

**YSGOL GYFUN BRYNTIRION
BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**

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Headteacher/Prifathro N.B. Brain B.A. (Hons), M.Ed.



13th December 2016

Dear Parent,

RE: Publication of Estyn Inspection Report – October 2016

I am writing to inform you that the inspection report from the recent Estyn visit is now available from the school website and from Estyn directly (www.estyn.gov.uk). A copy is also attached with this letter and hard copies are available from school on request.

We are extremely proud of our school and are delighted with the outcome of the inspection. To be awarded 'Excellent' for Current Performance and 'Excellent' for Prospects for Improvement is an outstanding achievement, richly deserved by the whole school community. As one of only a handful of secondary schools in Wales to be awarded 'double excellent' judgements, we are keen to share the fabulous news with you.

With educational performance in Wales under increasing scrutiny, particularly in recent weeks, I would also like to share a few headlines from our own involvement in PISA. As one of the schools participating in the most recent PISA tests, we have received an individual report for Bryntirion Comprehensive School. Suffice to say that pupils identified in the sample for Bryntirion performed exceptionally well compared to pupils in Wales and other countries. In Science, the performance of our pupils was higher than all Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) countries, ranked in first place just ahead of Japan, Estonia and Finland. In Mathematics, our students are ranked in third place, just behind Japan and South Korea. In Reading, we are ranked in eighth place just behind, Norway, Japan and South Korea.

So the message really is that pupils at Bryntirion Comprehensive School continue to excel and can compete with the very best students not just in Bridgend but also globally. Although the PISA results are only from a sample of students and provide a snapshot, combined with the recent Estyn report they certainly emphasise the outstanding school community in which we work. Comments such as *"pupils have exceptionally positive attitudes to their learning"* and *"the school's outstanding ethos, its high quality arrangements for care, support and guidance, and the consistently good teaching in lessons ensure that pupils are highly engaged and motivated to learn"* highlight the strength of our school community.

Finally, I would like to thank you for all your support in partnership and for your continued commitment to Bryntirion Comprehensive School. We have made exceptional progress in recent years and will continue to further develop our vibrant, inclusive and outstanding school community.

I hope you enjoy a restful and festive Christmas break.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Brain
Headteacher

