



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion |



Bryntirion Comprehensive

GWYBODAETH YR YSGOL 2026/2027 SCHOOL INFORMATION 2026/2027

Dysgwn Sut I Fyw - Learning to Live

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

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HEADTEACHER/PRIFATHRO:
MR. D. MEAD, 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 2026/2027 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

16/02/2027

Mr I Dowie

16/10/2027

Ms G Richards-Hemming

26/02/2029

Cllr C Green

18/09/2027

Mrs I Pospisil

19/01/2030

Community

Dr L Evans

03/12/2029

Ms P Evans

23/09/2029

Mr P Sawtell

18/06/2029

Mrs K Owen

21/02/2028

Rev Canon E J Evans (Chair)

16/05/2028

Parent

Mr D Nathwani

14/09/2027

Mrs F Watkin

19/11/2028

Dr P Vallabhaneni

14/09/2027

Mrs J Trivett

29/06/2026

A Verries-Wade

12/01/2027

Staff

Mrs A John

11/12/2029

Teacher

Mrs A Withers

21/09/2029

Mrs C Herbert

20/06/2027

Headteacher

Mr D Mead

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

Croeso i Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion

On behalf of the governing body, staff and pupils at Bryntirion Comprehensive School, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all. Our goal is to help each individual person develop the skills, confidence, and qualities necessary to succeed in life and contribute positively to society.

At Bryntirion, we pride ourselves in creating a caring, supportive, happy and productive school community where everyone feels valued. We encourage our pupils to show respect for each other, maintain a positive attitude towards their learning and work together to achieve the highest standards. We celebrate the achievements of all our pupils, knowing that the experiences and achievements they have with us help lay the foundation for their future happiness and success.



Our recent Estyn inspection recognised Bryntirion Comprehensive School as a caring, inclusive, and high-performing school, reflecting our commitment to both academic excellence and personal development. 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 they possess. Our diverse curriculum and wide range of extracurricular activities are designed to meet the needs of all pupils, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to excel.

It is a privilege to be the headteacher of Bryntirion Comprehensive School and lead the whole school community in providing an outstanding education for our pupils. Bryntirion is an exciting and stimulating place to be, both for staff and pupils. By working together in partnership with governors, staff and parents, we will continue to support each and every one of our pupils in striving for excellence in all aspects of their school life, instilling in them the confidence and self-belief that they can and will achieve their full potential during their time with us.

Ar ran y corff llywodraethol, y staff a'r disgyblion yn Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion, hoffwn estyn croeso cynnes i chi i gyd. Ein nod yw helpu pob unigolyn i ddatblygu medrau, hyder a'r nodweddion sydd eu hangen i lwyddo mewn bywyd a chyfrannu'n bositif i'r gymdeithas.

Ym Mryntirion, rydym yn falch o greu cymuned ysgol ofalgar, gefnogol, hapus a gweithgar lle mae pob unigolyn yn teimlo'n werthfawr. Rydym yn annog ein disgyblion i ddangos parch at ei gilydd, cynnal agwedd bositif tuag at eu dysgu a gweithio gyda'i gilydd i gyflawni'r safonau uchaf. Rydym yn dathlu cyflawniadau pob disgybl, gan wybod bod y profiadau a'r llwyddiannau maent yn eu derbyn gyda ni yn helpu i osod sylfaen gref ar gyfer eu hapusrwydd a'u llwyddiant yn y dyfodol.

Cydnabuwyd yn ystod ein harolygiad Estyn diweddar fod Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion yn ysgol ofalgar, gynhwysol a llwyddiannus sy'n adlewyrchu ein hymroddiad i ragoriaeth academiaidd a datblygiad personol. Mae ein gwaith yn seiliedig ar y delfryd cynhwysol - cred bod pob plentyn yn hafal o ran gwerth ac mai ein tasg ni yw helpu i ddatblygu'r gallu a'r talentau sydd ganddynt. Mae ein cwricwlwm amrywiol a'r ystod eang o weithgareddau allgyrsiol wedi'u cynllunio i ddiwallu anghenion pob disgybl, gan sicrhau bod pob un yn cael cyfle i ragori.

Mae'n ffrainc bod yn bennaeth Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion a rhoi arweiniad i holl gymuned yr ysgol wrth ddarparu addysg eithriadol i'n disgyblion. Mae Bryntirion yn le cyffrous a hwyliog i fod, ar gyfer y staff a'r disgyblion. Drwy weithio gyda'n gilydd mewn partneriaeth â'r llywodraethwyr, staff a rhieni, byddwn yn parhau i gefnogi pob un o'n disgyblion i anelu at ragoriaeth ym mhob agwedd ar eu bywyd ysgol, gan ymgorffori'r hyder a'r gred ynddynt y gallant ac y byddant yn cyflawni eu llawn botensial yn ystod eu hamser gyda ni.

D. Mead
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 221 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'.

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



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BE READY

Be punctual
With correct equipment
Wearing correct school uniform
Complete homework

BE RESPECTFUL

Yourself
Teachers
Peers
"One Voice" in the classroom
Follow instructions
Maintain focus and concentration

BE SAFE

Respect the school environment
Phone (not seen or heard)
No eating, only water
Never leave the classroom without permission
Use technology responsibly and safely

BE SUCCESSFUL

Positive activities for wellbeing
Demonstrate perseverance and resilience
Display confidence
Take responsibility
Maintain positive relationships

**BE READY**

Be **punctual** to all form time sessions and timetabled lessons.

Always bring the necessary **school equipment**, including pens, pencils, ruler, calculator books, and specific lesson equipment.

Always wear the **correct school uniform**.

Complete **homework** and meet homework deadlines consistently.

BE RESPECTFUL

Always be **polite and respectful** towards all staff and fellow pupils; never make hurtful or unkind comments to others.

Adhere to the class **seating plan**.

Listen to others (staff and pupils) when they are talking; respect the "**One Voice**" rule.

Follow the teacher's **instructions** the first time they are given.

Work with **focus and concentration**, completing tasks to the **best of your ability**, and never distract others.

BE SAFE

Respect the **school environment** and equipment within it.

Ensure your **phone** is away in your bag during lessons (**not seen or heard**).

No eating in class and **only water** can be drunk in lessons.

Never leave the classroom **without permission**.

Use technology **responsibly** and **safely**.

BE SUCCESSFUL

Participate in positive activities to support your **wellbeing**.

Demonstrate **perseverance and resilience** to overcome challenges.

Display **confidence** in working independently, sharing ideas with others, seek support when needed and embrace new opportunities.

Reflect on and take **responsibility** for your academic and personal goals.

Build and maintain **positive relationships** with peers, teachers, and the wider school community.



HOMEWORK

Homework is an integral part of 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 4.00pm (Friday). There is a complete range of I.T. equipment as well as a selection of books. There is 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.

RELIGION, 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 so 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.

[COMPLAINTS POLICY](#)

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/ Mrs Marie Sidoli - Assistant Headteacher/ Miss Felicity Jones - Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM			
The safeguarding team 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 safeguarding team are:			
			
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD MR HUW WILLIAMS ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER	DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD MR JAMIE BEARD DEPUTY HEADTEACHER	DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD MRS MARIE SIDOLI ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER	DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD MISS FELICITY JONES SAFEGUARDING & WELLBEING OFFICER

Mrs Marie Sidoli, Assistant Headteacher, 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.

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 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.

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 DEVICES

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.
- Headphones are not to be seen at anytime during the school day.

[Mobile Device Policy 2026 - Final.pdf](#)

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 2027-2028

[School Admissions Policy 2027-28](#)

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE SEPTEMBER 2027

Bridgend County Borough Council will send the parents of each child, who is in Year 6 September 2026, information for applying online for secondary education for 2027.

Timetable for Year 7 secondary school admissions for September 2027:

The expected timetable for children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, transferring from junior/primary school (Year 6) to secondary school (Year 7) in September 2027 is as follows:

Action	Date
Opening date for submission of applications	10am - Monday, 14 September 2026
Closing date for receipt of applications by the local authority	4pm - Saturday, 31st October 2026
Notification to applications of offer or refusal of places (the 'offer date')	Monday, 1 March 2027
Parents to notify the local authority of acceptance or refusal of places offered.	Monday, 15 March 2027
Closing date for parents/carers to submit an appeal	4pm - Monday, 5 April 2027

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 2025-2026 there were the following vacancies:

- Year 7 - 38
- Year 8 - 20
- Year 9 - 5
- Year 10 - 7
- Year 11 - 14

Bridgend County Borough Council received 207 applications for secondary admission September 2025 to Bryntirion Comprehensive School of which 0 appeals were made.

CHANGING SECONDARY SCHOOL - IN YEAR ADMSSIONS/TRANSFERS

Parents/carers who wish to apply for a place at a different school for reasons other than a change of ordinary residence are advised to carefully consider the information in the Starting School Prospectus 2027-2028 and information available on the local authority's website.

Parents/carers should talk to the headteacher of the pupil's current school about the reasons for a change of school being considered. There is a significant amount of research evidencing that changing schools is disruptive and can have a negative impact on a pupil's attainment. There are many reasons for this. It is particularly important that careful consideration is given to the impacts of moving pupils in Year 10 and Year 11, who would have already begun to study for their chosen GCSE subjects, as those GCSE subjects may not be available at a different school.

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

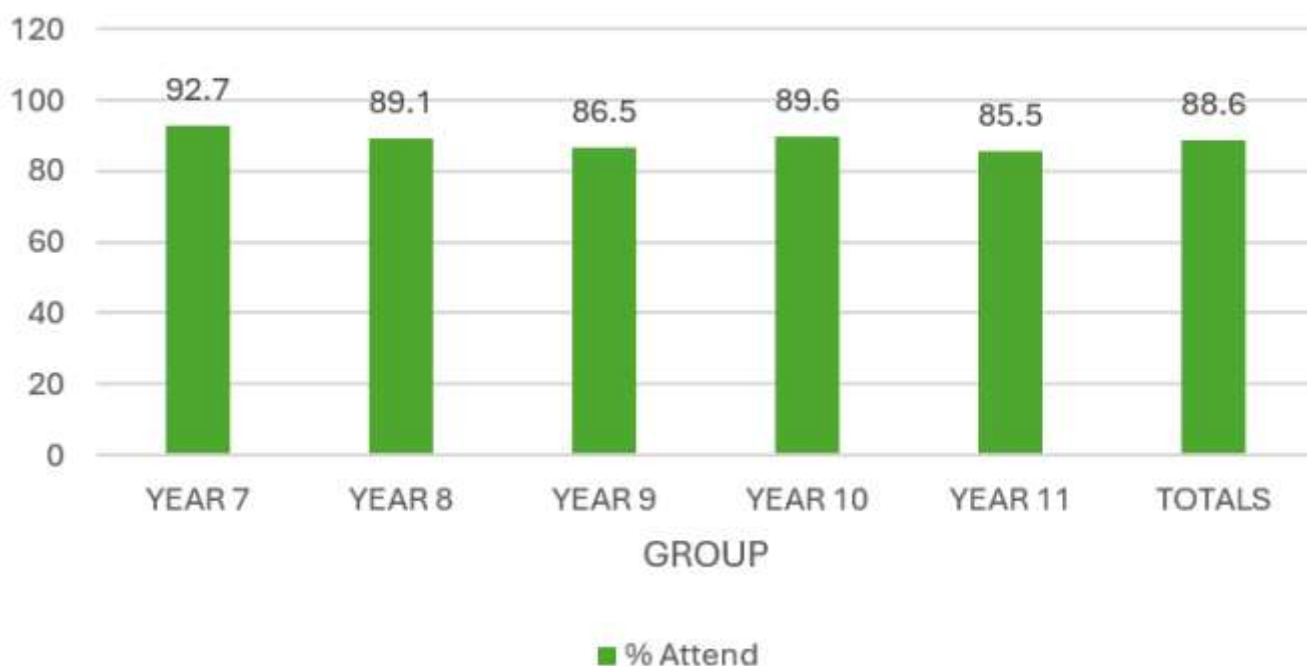
www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-attendance/

The Bridgend Education Trust logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL CALLIO ATTENDANCE TABLE

Purple	100%	Not missing any lessons! Your child has the optimum chance to achieve well and is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
Green	99% 98% 97%	Missing up to 5 days / 10 sessions of school.
Amber	96% 95% 93%	Missing up to 11 days / 22 sessions of school.
Red	92% and below	Missing up to 12 days / 26 sessions or more.

Bryntirion Attendance 2025 - 2026



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 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 & 9

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 10 & 11 - CORE PROGRAMME

CYMRAEG	GAMES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	SCIENCE
ENGLISH LITERATURE	SKILLS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE (WBQ)
MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY	

YEARS 10 & 11 - OPTIONAL CHOICES

ART & DESIGN	HISTORY
BUSINESS STUDIES	HOSPITALITY & CATERING
COMPUTER SCIENCE	VOCATIONAL AWARD IN ICT
CONSTRUCTION	KING'S TRUST QUALIFICATION
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY	MUSIC
DRAMA	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
ENGINEERING	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FRENCH	SCIENCE
GEOGRAPHY	SPORT
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	TEXTILES

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
CRIMINOLOGY	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
CYMRAEG	PHYSICS
ECOMONICS	PSYCHOLOGY
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FRENCH	SPORTS
GEOGRAPHY	TEXTILES
ALSO COURSES OFFERED VIA THE POST 16 COLLABORATIVE AND CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT.	

DESTINATION OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS 2025 (AWAITING UPDATED INFORMATION)

Destination Category	Total
Continuing in full-time education - Same School	
Continuing in full-time education - School	
Continuing in full-time education - College	
Continuing in full-time education - HE	
Continuing in Part-time Education	
Entering employment outside WBYP	
Entering WBYP (employed status)	
Entering WBYP (without employed status)	
Unable OR NOT READY to enter Emp, Ed or WBYP (e.g. due to illness, custodial	
Known to have left the area	



Bryntirion School Uniform

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 school trousers. Leggings, jeans, tracksuit bottoms or skin tight trousers are not permitted. Plain black school skirt. Skirts should not be too tight or short. The skirt must be an appropriate length. Skirts should always be worn with black opaque tights. Tights should be opaque and a least 80 denier. Only black socks to be worn with tights.	Anywhere
Black school jumper or cardigan with school logo	Years 7-11 – Plain Black school Jumper, ideally with school logo. (But no other logos) Years 12 & 13 - Black with sixth form ideally with school logo. (But no other logos).	Local uniform retailers
Black shoes	Plain black, low heeled, covered footwear. (Ankle boots are allowed)	Anywhere
Coat	A practical all weather coat that can be worn over uniform.	Anywhere
<u>Sixth Form</u> 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
<u>ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE OWNER'S NAME</u>		

SUMMER TERM		
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED?
White school polo shirt	White polo shirt	Anywhere
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>		
Black or Green skort	Black or Green skort (black will replace green eventually as cheaper option) 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

Technology / Food		
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	WHERE CAN IT BE PURCHASED?
Apron	Plain full length apron, any colour	Anywhere

Distinctive Clothing Awards

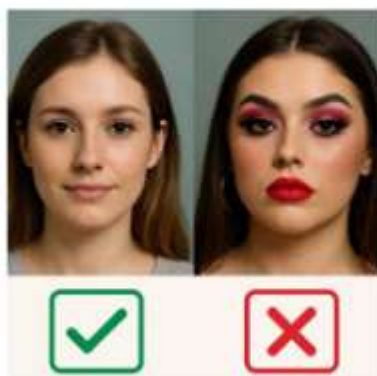
The school, through the Local Education Authority, makes financial allowances to some pupils attending school, subject to eligibility by assessment, towards the cost of distinctive school clothing.

Hair and General Appearance

- Pupil's hair must be a natural colour—examples of acceptable colours include shades of brown, black, blonde, or auburn. Unnatural colours such as bright blue, pink, green, or purple are not permitted.



- Pupils are permitted to wear natural or neutral make-up, pupils are not allowed to wear excessive make-up. (including - eye lashes/make up accessories).



- Nails should be of a neutral or non-bright colour, and must be kept at an appropriate length to ensure pupil safety.
- In line with school rules, long hair must be tied back during PE lessons and when in science laboratories and technology rooms to ensure pupil safety.

Jewellery

- Pupils may wear small plain studs in each ear lobe and one small stud in one side of the nose.
- All jewellery must be discreet and in keeping with the school's standards for appearance.
- Excessive jewellery, including large earrings, other facial piercings, or decorative facial jewellery, is not permitted.
- No Rings to be worn.
- All jewellery must be removed in any lesson or club where it poses a health & safety risk to the pupil.

Supplementary information

In order to assist parents and guardians when it comes to purchasing uniform, we have added a number of photographs to show our uniform as we would ideally like it to be worn. These will enable parents and guardians to make informed choices about trouser styles and acceptable skirt lengths.



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Bryntirion Comprehensive

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 2026/2027

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn 2026	Tuesday 1st September	Monday 26th October	Friday 30th October	Friday 18th December
Spring 2027	Monday 4th January	Monday 8th February	Friday 12th February	Friday 19th March
Summer 2027	Monday 5th April	Monday 31st May	Friday 4th June	Tuesday 20th July

May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 3rd May 2027

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

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