

May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 3rd May 2021

BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Financial Statement 2019-2020

Expenditure

Employee Costs	5,097,354.14	5,097,354.14
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Premises Related Costs

Repairs, Building Work, Kitchen & Pool Maintenance	62,094.78	
Grounds Maintenance	9,610.14	
Cleaning & Refuse Collection	18,219.79	
Services: Gas, Electricity & Water	121,742.15	
Rates	112,038.00	
	323,704.86	323,704.86

Supplies & Services

Examination Fees	116,105.01	
Telephone & Postage	5,871.18	
Equipment (including leased)	896.00	
Services (H&S, Alarms, SLA's)	115,917.28	
Payments re School Meals	134,405.38	
Departmental Allowances, College Links, P.E. Transport	91,411.50	
Staff Development	56,505.24	
Distinctive School Clothing Grants	11,021.03	
Furniture & Fittings	2,829.89	
Pupil Clawbacks	71,070.85	
Sundry Payments	107,611.43	
Insurance	18,281.07	
	731,925.86	731,925.86

TOTAL PAYMENTS		6,152,984.86
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Income

Government Grants	269,638.33	
School Meals	94,170.78	
Hire of School Premises	67,865.75	
Other Income	313,007.51	
Formula Allocation	5,372,861.47	
Underspend from 2019-2020	133,445.78	
	6,250,989.62	

TOTAL INCOME		6,250,989.62
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Balance carried forward to 2020-2021		98,004.76
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SCHOOL INFORMATION (September 2019 - March 2020)

Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre was a great success with a variety of festive gifts & treats on offer. Lots of money was raised for Prostate Cancer Cymru, Velindre Hospital and Action for Children. A big thank you to all staff, pupils, parents and outside businesses who made the event such a success.

Christmas Carol Service

Pupils and staff performed beautifully at St Mary's Church Nolton in the annual Christmas Carol Service. It was a full house and encapsulated the festive spirit fantastically. Thank you to Mrs Hawkes and the Music Department for all their hard work and planning.

A & S Animal Encounters

Representatives from A & S Animal Encounters visited Bryntirion to widen knowledge and understanding of animals to some of our Year 7 & 8 pupils. This experience also developed pupils' social interaction and communication skills whilst learning about the natural environment.

Performing Arts

Performing Arts students visited London to watch a performance of 'Come From Away' and were also lucky enough to take part in a workshop at the famous Pineapple Dance Studios in London.

Welsh Department trip to Llangrannog

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 travelled to West Wales to visit Llangrannog to improve their Welsh speaking and take part in a number of activities. The trip also developed pupils' communication and problem solving skills. Diolch yn fawr iawn to the Welsh Department for such a successful educational visit.

World Mental Health Day

Mental Health is a topic which frequently surfaces during school council meetings and students voice activities. We are proud that so many young people are being proactive in developing their own wellbeing and are also seeking out ways to support their peers.

In February students took part in Mental Wellbeing assemblies with Dr Preece, During form time students were invited to walk and talk with a friend during break or lunchtime as a chance to connect and also support wellbeing with physical activity.

Dr Preece reminded learners that, in many circumstances, we are able to improve our mental wellbeing by ensuring that we take care of ourselves with a few basic health and lifestyle messages: ensure that we get sufficient sleep, eat healthy and balanced meals, put down our phones, tablets and consoles and connect with those around us and take regular exercise and spend time in nature.

Bryntirion has a number of ongoing initiatives which support mental wellbeing. The Bryntirion Way reminds our learners to be Ready, Respectful and Safe, which applies to the way in which our young people are expected to communicate with one another, as well as relating to their day to day behaviour around school.

History Trip to Belgium

Pupils of Bryntirion Comprehensive School have said they will never forget the lessons learned during a visit to the First World War Battlefields of France and Belgium. Under the guidance of battlefield experts the group gained an unmistakable impression of the realities of trench warfare as they explored underground dugouts, traversed immense mine craters and became hands on with authentic uniforms, gas masks and weapons that had once been used to horrifying effect. Such experiences were accompanied by the constant presence of seemingly endless rows of white headstones, at which the pupils heard personal stories of how soldiers as young as 15 were killed. An excellent, educational visit enjoyed by all.

Health and Social Care students visit the University of South Wales

Year 12 Health and Social Care students visited the University of South Wales to gather information on the interview process related to nursing/midwifery.

Welsh Bacalaureate Students Charity 'Big Breakfast'

The Community & Sports Officer from the Prostate Cymru charity met with our Welsh Bacalaureate Year 12 students who raised £130.91 in their super staff 'Big Breakfast'. This was part of their Community Challenge work to promote a charity of their choice.

Oliver Davies – Future is Bright Award

Congratulations to Oliver Davies - Year 9 - for winning 'The Future is Bright Award' at the Bridgend Inspire Life Awards. This award recognises Oliver's huge contribution to health & wellbeing as a young carer to his family & his impact on the wider community.

British Science Week - <https://www.britishscienceweek.org/>

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. Running and took place during March 2020.

The topic was 'Our Diverse Earth', and in particular looked at the wider impact of plastic on the environment and what our pupils can do to help. Online there were activity packs and a citizen science project that pupils took part in.

Welsh Blood Service – Mobile Donor Clinic

Following the success of previous blood donation sessions, the Mobile Donor Clinic returned to Bryntirion in March 2020. Staff and Sixth Form students made blood donations. Once again, there was an amazing turn out.

Sixth Form Video

A new Sixth Form video has been launched on the Bryntirion's YouTube channel which celebrates the positive impact our students have in school & the wider community! Visit our YouTube channel or copy the link below.

<https://youtu.be/kiJLPYOLZfU>

High Sheriff's Concert in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Well done to Louise Gardener and Matthew Daly who represented Bryntirion Comprehensive School and Bridgend County at the High Sheriff's Concert in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Apprenticeship Workshops by Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru

Pupils have featured in the Western Mail newspaper about the Apprenticeship workshops that were held by Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru. It was a very enjoyable workshop where pupils experienced careers in the wider community.

Velindre Enterprise and Employability Skills Challenge

On 4th March thousands of change-makers packed the SSE Arena, Wembley, for an unparalleled event. A-list celebrities, inspiring speakers and world leaders, mixed with real people, celebrated a year of action that transformed communities and changed lives. Our students were invited to this amazing event following their recent success in the Velindre Enterprise and Employability Skills Challenge and our Bryntirion Dragons' Den Grand Final, where the students had developed a new product or service to support the charity. During WE Day, our students had the incredible privilege of going back stage at Wembley where they had the exciting opportunity to meet performers and speakers, including Lewis Hamilton, Idris Elba, Jamie Oliver, Leona Lewis, Calum Scott, and, the cast of Game of Thrones – to name just a few!

Global Choices Conference

Sixth Form students recently held a Global Choices Conference. They responded passionately to a variety of global issues on the themes of health, food and shelter, population, transport, economy and natural environment. Congratulations to all students who contributed.

Art Trip to Bristol

The Art Department took a group of Year 8 and Year 12 students to Bristol in October to visit the various Art exhibits in the city. A great visit enjoyed by all!

Performance Workshop

In October, approximately 15 pupils visited Brynteg Comprehensive School to take part in a performance workshop day with the National Orchestra of Wales. The pupils all play orchestral instruments and performed one of the GCSE set works, so was especially beneficial for the small number of Year 10 and 11 pupils involved.

Botawa Project

Mari McNaught (Welsh Teacher) travelled to Africa on Thursday 24th October on behalf of the school as part of the Botawa project. She took along stationary items donated by the school and staff to share with the project. A once in a lifetime trip thoroughly enjoyed by Mari.

Year 8 Graffiti Project

Every pupil in Year 8 took part in this project. The concept was to spray paint a stencil on the walls of the small block outside of A block to brighten and enhance the school grounds. A project that all enjoyed!

Holocaust Memorial Service in Bridgend College

On Tuesday 21st January, six Year 12 pupils – Natalie Dawson, Maddy Hek-Davies, Aimee Kelly, Charlotte Lee, Kelsey Stephens-Hockridge and Morgan Wheeler – attended a Holocaust Memorial Service in the Sony Theatre, Bridgend College. The event explored Holocaust Memorial Day 2020's theme, which is 'Stand Together', encouraging our community to stand together with friends, colleagues and neighbours to speak out against oppression. The group were also privileged to hear the testimony of special guest speaker, Ganza Gahizi Dieudonne, a survivor of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

French Exchange Students

Five French exchange students were hosted by 5 of our pupils in February. The French students accompanied their Welsh partners to lessons for a day and took part in many activities and visits during the week.

Eisteddfod 2020

The annual Eisteddfod which took place Friday 28th February was an incredible day showcasing Bryntirion's talented pupils whilst promoting the Welsh language. Four houses were in competition with each other to see who could amount the largest points total- Llewellyn, Tudor, Glyndwr and Hywel. There were a number of on/ off stage entries from singing, dancing, poetry and musical instrument playing. The Sixth Form students together with the Welsh department helped organise and create such a successful event. Congratulations to Glyndwr who were the overall winners, well done to all pupils who participated and earned points for their houses.

“Pupils have exceptionally positive attitudes to their learning”. Estyn



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion Comprehensive School

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