



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |
Bryntirion Comprehensive

ANNUAL GOVERNORS' REPORT
TO PARENTS
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL Y
LLYWODRAETHWYR I RIENI
BLWYDDYN ACADEMAIDD
2022/23



A WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

What an eventful year this has been. As we continue to recover from the effects of Covid it is still evident that it is having an impact on our pupils in various ways. Perhaps the most notable area is in attendance. Overall attendance is improving slowly but is still below pre-pandemic levels. The Governing Body continues to support the increase in the number of pastoral care staff which the school has implemented. Their employment has already begun to have an impact of students' well-being and we hope that their continued presence in the school will help further in this all-important area.

This year has seen the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales for Years 7 and 8. This is the curriculum that has come out of the Donaldson Report of 2015, *Successful Futures*. Secondary schools were given the option of delaying its implementation until September 2023. Bryntirion took advantage of that delay to ensure that everyone was ready to begin teaching and learning according to the new curriculum. It has meant a substantial change for both teachers and pupils and the Governing Body would like to thank and compliment all staff on the enthusiasm and commitment with which they have embraced the new challenges of this new Curriculum for Wales (CfW).

Writing this gives me the opportunity to express our huge gratitude to all our staff for their dedication and commitment to the school and its pupils. Many of our staff go way over and beyond what is required of them. They show a genuine desire to help our pupils succeed in all areas of their lives, not just academically, but socially as well. There is no doubt whatsoever that the staff of Bryntirion do their utmost to ensure that our pupils are able to live up to those ideals. A major part of this successful outcome is that we have a happy and contented staff, many of whom have given the greater part of their working life to Bryntirion.

Earlier in the year we enjoyed a hugely successful school production of *Beauty and the Beast* which played to a "full house" over three nights. School visits have continued and brought much to those pupils who have participated in them. 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. 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, often at regional, national and international level, as well as locally. Recently the Headteacher identified 44 separate extra-curricular activities which take place throughout the week. These activities could not take place without the support and encouragement of our staff. So a huge "thank you" to all those who give of their time and expertise to allow our pupils to have these opportunities to develop their particular interests. The topics are wide-ranging, interesting and exciting.

Another area of school life which has seen important developments is the involvement of so many pupils in events such as *Dragons Den* and other similar events which have focused pupils' minds on local charities, and in particular on the work of Velindre. It is heartening to see how the pupils have taken an interest in these charities and to see the effort which they have put in to learn about their work and how they may be helped.

Pupils were able to sit their public external examinations under normal conditions this year. It has been gratifying to learn of the excellent results achieved by most pupils in those exams, the first "normal" exams and results since before Covid and we congratulate them on their achievements.

I cannot fail to mention at this point the effect that the cost of living is having on everyone and the school is no different. Utility bills and resources have escalated having an impact on the school budget. There is the almost certainty of a further cut for the coming financial year. Thanks to the prudent management of the school's budget by the Senior Leadership Team over the past years the school has managed to maintain a small carry forward balance each year. Given the potential cuts this will no longer be possible and the school's budget will have to be managed even more carefully than in the past.

This report gives me the public forum to thank the Headteacher, the Senior Leadership Team and the whole staff for their unfailing dedication to the education and well-being of our children. The education of our pupils is a partnership with parents and guardians and your co-operation in all the school has continues to ask of you is gratifying.

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 (VC)	16/02/2027
Mr I Dowie	16/10/2027
Mr G Clifford	07/03/2025
Cllr C Green	18/09/2027
Cllr J P Blundell	17/01/2026

Community

Dr L Evans	07/12/2025
Vacancy	
Mr P Sawtell	30/06/2025
Vacancy	
Rev Canon E J Evans (C)	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
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Teacher

Mrs J Walker	21/06/2026
Mrs C Herbert	20/06/2027

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 2022.23 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 available to prospective parents in July 2023 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 2022 to the Summer Term 2023

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 1241 pupils on roll, including 193 in the sixth form. Around 15.3% (rolling 3 year average) of pupils are eligible for free school meals which is below the national average of 21.2%. A few pupils are from other ethnic groups (6,9%) and around 1.0% of pupils speak English as an additional language. Very few pupils are fluent Welsh speakers. Approximately 2.1% of pupils have additional learning needs and an additional 15.7% of pupils receive support. The percentage of pupils who have a statement of special educational need is 1.0%. 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 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 2023 there were 1244 pupils on the roll of Bryntirion Comprehensive School with a staffing complement of the Headteacher, 78 assistant teachers and 34 Support Staff.

The Governors made the following appointments during the academic year:

Gayle Davies - Learning Support Officer
Hannah Wells - Learning Support Officer
Leanne Hopkins - Learning Support Officer
Mohamed Awadalla - Learning Support
Cheryl Samuel - Examinations Officer

The following staff left employment this academic year:-

Claire Hawkes
Janet Evans
Patricia James
Danielle Ayres
Kay Jones

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.

5. Curriculum

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.

Curriculum Intentions Year 7 - <https://www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk/sites/default/files/u2/Curriculum%20Intentions%20Year%207%20Autumn%20term%20%281%29%20in%20ALOE%20.pdf>

Curriculum Intentions Year 8 - <https://www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk/sites/default/files/u2/Curriculum%20Intentions%20Year%208%20Autumn%20term%20%281%29%20in%20ALOE%20%281%29.pdf>

Key Stage 4 Curriculum & Assessments - Guidance for Parents - <https://www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk/sites/default/files/u2/Curriculum%20and%20Assessment%20guidance%20for%20parents%20KS4%20%281%29.pdf>

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.

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

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 school awaits a date for the next inspection.

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.

Welsh Government ‘My Local School’ shares information on local schools, link to website below:
[Bryntirion Comprehensive. \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/bryntirion-comprehensive)

School Terms and Holiday Dates for 2023/24 Academic Year

	Term Begins	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn 2023	Monday 4th September	Monday 30th October	Friday 3rd November	Friday 22nd December
Spring 2024	Monday 8th January	Monday 12th February	Friday 16th February	Friday 22nd March
Summer 2024	Monday 8th April	Monday 27th May	Friday 31st May	Monday 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).

BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Financial Statement 2022-2023

EXPENDITURE

Employee Costs	6,248,931.38	6,248,931.38
Premises Related Costs		
Repairs, Building work, Kitchen & Pool Maintenance	64,853.97	
Grounds Maintenance	10,111.29	
Cleaning & Refuse Collection	4,557.52	
Services: Gas, Electricity & Water	135,448.40	
Rates	113,955.00	
	<u>328,926.18</u>	328,926.18
Supplies & Services		
Examination Fees	175,857.71	
Telephone & Postage	8,532.84	
Equipment (including leased)	1,161.00	
Services (H&S, Alarms, SLAs)	136,582.72	
Payments re School Meals	76,358.53	
Departmental Allowances, College Links, P.E. Transport	133,227.21	
Staff Development	93,390.00	
Distinctive School Clothing Grants	10,814.00	
Furniture and Fittings	4,511.19	
Pupil Clawbacks	100,611.62	
Insurance	14,902.45	
	<u>755,949.26</u>	755,949.26
Total Payments		7,333,806.82
INCOME		
Government Grants	634,786.34	
School Meals	7,254.43	
Hire of School Premises	67,590.50	
Other Income	156,801.96	
Formula Allocation	6,412,816.00	
Underspend from 2020-21	253,382.07	
Extra Funding for Salaries Paid into Budget	223,004.34	
	<u>7,755,635.64</u>	
Total Income		7,755,635.64
Balance carried forward to 2023-24		421,828.82



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |   
Bryntirion Comprehensive

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Headteacher/Prifathro: Mr R K Pawar