



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |
Bryntirion Comprehensive

Annual Governors' Report to Parents Academic Year 2021/22



A WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I ended my introduction to the Annual Report last year by writing *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 that lie ahead.*

These words continue to be true; Bryntirion is a school that has a great future and one of which we can be justly proud – indeed it is a victim of its own success in one sense in that, because of its reputation in the community, the numbers of pupils applying for admission each year far exceeds the number of pupils we can accept because of space limitations. For that reason we look forward to the new build six-classroom block which we have been promised by the local authority and which, when completed, will alleviate some of the difficulties we now encounter.

But has this year been that "normal" a year to which we all looked forward? In some ways "yes". School life is getting back to some normality, but in other ways "no" and we are still seeing the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and lockdown on the life of the school. It is noticeable that pupil attendance levels have not returned to the level that they were before the Pandemic. In February 2020 it was reported that pupil attendance was at 95.7%; in December 2022 attendance was reported to be 92.4% - not as high as pre-pandemic, although higher than the National average of 89.0%. The effects of lockdown are still very noticeable in many of our pupils and their well-being. It was for that reason that the Governing Body endorsed the Headteacher's decision to increase the number of pastoral care staff in the school and we look forward to seeing the results of their hard work over the coming months.

On the other hand normality has returned to school life with two very successful school productions, "Matilda" being performed by pupils in Years 7-11 and the wonderful production of "West Side Story" which was enjoyed by a full house on each of the three nights on which it was performed. Huge thanks and congratulations to the Performing Arts Department and to all who were involved in both productions. Extracurricular activities have successfully resumed as have external visits and school trips, e.g. abroad (History trip to Belgium), residential (Geography 2-day residential, Llangranog for Years 7/8) and 2 and 1-day trips to London (Business Studies, RE, Performing Arts) Hay-on Wye and New Theatre, Cardiff (English), as well as a whole school "day out" at the end of the year; in fact there have been eleven educational visits of one sort or another in this academic year. Visits such as these are important for our pupils' education. It gives the opportunity to enhance what is learnt in the classroom as well as being an opportunity for our pupils to have new experiences. We are grateful to all the staff who arrange and escort these visits to enable our pupils to have these enriching experiences. So too sporting fixtures with other schools have once again been part of school life. It is encouraging to note how many sporting events our pupils and staff are involved with, and often at regional, national and international level. Again thanks is due to those staff who encourage and support this sporting prowess.

Normality of a sort has also returned to the school in that our pupils have once again been able to sit their public examinations at the end of Years 10-13. We wait to learn how the results of this year's GCSEs and A-levels will be graded.

As each year I write this introduction I become aware of the enormous debt of gratitude that as Governors we owe to so many people. Each year the report gives me the public forum to thank the Headteacher, the Senior Leadership Team and the whole staff, both teaching and support staff, for their unfailing dedication to the education and well-being of our children. Without their incredible commitment and professionalism our pupils would not receive the education that they do and to which they are entitled. However, the education of our pupils is a partnership with parents and guardians and your co-operation in all the school has continued to ask of you is gratifying. 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, in ways that perhaps continue to be strange and new to many but nevertheless have been successfully implemented to ensure the education, well-being and safety of our pupils, your children.

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 Committees. I, as chair, wish to thank my colleagues for their continued support and commitment throughout the past year.

Revd. Canon E. J. Evans
 Chair of Governors
 Bryntirion Comprehensive School

CURRENT GOVERNING BODY OF BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

LEA Representatives	Termination Date
Mr J Lewis	16/02/2027
Mr I Dowie	17/06/2023
Mr G Clifford	07/03/2025
Cllr C Green	17/06/2023
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 (C)	07/08/2024

Parent

Mrs S Bimson	27/03/2023
Mr S Parry	03/01/2025
Mrs P Evans	03/01/2025
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
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Teacher

Mrs J Walker	21/06/2026
Mrs C Herbert	15/05/2023

Headteacher

Mr R Pawar	
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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 2021.22 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 2022 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 2021 to the Summer Term 2022

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 1248 pupils on roll, including 206 in the sixth form. Around 13.7 % of pupils are eligible for free school meals which is below the national average of 20.4%. A few pupils are from other ethnic groups (6,5%) and around 0.8% of pupils speak English as an additional language. Very few pupils are fluent Welsh speakers. Approximately 11.2% of pupils have additional learning needs. The percentage of pupils who have a statement of special educational need is 1.4%. 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.

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@bryntirioncs.bridgend.cymru

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 2022 there were 1249 pupils on the roll of Bryntirion Comprehensive School with a staffing complement of the Headteacher, 82 assistant teachers and 34 Support Staff.

The Governors made the following appointments during the academic year:

Rhian Norris - Teacher of Welsh
Danielle Ayres - Teacher of Mathematics
Jack Beynon - Teacher of Welsh/PE
Annabelle Peron - Teacher of Art
Jodie Chilcott - Teacher of Geography
Samantha Hyde - Teacher of Business
Mark Vaughan - Assistant Headteacher
Morgan Beal - Pastoral Support
Georgia Thomas - Teacher of English (Temporary)
Courtney Ward - Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)
Andrew Ward - Teacher of Science (Maternity Cover)
Alysha Hitchings - Teacher of PE (Maternity Cover)

The following staff left employment this academic year:-

Sioned Rees
Karen Owen
Ffion Cole
Amy Perry
Chloe Phillips
Abigail Rees
Adam Lam

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.

Bryntirion has not yet formally adopted the Curriculum for Wales in the current academic year, however, our students in years 7 and 8 have been following our approach to the new curriculum. Bryntirion will formally adopt the new curriculum in September 2023. Whilst at Bryntirion we have maintained individual subject disciplines, our pupils in years 7 and 8 now follow an integrated approach to the delivery of the cross curricular responsibilities and integral skills. Pupils take part in the First Give Social Enterprise which provides an opportunity to engage with local charities and initiatives to demonstrate their progress in these areas. All pupils also complete the Bryntirion Four Challenges which allows them to develop and demonstrate their progress in the four core purposes of the Curriculum for Wales.

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 2022

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.

6. School Facilities

The school's toilet facilities are cleaned on a daily basis 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. All blocks have been painted and updated by the caretaker over this academic year. 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.

Grounds between M, F and D block have been tarmarced, spend approved by Governing Body.

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.

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. 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

Bryntirion Comprehensive School has an Equal Opportunities Policy approved by the Governing Body identifying how we are fulfilling our strong commitment to equality and inclusion within the school.

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 the local authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and the ambition of the Welsh Government to achieve a target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050 as outlined in the document Cymraeg 2050. 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

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. Our 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. We will continue to frame our ambition around a series of key priorities, focusing on:

“The Bryntirion Way” - which is -

To raise Expectations and Achievement for all pupils, so that they make good progress in developing their knowledge, understanding and skills.

We will do this -

- A - Through the quality of our teaching, learning and assessments**
- B - Through the design and development of our whole curriculum;**
- C - Through secure wellbeing and positive attitudes;**
- D - Through innovative planning and honest self-evaluation.**

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.

School Terms and Holiday Dates for 2022/23 Academic Year

	Term Begins	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn 2022	Monday 5th September	Monday 31st October	Friday 4th November	Friday 23rd December
Spring 2023	Monday 9th January	Monday 20th February	Friday 24th February	Friday 31st March
Summer 2023	Monday 17th April	Monday 29th May	Friday 2nd June	Monday 24th July
The Headteacher is given the discretion to choose the five in-service staff days (and any additional allocations).				
May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2023 Coronation Bank Holiday - Monday 8th May 2023				

BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Financial Statement 2021-2022

EXPENDITURE

Employee Costs	5,715,975.34	5,715,975.34
Premises Related Costs		
Repairs, Building work, Kitchen & Pool Maintenance	233,616.36	
Grounds Maintenance	6,377.38	
Cleaning & Refuse Collection	17,798.89	
Services: Gas, Electricity & Water	133,491.88	
Rates	113,955.00	
	505,239.51	505,239.51
Supplies & Services		
Examination Fees	114,223.45	
Telephone & Postage	6,770.42	
Equipment (including leased)	1,236.00	
Services (H&S, Alarms, SLAs)	179,581.73	
Payments re School Meals	43,859.40	
Departmental Allowances, College Links, P.E. Transport	449,053.11	
Staff Development	27,315.29	
Distinctive School Clothing Grants	10,738.50	
Furniture and Fittings	4,918.27	
Pupil Clawbacks	37,410.16	
Sundry Payments	34,922.96	
Insurance	11,195.12	
	921,224.41	921,224.41
Total Payments		7,142,439.26
INCOME		
Government Grants	800,401.81	
School Meals	6,244.15	
Hire of School Premises	40,251.00	
Other Income	160,479.37	
Formula Allocation	6,067,710.05	
Underspend from 2020-21	320,735.38	
	7,395,821.76	
Total Income		7,395,821.76
Balance carried forward to 2022-23		253,382.50

Ysgol Gyfun **Bryntirion** Comprehensive School

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