



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |



Bryntirion Comprehensive

# **GWYBODAETH YR YSGOL 2023/2024 SCHOOL INFORMATION 2023/2024**

**Dysgwn Sut I Fyw - Learning to Live**

# **BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **YSGOL GYFUN** **BRYNTIRION** **COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**

Merlin Crescent, Cefn Glas,  
Bridgend CF31 4QR

Telephone/Ffon: [01656] 641100  
E-mail/Ebost: [admin@bryntirioncs.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@bryntirioncs.bridgend.cymru)  
Website/Gwefan: [www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk](http://www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk)

**HEADTEACHER/PRIFATHRO:**  
**MR. R. K. PAWAR, B.A. (HONS), NPQH**

Bryntirion Comprehensive School is an  
11-18 County Secondary Co-educational  
Comprehensive Day School

**CHAIRPERSON OF GOVERNORS:**

The Revd. Canon E.J. Evans, M.A., Dip. Th.

The information relates to the school year 2023/2024 and although correct at the time of publication, it should not be assumed that there will be no change affecting the relevant arrangements or some matter particularised:-

- (a) before the start of or during the school year in question
- Or**
- (b) in relation to subsequent school years

**CURRENT GOVERNING BODY OF BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL****LEA Representatives****Termination Date**

Mr J Lewis

06/02/2027

Mr I Dowie

17/06/2023 (Re-applied - awaiting decision)

Mr G Clifford

07/03/2025

Cllr C Green

Term to be confirmed

Cllr J P Blundell

17/01/2026

**Community**

Dr L Evans

07/12/2025

Mrs J Cleaton

14/12/2026

Mr P Sawtell

30/06/2025

Mrs C Goldsworthy

11/05/2026

Rev Canon E J Evans (Chair)

07/08/2024

**Parent**

Mr D Nathwani

14/09/2027

Mr S Parry

03/01/2025

Dr P Vallabhaneni

14/09/2027

Mrs J Trivett

29/06/2026

A Verries-Wade

12/01/2027

Mrs S E Vaughan-Williams

03/01/2025

**Staff**

Mrs A John

11/10/2025

**Teacher**

Mrs J Walker

21/06/2026

Mrs C Herbert

20/06/2027

**Headteacher**

Mr R Pawar

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

# Croeso i Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the interest you have shown in Bryntirion Comprehensive School. Our prospectus is designed to offer an insight into school life, by providing a clear idea of the values and ethos of our school. Our aim is to ensure that each individual young person has every opportunity to develop the skills, competencies and personal qualities to help them make the most of their lives and to contribute to their society.



We pride ourselves on the development of a happy, productive and caring learning environment, where every individual person feels valued. Our pupils are expected to behave well and show positive attitudes to their work and each other. We take great pleasure in celebrating the achievements of all our pupils, and believe that the experiences and successes young people have in school help to lay the foundation for rich and fulfilling lives.

Bryntirion Comprehensive School is successful, popular and happy school. Today our work is founded on the comprehensive ideal – a belief that all children are of equal value and that it is our task to help develop the abilities and talents that all undoubtedly have. We value every pupil equally. The particular strengths children have obviously vary from one individual to another. We recognise this and provide a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences to meet the needs of all our pupils.

I am pleased you are interested in joining our school. Bryntirion Comprehensive School is an exciting and stimulating place to be, for both its staff and pupils. The quality of our relationships with pupils and their parents is important to us and I look forward to welcoming you as part of our community.

*Hoffwn i ddiolch i chi am eich diddordeb yn Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion. Mae'r prospectws yn dangos bywyd yr ysgol, gan roi syniad clir o'r gwerthoedd ac ethos yr Ysgol. Ein nod ni yw sicrhau bod pob unigolyn yn cael y cyfle i ddatblygu'r sgiliau rinweddau personol i'w helpu cyrraedd llawn potensial a chyfrannu at y gymuned.*

*Rydym yn falch o'n hysgol ni, rydym yn ysgol hapus sydd yn hybu qwyrngylch gofalggar, lle mae pob unigolyn yn cyfri. Disgwylir ymddygiad cadarnhaol trwy ddangos agwedd positif i'w gilydd a'u gwaith ar bob adeg. Dathlwn gyflawniadau ein disgyblion bob amser a chredwn yn gryf bod profiadau a llwyddiannau ein pobl ifanc yn sylfaen gadarn ar gyfer eu dyfodol.*

*Mae Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion yn un llwyddiannus, poblogaidd a hapus tu hwnt. Ein nod pennaf yw sicrhau bod pob plentyn yn gyfartal. Yn amlwg, mae gan bob plentyn cryfderau gwahanol. Rydym yn ymwybodol o hyn a darparwn weithgareddau academaidd ac allgyrsiol eang i bawb. Rwyf yn falch iawn eich bod chi'n ystyried ein hysgol. Dyma le cyffrous sydd yn ysgogi y disgyblion a'r athrawon.*

*Dros y blynyddoedd, rydyn ni wedi datblygu cysylltiadau cryf rhwng disgyblion a'u rhieni, Edrychaf ymlaen yn fawr at eich croesawu i'n cymuned.*

R K Pawar  
Headteacher/Prifathro

# About Bryntirion Comprehensive School

Bryntirion is a co-educational 11-18 school, located on the western side of Bridgend. The school is a predominantly English Medium Secondary school with pupils studying Welsh as a second language. The pupil admission number is 210 per year group. There are currently vacancies in some year groups.

The school has a dedicated and committed staff, which includes 82 well-qualified teaching staff and has a strong record of academic success at GCSE and GCE.

## **DYSGWN SUT I FYW – LEARNING TO LIVE**

We regard our students at Bryntirion as individuals, with equal rights but differing strengths and interests. The school seeks to play a major part in helping young people to develop into confident, sensitive and reflective adults, with a range of worthwhile interests, ready to play an active part in society. We want our students to be happy, optimistic learners with high levels of self-esteem, enthused with a belief that they can achieve their full potential and equipped with the necessary skills and qualities to be successful.

The school motto “Dysgwn Sut i Fyw” (We Will Learn How to Live) encompasses many of the traditional values that inspire our pupils - learning together, through mutual respect and positive relationships built on trust and support. High academic standards are evident in abundance and Permeate through everyday school life. The School Development Plan (SDP) is our strategic approach to help continually improve the quality of provision, leading to the highest standards achievable for all our students.

## **OUR VISION – THE BRYNTIRION WAY – WE LEARN HOW TO LIVE - DYSGWYN SUT I FYW**

Our aim is to secure high expectations and aspirations for all pupils, so that they make the progress they need to achieve their full potential in all aspects of their school life.

We will do this:

- A. Through a culture of secure wellbeing and positive attitudes to life and learning.
- B. Through a relentless drive to improve the quality of teaching and assessment, and standards in learning.
- C. Through the design, development and refinement of a curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils
- D. Through honest self-evaluation and targeted school improvement planning.

Our aims are fully aligned with national local priorities.

## **NATIONAL PRIORITIES**

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 states that local authorities must work to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. ‘Our national mission: High standards and aspirations for all’ (Welsh Government, 2023) (‘the national mission’) identifies a range of priorities to ensure the success, high standards and wellbeing of all learners.

[Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015: the essentials | GOV.WALES](#)

[Our national mission - High standards and aspirations for all \(gov.wales\)](#)

## **LOCAL AUTHORITY PRIORITIES**

Bryntirion Comprehensive School has contributed to the preparation of the local authority’s Education and Family Support Directorate Strategic Plan 2023-2026 and fully supports its aims. The directorate’s mission statement is: To inspire and support children, young people, adults, And families to achieve better outcomes; leading to prosperous, healthy, safe, and happy communities.

[INITIAL DESIGN EN BCBC EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026 v01.1.pdf](#)



## **'BE BRYNTIRION'**

Ensuring we have the culture, support and provision needed to enable everyone to feel safe and secure in our school. Our aim is to further develop our systems to promote positive behaviour through appropriate support, sanctions and rewards. Developing the character and values of students through 'Be Bryntirion'.



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |     
Bryntirion Comprehensive

### **B E R E A D Y**

On time  
With correct equipment  
In correct uniform  
With the correct attitude

### **B E R E S P E C T F U L**

Yourself  
Teachers  
Peers  
The environment  
One voice in the classroom

### **B E S A F E**

Physically  
Emotionally  
In lessons  
In corridors  
In the yard

### **B E B R Y N T I R I O N**



# CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

## BE READY

Be punctual

Remove your coat

Follow your teacher's instructions when entering the classroom

Always bring to school pens, pencils, ruler, books and any other equipment required for specific lessons

Always wear the correct school uniform

Always meet homework deadlines

Be ready to learn

## BE RESPECTFUL

Sit where the teacher tells you

Put your hand up when you need to speak to the teacher

Listen to your teacher when he/she is talking (one voice)

Follow your teacher's instructions the first time you are asked

Be polite and be considerate towards your teacher and classmates

Never shout out in class, argue with the teacher or use inappropriate language

Always work with focus and concentration, completing tasks to the best of your ability

Never distract or stop others from working

## BE SAFE

Keep the classroom tidy and respect the equipment

Ensure your phone is safely away in your bag

Never eat / chew in class

Drink only water in class (but no drinks in labs)

Never make hurtful or unkind comments

Never leave a classroom without permission

Use technology responsibly

## **HOMEWORK**

Homework is an integral part of the school. We advise parents to encourage their children to develop this important daily routine. We currently use an online tool 'ClassCharts' to set, record, track and monitor homework, accessible to both pupils and parents. As pupils progress through school, the demands of homework increase.

## **STUDY CENTRE**

There is an opportunity for pupils to complete project work and homework assignments using the study centre based in The Hive until 4.30pm (Monday - Thursday) and 4.00 pm (Friday). There is a complete range of I.T. equipment as well as a selection of books. There will also be a member of staff present to offer guidance and assistance.

## **HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT**

Pupils and parents are requested to sign the Home-School Agreement on entry to the school. The content of the Home-School Agreement is published in the School Admission Form. The Home-School Agreement is intended to develop the positive aspects and benefits of links between the school, parents and pupils.

## **ICT SERVICES ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR STAFF AND PUPILS**

All staff, volunteers and pupils are required to read and sign the ICT Acceptable Use Policy/Agreement.

- Pupils are requested to sign the agreement on entry to the school via the School Admission Form.
- Staff and volunteers are requested to sign the agreement at the start of each academic year.

## **PROGRESS**

Teacher judgement will be used to describe pupil progress within a subject discipline. It will be based on:

- Curriculum intentions
- Principles of progression
- Day to day learning
- Performance in a range of summative assessments, including tests and rich assessment tasks

It will be quality assured

- Through department meetings on shared understanding of progression
- Sharing work within a department

It will be tracked and reported as

- progress is higher than what is expected in terms of curriculum intentions and/or pupil ability
- making progress in line with the curriculum intentions and pupil ability
- progress is lower than what is expected in terms of curriculum intentions and/or pupil ability

## **RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE)**

The provision of Relationships and Sex Education should meet the needs of developing adolescents and should provide pupils with an understanding of physiological and emotional aspects of sexual development coupled with socially accepted standards and norms of behaviour.

It is important that a comprehensive and well-planned programme of Relationships and Sex Education is given to pupils at the school in order to help them cope with their physical, moral and spiritual development and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

All students in Years 7 to 11 participate in timetabled Health and Wellbeing lesson which includes Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). Health and Wellbeing and RSE themes are then developed and strengthened through relevant learning in all curriculum subjects, assemblies, form time and extra-curricular activities.



The Health and Wellbeing department works closely with parents and carers and key community professionals such as the police and the school nurse to ensure that the RSE programme meets the needs of all learners. Parents and carers are regularly invited to participate in workshops and presentations to ensure that home, school and community messaging is relevant and consistent.

### **REIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE)**

The school is not affiliated with a particular religious denomination. Religious education and worship are provided for every pupil in the school. From 2022 'Religious Education' (RE) has been renamed 'Religion, Values and Ethics' (RVE) to more accurately reflect the broad scope of the subject's pluralistic requirement and position within the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience.

RVE is a statutory requirement of the Curriculum for Wales and is mandatory for all learners from ages 3 to 16. There is now no parental right to request that a child is withdrawn from RVE in the Curriculum for Wales. Learners will have opportunities to explore all RVE concepts through a variety of 'lenses' and will explore the importance of RVE's relationship with other aspects of life, society and the world.

### **BILINGUALISM**

Bryntirion has embedded the new approaches being developed for Welsh lessons in line with Descriptors for Learning in the Curriculum for Wales, with the aim of improving practitioners' basic Welsh language competency. The school promotes the use of incidental spoken Welsh in classrooms and across the school through word phrases of the week, with audio visual support published weekly and rewarding students for incidental use of Welsh in school.

The Welsh language is visible and audible in all areas of the school and staff and pupils are seen and heard using the language in all aspects of school life. Staff and pupils understand the importance of preserving the Welsh Language and there is a sense of camaraderie and team spirit in working towards this mutual goal. Staff and pupils endeavour to seek/recognise opportunities to promote the Welsh language and culture. There is respect and recognition of its contribution to the culture, society and economy of Wales and among those who do not speak any Welsh or lack confidence there is goodwill and a sense of ownership towards the language.

We hope this provision will support pupils to enjoy using Welsh, make continuous progress in learning Welsh and have the confidence and language skills to they can choose to use Welsh beyond the classroom,

### **CAREERS AND WORK-RELATED EXPERIENCES (CWRE)**

All students in Years 7 and 8 are provided with opportunities to explore careers and work-related experiences, along with guidance in choosing options to study for GCSE.

Experiences are well planned and integrated within curriculum areas and give students an improved understanding of the world of work, along with the skills they need to succeed and a greater awareness of the wide range of opportunities and routes available to them.

Activities include 'My Future Challenge,' where students in Year 7 and 8 explore a variety of career destinations and take part in a careers fayre which we hold on site.

The majority of students continue their education at Bryntirion Sixth Form where further guidance and support is provided in selecting appropriate future careers. A specialist Careers Advisor is available to assist students and parents in making informed choices.

### **PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS**

We actively encourage a positive partnership between home and school with regular communication pivotal to a successful relationship. Although opportunities are available through parents evenings and other events, parents are most welcome to visit the school to discuss progress or other matters. We respectfully request that contact is made initially by telephone to arrange an appointment with the appropriate member of staff, e.g. Head of Year.

## COMPLAINTS

We strive to ensure that any concerns or issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner. A copy of the Complaints Policy is available on the school website or on request.

<https://www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk/sites/default/files/u2/School%20Complaints%20Policy%202013.pdf>

## SCHOOL SECURITY & SAFEGUARDING

The school seeks to promote a culture and environment whereby the security of all pupils, staff and visitors is safeguarded. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Huw Williams, Assistant Headteacher. In his absence, any referrals should be made to the Deputy Designated Safe-guarding Leads, Mr Jamie Beard - Deputy Headteacher / Miss Felicity Jones - Health and Wellbeing Officer.

### CHILD PROTECTION

The Child protection offers in school are there to speak to if you ever feel that you are in danger, at risk or you have any serious problem in school or at home. The child protection officers are:



**DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD**  
MR HUW WILLIAMS  
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER



**DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD**  
MR JAMIE BEARD  
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER



**DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD**  
MISS FELICITY JONES  
SAFEGUARDING AND  
WELLBEING OFFICER

Mrs Katie Poole, Head of Year, is the member of staff currently responsible for looked after children. Bryntirion Comprehensive School works hard to ensure that these young people have the necessary support, resources and facilities to achieve their full potential.

Bryntirion Comprehensive School takes the health and safety of all site users very seriously. It is therefore, imperative that individuals take care, exercise caution when in the school grounds or within the vicinity of the school grounds and follow instructions to avoid risk of injury. If there are any concerns about traffic safety, they should be reported to the school management team.

Pedestrians should only access the school from the designated entry points. Pedestrians need to recognise that these may be adjacent to vehicular access points that will be in use during peak times and should exercise caution. All motorists should be aware that they are working in a school environment – exercise extreme caution and be vigilant when carrying any vehicle manoeuvres in any part of the school grounds.

Access into the school is only permitted from the main entrance. Between 9.00am and 2.50pm the school security gates will be locked and visitors will need to use the security communication system to have access to the school site, this includes delivery vehicles. All visitors must report to reception and sign in before going anywhere in the school. On departure, visitors should sign out at reception and leave the building by the main entrance door.

## DATA PROTECTION

Information about all pupils is held on computer files at the school. Much of this data is about classes, choice of subjects, marks/grades and school reports. We also hold essential personal information such as addresses, names of parents, special health needs and so on.

Obviously the school takes every measure to ensure that the information is mainly used for educational purposes: it might be disclosed to the Local Authority and its representatives, to Health professionals and organisations and to Careers advisors.

The School is registered under the Data Protection Act: parents are welcome to examine our Registration Document if they wish.

## ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Bryntirion Comprehensive School is an inclusive school where all staff are committed to the success of all pupils. All young people are valued, respected, and welcomed to our school, whatever their individual educational needs may be. We work in a person-centred way and this approach is at the heart of our inclusive ethos. We support pupils' learning and aim to ensure that they are fully included in all aspects of school life. Through assessment practices, screening and information gathered from our primaries and all stakeholders, we can identify the needs of pupils and plan the best way forward to support them. We work closely with a range of outside agencies in order to have a holistic view on each young person. A key part of our work in supporting the needs of all pupils is our effective partnership working with parents, carers and families.

The Hive is our centre for working with pupils across the school and it is a very busy environment, as reflected by its name! Interventions, support, well-being, teaching, down-time, meetings, PCP meetings, IDP reviews and much more take place within this nurturing environment. Pupils feel safe, reassured, content and listened to which is reflected in our Pupil Voice. We have a large team of support staff who work with pupils and teachers across the school. Communication is vital between the Hive and teaching staff to ensure that all staff are aware of individual needs. We operate an 'open door policy' and do our very best to meet with parents when concerns/worries are raised. We listen and care and believe that all of our young people can achieve!





## **ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISABLED PUPILS**

Whilst the school operates an equal opportunities policy, it should be understood that the school buildings may prove to be inaccessible to pupils with physical and or visual impairment. This may mean that access to the full curriculum entitlement may be prevented. In the rare instance that this occurs parents will be fully involved in any decision made. We have invested heavily in creating a learning environment to assist pupils with physical difficulties. The school is proud of its physical access to all areas within the school which includes a lift to the first floor, access to the school stage, ramps, electronic doors and disabled toilets. By so doing, we ensure that disabled pupils are not treated less favourably than other pupils and are not put at a disadvantage within the learning environment

In such circumstances pupils are catered for by the specialised educational provision made by the L.A. and may need to attend specifically designated secondary schools within the County Borough.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Bryntirion has adopted an Equal Opportunities Policy in line with current legislation and guidelines from the Bridgend County Borough Council Local Education Authority.

## **SCHOOL POLICY ON CHARGING AND REMISSIONS FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

No charges may be made for any education provided [including relevant transport, materials, books, instruments or equipment] at any time, either as part of a syllabus leading to a prescribed public examination, or as part of the National Curriculum.

## **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

The prohibition on charges is subject to the discretion of parents to make voluntary contributions.

## **DISCRETION TO CHARGE**

There will be a discretion to charge for:

- Board and lodging on any residential trip [over-night or longer].
- Wasted examination fees - where a pupil fails to take an examination without good reason.
- Any education provided out of normal school hours unless for a prescribed public examination or as part of the National Curriculum.
- Materials for use where there is an end product if a parent has indicated he/she wishes the pupil to have ownership of the produced item.

Further details on the charging policy are available on request.

## **DISTINCTIVE CLOTHING AWARDS**

The school, through the local Education Department, makes allowances to some pupils attending school, subject to eligibility by assessment, towards the cost of distinctive school clothing.

Parents seeking further advice on this matter may contact the administration team.

## **SCHOOL MEALS**

Bridgend County Borough Council Catering are providers of school meals at Bryntirion and serve a wide variety of food, at reasonable prices, morning break and lunchtime in the two canteen areas on our school site. Snacks and meals are available to purchase using a 'cashless system'. Parents are encouraged to use an online system to upload dinner money. Provision is also made for pupils wishing to bring sandwiches.

Bryntirion is very proud of its canteen facilities and we wish the staff well with their recent shortlisting for the category of 'School Catering Team of the Year' with The School Food People.

## **HAIR AND GENERAL APPEARANCE**

Parents are expected to encourage pupils to observe acceptable standards in dress and appearance. Hair should be a sensible length, style and colour (no unnatural hair colouring is allowed). Vision must not be impeded by hair. Make-up must not be worn in school, and neither should hair cosmetics be used, especially in the Science Laboratories and Technology Workshops.

## **JEWELLERY**

The only jewellery which may be worn in school is one small plain stud in the lobe of each ear. Pupils are not allowed to wear any other form of body jewellery in the interests of their own health and safety.

## **VALUABLES**

It should be clearly understood that all items of personal property are brought on to the school premises at the owner's risk. The school cannot be held responsible for any losses incurred and no claims for reimbursement for any losses sustained will be entertained.

## **MOBILE PHONES**

It is strongly recommended that mobile phones be left at home. The school cannot accept responsibility for the loss or damage to such equipment.

- Mobile devices/phones **must not be seen or heard** in any lesson at anytime (zero tolerance). They must be switched to silent and stored in school bags.
- Mobile phones are permitted to be used appropriately at break and lunch times to access school-based electronic platforms (e.g. TEAMS, ClassCharts etc.).
- Headphones are not to be seen at anytime during the school day.

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

Extra-curricular activities are an important part of school life at Bryntirion. Pupils are encouraged to choose from a wide variety of opportunities. These include:- Art; Choir; Computing; Cricket; Dance; Debating; Drama; Duke of Edinburgh; Eco Club; Hockey; Football; Rugby union; Language clubs; Netball; School productions; Science club; Technology club.

## **EXPRESSIVE ARTS**

All pupils study Music as part of the National Curriculum in Years 7 and 8. Emphasis is placed on encouraging children to make and enjoy music. Pupils are offered opportunities to take part in musical activities outside the classroom as soloists and members of orchestras and choirs. Peripatetic instrumental teachers visit the school to give tuition in the playing of brass, wind and string instruments.

## **SPORT**

We have a proud sporting heritage at Bryntirion and recognise the benefits of 'a healthy body, healthy mind'. With this in mind, a comprehensive programme of curricular and extra-curricular activities are available for students. These include traditional sports such as rugby, football, netball and hockey as well as others including table tennis, dodge ball, aerobics, badminton and dance. We also employ a Welsh Rugby Union Development Officer to extend participation.

The school has extensive sporting facilities which are used by the community outside school hours. These include a grass athletics track, cricket square, Astroturf pitch, rugby pitches, football pitch, tennis and netball courts, basketball court, multi-purpose sports hall/gymnasium and an indoor, heated swimming pool.

## **ADMISSIONS**

Pupils are admitted mainly from the local schools. Formal transition arrangements are in place with Llangewydd Junior School, Maes Yr Haul Primary School, Penyfai Church in Wales Primary School and Trelales Primary School.

New Year 7 pupils are introduced to the school through a phased programme, which includes:

- An Open Evening for pupils from Years 5 & 6 in the Autumn term.
- Meeting with each primary school to discuss transition matters.
- Visits to each primary school from secondary staff to meet with pupils and staff.
- Transition days, scheduled throughout the year to provide opportunities for Year 6 pupils to experience life at Bryntirion.
- Parents evening with Year 6 parents in the Summer term.

This programme is designed to ease the transition from the smaller primary school to a much







larger comprehensive school, thereby helping all new pupils settle as quickly and as happily as possible at Bryntirion.

The admission of pupils is administered by **Bridgend County Borough Council (the LA)**. Within the County Borough each school has an area that it traditionally serves called the 'catchment area'. In line with legislation the LA must allow all parents the opportunity to express a preference for the school they wish their child to attend. The LEA will admit children up to the school's published admission number and will only exceed the published admission number in exceptional circumstances - link to BCBC School Admissions Policy 2023-2024

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/13566/school-admissions-policy-2023-2024-v10.pdf>

#### **APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE SEPTEMBER 2024**

Bridgend County Borough Council will send the parents of each child, who is in Year 6 September 2023, information for applying online for secondary education for 2024. Timetable for Year 7 secondary school admissions for September 2024:

The expected timetable for children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013, transferring from junior/primary school (Year 6) to secondary school (Year 7) in September 2024 is as follows:

| Action  | Date                           |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Opening date for submission of applications                                   | 10am - Monday, 16 October 2023 |
| Closing date for receipt of applications by the local authority               | 4pm - Friday, 19 January 2024  |
| Notification to applications of offer or refusal of places (the 'offer date') | Friday, 1 March 2024           |
| Closing date for parents/carers to submit an appeal                           | 4pm - Friday 29 March 2024     |

**An application for a Year 7 place must be submitted. There is no automatic admission to any secondary school**, regardless of the primary or junior school that a child currently attends.

At the start of academic year 2022-2023 there were the following vacancies:

- Year 8 - 4 vacancies
- Year 9 - 2 vacancies
- Year 10 - 1 vacancy

Bridgend County Borough Council received 248 applications for secondary admission September 2022 to Bryntirion Comprehensive School of which 5 appeals were made and 0 appeals were successful.

#### **CHANGING SECONDARY SCHOOL - IN YEAR ADMSSIONS/TRANSFERS**

**Considerations before making a transfer** - transferring a child between schools can be quite disruptive. This is especially true for Year 10 and 11 students, as subjects or exam boards may differ in another school, even within the county borough. If a transfer request is not due to a house move, **parents/carers are strongly advised to talk to their child's teacher or headteacher**. Transfers should be thought about very carefully in all cases.

#### **Apply to transfer a child between schools**

Pupil Services, Bridgend County Borough Council organise in-year transfers for all schools, the process is as follows:

- Read [the guidance notes on filling out the school transfer form](#).
- [Complete the in-year school transfer application form](#).
- Post completed forms to: Pupil Services, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB; Telephone number - 01656 642622; Email [pupilservices@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:pupilservices@bridgend.gov.uk)

Parents/Guardians are welcome to visit the school, **but are asked to telephone/email the school to make an appointment** to ensure that staff are available to meet with you and discuss your child's needs.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Bryntirion Comprehensive School is committed to ensuring a full and inclusive education to all pupils and embraces the concept of equal opportunities for all in which attendance is a priority.

We will provide an environment where all pupils feel valued and welcomed and are committed to the fundamental principle that early intervention and partnership working is crucial in ensuring the attendance, safeguarding and wellbeing of all children and young people.

Good attendance has a high profile throughout the school as we recognise that poor attendance disadvantages children. We will consistently work towards a goal of 100% attendance and aim to ensure that the students in our school attend regularly and on time, and where this is not the case, staff follow a graduated response designed to encourage consistent attendance and punctuality. We ask all parents to set the highest of expectations for attendance. At Bryntirion we strive for all our students to achieve 96% attendance or higher.

Parents and carers should notify the school of their child's absence by 9am on the first day of occurrence. Absence should be reported via ClassCharts where possible. If the school does not receive an absence notification via ClassCharts or a phone call from parents by 9am, parents will be contacted by our automated attendance text message system to explain the absence. The school will contact parents if there is concern about an unexplained absence and parents are encouraged to contact us if they have any such concerns.

Regular attendance at school is essential if pupils are to succeed and fulfil their potential. Bryntirion Comprehensive School employs a whole school approach towards attendance with Subject Leaders, Form Tutors, Attendance Administrators, Heads of Years, Assistant Headteacher and the Education Welfare Service fully involved in monitoring pupil attendance.

All schools throughout Bridgend County Borough will promote the importance of school attendance and punctuality as part of a BCBC 'Miss School, Miss Out!' project. Schools will participate in a range of activities with a focus on improving attendance and punctuality. Where learners are not in school with an unexplained absence parents may receive a visit from partner agencies, including Early Help and the Education Welfare Service.



**MISS SCHOOL, MISS OUT!**

"Attending school every day is important for our learning, wellbeing, achievement, and overall development"

Research shows that missing out on just 17 days of school will cause a drop in grade across all subjects at GCSE level. The higher your school attendance rate, the higher you will achieve.

#attendtoachieve

Attend to achieve!

Make every day count

Miss School, Miss Out!

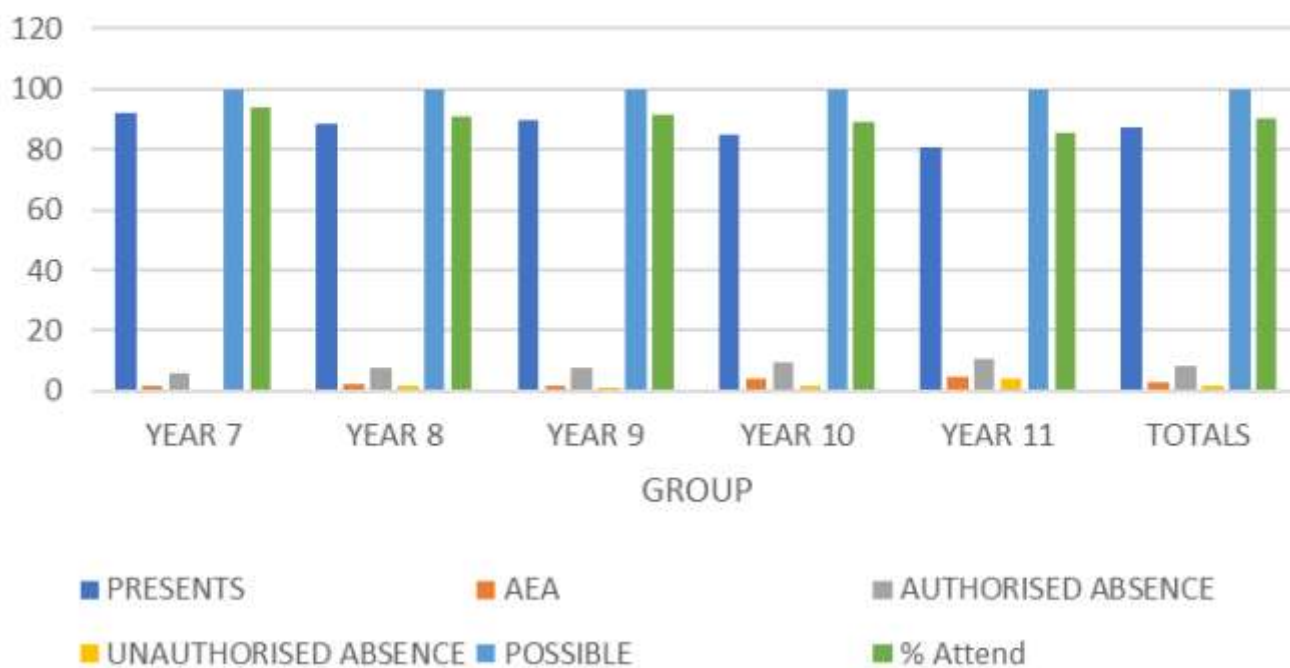
[www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-attendance/](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-attendance/)

Bridgend County Borough Council

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL CALLIO ATTENDANCE TABLE

|               |                   |  |
|---------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Purple</b> | 100%              | Not missing any lessons! Your child has the optimum chance to achieve well and is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity. |
| <b>Green</b>  | 99%<br>98%<br>97% | Missing 4 - 6 days / 9 sessions of school.   |
| <b>Amber</b>  | 96%<br>95%<br>93% | Missing approximately 11 days / 22 sessions of school.   |
| <b>Red</b>    | 92% and below     | Missing 13 days / 26 sessions or more.   |

### Bryntirion Attendance 2022 - 2023



### ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Any pupil feeling unwell at school should report to a member of staff, who will then refer him/her to the Duty Officer. Every effort is made to look after the pupil in school whenever possible and if it is deemed to be necessary, parents or persons nominated by them, are contacted. **Pupils should not contact a parent directly using their mobile phone, they must see a member of staff.** Pupils may not leave the school premises without permission. Parents are also asked to inform the school of any serious or recurring medical problems.

A pupil's attitude and performance in school can be affected by factors other than illness, e.g. a family upset or change in family circumstances. It would be helpful if the Head of Year or a senior member of staff could be informed, in confidence, of such factors.



## NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR WALES

### Four Purposes

The national Curriculum for Wales outlines its Four Purposes of Education, enabling learners to become: ambitious and capable learners; enterprising and creative contributors; ethical and informed citizens and healthy and confident individuals.

These Purposes inform the design of our own, bespoke curriculum, marrying them with the individual ambitions, interests and potential of every student at Bryntirion. We believe that our responsibility under the Four Purposes is to ensure that students acquire powerful knowledge, understanding and skills to become confident members of society. The curriculum supports our young people to become kind, hardworking individuals, who embody our school values.

### Curriculum

At Bryntirion, pupils are taught in subjects. This is because subjects matter. They have an important body of knowledge and specific skills and belong to a rich tradition that is unique to them. For students to think critically and to form their own opinions, it is necessary to have something to think about. We therefore value a knowledge-rich approach, delivered by expert teaching staff. Our curriculum is broad and balanced, providing a wealth of learning across disciplinary subjects, and embraces all the mandatory elements: study of English and Welsh; the three Cross-Curricular Skills (numeracy, literacy, digital competency); Relationships & Sexuality Education; Religion, Values & Ethics; Careers and Work-Related Experiences and this is underpinned by a clear emphasis on the central importance of developing pupils' integral skills.

### Progression and Assessment

Our curriculum is structured to ensure that all pupils make progress in their learning as they move through the school, informed by the national Principles of Progression. To support pupils' progress and monitor the effectiveness of our curriculum, we adopt a number of assessment practices. Ongoing '**formative**' assessment activities are those that arise as part of the learning experience in lessons. Teachers assess pupils' understanding and recall during lessons and adapt their teaching or future teaching plans to ensure progress for all. In addition, to identify progress over time and to enable us to evaluate our practice and curriculum, we conduct more infrequent, substantial '**summative**' style assessments through rich tasks.

### Implementation & Review

Our curriculum is not fixed: it is subject to constant review and reiteration. Robust self-evaluation of our curriculum and requires participation from not only our teaching staff, but also from parents/carers, governors and pupils. The curriculum will grow, as we endeavour to meet the needs of our pupils and the challenges that lie ahead of them.



## YEARS 7 & 8

Pupils are taught the following subjects:-

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| ART & DESIGN      | GEOGRAPHY                                  |
| CYMRAEG           | HEALTH & WELLBEING                         |
| CYNEFIN           | HISTORY                                    |
| DESIGN TECHNOLOGY | ICT, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER SCIENCE |
| DYSGU BYW         | MATHEMATICS                                |
| ENGLISH           | PHYSICAL EDUCATION                         |
| ENTERPRISE        | RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE)          |
| EXPRESSIVE ARTS   | SCIENCE                                    |
| FRENCH            |  |

## YEARS 9, 10 & 11 - CORE PROGRAMME

|                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| CYMRAEG            | GAMES                              |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE   | SCIENCE                            |
| ENGLISH LITERATURE | SKILLS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE (WBQ) |
| MATHEMATICS        |                                    |

## YEARS 9, 10 & 11 - OPTIONAL CHOICES

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| ART & DESIGN           | VOCATIONAL AWARD IN ICT      |
| BUSINESS               | PERFORMING ARTS (DRAMA)      |
| CATERING & HOSPITALITY | PERFORMING ARTS (MUSIC)      |
| COMPUTER SCIENCE       | PHYSICAL EDUCATION           |
| CONSTRUCTION           | PRINCE'S TRUST QUALIFICATION |
| DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY     | PRODUCT DESIGN               |
| ENGINEERING            | RELIGIOUS STUDIES            |
| FRENCH                 | SCIENCE (TRIPLE)             |
| GEOGRAPHY              | SPANISH                      |
| HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE   | SPORT                        |
| HISTORY                | TEXTILES                     |
| HISTORY ENTRY PATHWAY  | WORK SKILLS                  |

## POST 16 PROVISION

A range of courses are available for students opting to continue their studies in sixth form. These include:-

|                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ADVANCED SKILLS BACCALUAREATE WALES | HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE & CHILDCARE      |
| ART & DESIGN                        | HISTORY                               |
| BIOLOGY                             | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY                |
| BUSINESS                            | MATHEMATICS                           |
| CHEMISTRY                           | MEDIA STUDIES                         |
| COMPUTER SCIENCE                    | PERFORMING ARTS/MUSIC/PRODUCTION ARTS |
| CYMRAEG                             | PHYSICAL EDUCATION                    |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE       | PHYSICS                               |
| ENGLISH LITERATURE                  | PSYCHOLOGY                            |
| FRENCH                              | RELIGIOUS STUDIES                     |
| GEOGRAPHY                           | SPORTS                                |

ALSO COURSES OFFERED VIA THE POST 16 COLLABORATIVE AND CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT.

## DESTINATION OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS 2022

| Destination Category   | Total |
|--|-------|
| Continuing in full-time education - Same School  | 87    |
| Continuing in full-time education - School   | 15    |
| Continuing in full-time education - College  | 73    |
| Continuing in full-time education - HE   | 0     |
| GAP Year   | 0     |
| Continuing in Part time Education  | 0     |
| Entering employment outside WBYP   | 8     |
| Entering WBYP (employed status)  | 1     |
| Entering WBYP - (without employed status)  | 1     |
| Able to Enter Emp, Ed or WBYP (Unemployed)   | 0     |
| Unable OR NOT READY to enter Emp, Ed or WBYP (e.g. due to illness, custodial sentence) | 1     |
| Known to have left the area  | 1     |
| Not responding to follow-up and therefore unknown                                      | 0     |
| To be updated  | 0     |





## BRYNTIRION SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

### AUTUMN & WINTER TERMS

| ITEM   | DESCRIPTION   | WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED? |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| White shirt                                      | Plain white shirt (long or short sleeved) that is suitable for tucking into skirts or trousers.   | Anywhere                   |
| School tie                                       | Years 7-11 wear the same black, gold and teal tie but the sixth form have a distinctive one supplied by the school when they enter the sixth form.  | Local uniform retailers    |
| Black trousers or skirt                          | Plain black tailored trousers. <b>Leggings, jeans or skin tight trousers are not permitted.</b><br><br>Plain black tailored skirt. Straight, pleated or swing skirts are acceptable as long as they are tailored and hemmed properly; no dipped or uneven hems, chiffon or unusual material or decorations.<br><br>Skirts should not be too tight or short. The skirt should be approximately knee length. Skirts should always be worn with black opaque tights. | Anywhere                   |
| Black school jumper or cardigan with school logo | Years 7-11 - Black with school logo.<br>Years 12 & 13 - Black with sixth form school logo.  | Local uniform retailers    |
| Black school shoes                               | Plain black, low heeled shoes. Trainers/sports shoes are not permitted at any time of the year.   | Anywhere                   |
| Black socks or opaque tights                     | Socks and tights should be black. Tights should be opaque and a least 80 denier.  | Anywhere                   |
| Coat   | A smart, practical all weather coat that can be worn over uniform. Hooded, fleece style tops, obvious logos, denim or leather coats are not permitted.  | Anywhere                   |

#### **Sixth Form**

As above but with the addition of:-

|              |  |          |
|--------------|--|----------|
| Black blazer | Plain black tailored blazer with full length sleeves. It should be worn with the school enamel badge on the lapel. The blazer should be worn in addition to the school jumper. | Anywhere |
|--------------|--|----------|

**ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE OWNER'S NAME**

| SUMMER TERM                             |   |                            |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| ITEM                                    | DESCRIPTION   | WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED? |
| White school polo shirt                 | White polo shirt with school logo   | Local uniform retailers    |
| Black tailored shorts                   | Plain black tailored approximately knee length shorts. Cycling shorts or very short shorts are not permitted. The shorts can be worn with black or white ankle socks but should still be worn with shoes, not trainers. | Anywhere                   |
| <u>Physical Education</u>               |   |                            |
| All students                            |   |                            |
| ITEM                                    | DESCRIPTION   | WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED? |
| Green or black shorts or black leggings | Plain green or black sports shorts. Plain black leggings are also acceptable in cold weather (no logos)   | Anywhere                   |
| School PE T-shirt                       | Green / black school PE T-shirt with school logo  | Local uniform retailers    |
| School PE hoody (optional)              | Green school PE hoody with school logo  | Local uniform retailers    |
| Trainers                                | These can be any colour but should be designed for active wear  | Anywhere                   |
| School sports socks                     | Green / gold sports socks   | Local uniform retailers    |
| Gum Shield (optional)                   | Advised for rugby and hockey  | Anywhere                   |
| <u>Girls</u>                            |   |                            |
| Green skort                             | Green skort needed for certain sports, e.g. netball   | Local uniform retailers    |
| One piece swimsuit                      | One piece swimsuit of any colour or design. Bikinis or two piece swimming suits are not allowed.  | Anywhere                   |
| <u>Boys</u>                             |   |                            |
| School rugby top                        | Green / gold school rugby top   | Local uniform retailers    |
| Football / rugby boots                  | Studded football / rugby boots  | Anywhere                   |
| Swimming trunks / shorts                | Swimming trunks / shorts (any colour)   | Anywhere                   |
| <u>Technology / Food</u>                |   |                            |
| ITEM                                    | DESCRIPTION   | WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED? |
| Apron                                   | Plain full length apron, any colour   | Anywhere                   |



Tailored black skirts with the length coming to just above the knee.



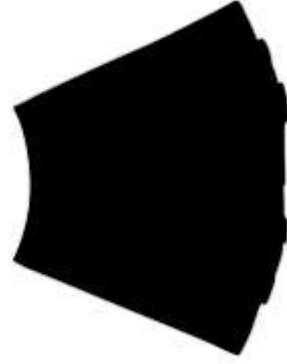
White shirt, school tie and jumper, with tie done up neatly.



Tailored trousers, not too tight, made of appropriate material.

Black, low heeled, polishable shoes.

Suitable examples of shorts and skirts



# SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2023/2024

|                        | Term Begins             | Half Term Starts        | Half Term Ends          | Term Ends               |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Autumn<br/>2023</b> | Monday<br>4th September | Monday<br>30th October  | Friday<br>3rd November  | Friday<br>22nd December |
| <b>Spring<br/>2024</b> | Monday<br>8th January   | Monday<br>12th February | Friday<br>16th February | Friday<br>22nd March    |
| <b>Summer<br/>2024</b> | Monday<br>8th April     | Monday<br>27th May      | Friday<br>31st May      | Monday<br>22nd July     |

## May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May 2024

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

## THE SCHOOL DAY

School begins daily at 8.40 am School ends at 3.00 pm Each day contains five teaching periods of one hour duration. The school adheres to the recommended minimum as printed in the Welsh Office Circular 43/90 Management of the School Day.

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 08:40 - 09:00 | Registration/Tutor Period |
| 09:00 - 10:00 | Lesson 1                  |
| 10:00 - 11:00 | Lesson 2                  |
| 11:00 - 11:20 | Break Time                |
| 11:20 - 12:20 | Lesson 3                  |
| 12:20 - 13:20 | Lesson 4                  |
| 13:20 - 14:00 | Lunch Time                |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | Lesson 5                  |

N.B. During examinations, the time of lunch may be changed.



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |     
Bryntirion Comprehensive

**CONTACT US:**

# **YSGOL GYFUN BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**

**MERLIN CRESCENT  
CEFN GLAS  
BRIDGEND  
CF31 4QR**

**Telephone/Ffon: 01656 641100**

**Email/Ebost: [admin@bryntirioncs.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@bryntirioncs.bridgend.cymru)**

**Headteacher/Prifathro: Mr R K Pawar**