



Brynmenyn Primary School

Annual Report to Parents 2024-2025



A message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very pleased to deliver a forward to this year's annual report as Chair of the Governing Body. Once again, the school has much to celebrate as it goes from strength to strength with the inspiring leadership of its' headteacher, deputy head and amazing staff who give so much of their talents, time and energy to the education of our children.

Brynmenyn Primary School very much exists as the beating heart of our community. The pupils demonstrate an extraordinary breadth of talent and promise that is nurtured and encouraged by an expert team of teachers that push these children to not only meet but exceed their potential. I must also make mention of the amazing support the teachers and pupils receive from learning assistants and the support staff who assist their learning, keep them safe, and support their emotional wellbeing and development.

As a Governing Body, we strive to ensure that the school remains committed to providing a high-quality education while fostering an environment where all feel valued, safe, and inspired. We work closely with the headteacher and the leadership team to challenge and support, to ensure there is a continued focus on pupil wellbeing and that progress is made with the strategic priorities, including improving approaches to teaching and learning and Welsh oracy skills.

I must also congratulate every member of staff on a successful ESTYN report this year, which reflects the high level of professionalism and expertise that make Brynmenyn Primary School a brilliant centre of learning for young people.

To the parents, guardians and carers of our pupils, I can fully appreciate as a parent what we ask of you as a school and can at the same time assure you that your cooperation is both essential and gratefully appreciated. Whether it's supporting school events, trips, fundraising and most essentially when it comes to matters of health and safety - thank you.

The school and Governing Body will remain committed to ensuring that our school continues to improve, adapt and meet the challenges and opportunities we encounter over the next year.

Please provide your feedback and suggestions, as continued engagement between the school and the community it serves is essential as we work together for the success of every child.

Thank you once again for your support.

Paul Deenik

Chair of the Governing Body

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of everyone at Brynmenyn Primary School, may I take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, carers and extended families for their help, support and patience during what has been another busy year. As always, our school is continuing to make lots of improvements to secure high-quality teaching and learning for all of our pupils.

This year, we have carried out work looking at improving our approaches to teaching and learning and have put in place lots of changes in line with the new Curriculum for Wales including supporting our pupils to develop their Welsh oracy skills.

It has been a pleasure watching our pupils continue to make good progress during their time with us, and it continues to be a privilege to lead the work within Brynmenyn Primary School. We have a fantastic team of staff who work incredibly hard to deliver exciting and purposeful learning experiences for our pupils and pupils who want to work hard and do well in all aspects of school life.

Moving forward, we will continue to do all we can to ensure our pupils are provided with the best opportunities to fulfil their potential as ambitious learners and become well rounded citizens of our community.

Thank you for all of your continued support.

Miss K. Jones

Headteacher

The Big Picture



Our Vision

Brynmenyn Primary School is committed to creating lifelong learners who take responsibility for themselves and their actions, showing resilience and perseverance in the face of all challenges.

We strive to instil confidence, passion and ambition across the school community in order for everyone to pursue their dreams, achieve their best and realise their potential.

Through kindness, respect and friendship, we support and challenge each other and celebrate the individuality and uniqueness of all learners, families, staff and communities.

Our Values

In addition to our vision, Brynmenyn Primary School has worked with all stakeholder including pupils, parents, staff and governors to identify what values and characteristics we all want our pupils to display. These values underpin everything we strive to achieve in Brynmenyn Primary School. Our values ensure that we help pupils develop both academically and personally.

We want our school community to be:

Honest and Truthful

Kind and Caring

Polite and Respectful

Ambitious and Successful

Healthy and Happy

Safe and Supportive

Resilient and Responsible

Independent and Confident



Healthy
Living



Staff at Brynmenyn Primary School

Headteacher: Miss K. Jones

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs G. Russell

Senior Leadership Team (SLT): Mr G. Evans, Mr R. White,

Mr T. Harris, Mrs A. Wilcox

Teaching Staff	
Foundation Phase Teachers	Key Stage 2 Teachers
Nursery: Mrs N. Smith Nursery/Reception: Miss A. Chivers Reception: Mrs Z. Summers Year 1: Miss D. Michael Year 1: Mrs C. Pope Year 2: Mrs R. Evans/Mrs R. Cuss Year 2: Mr Harris	Year 3: Mr D. Jones Year 3: Mr R. White Year 4: Mr G. Evans Year 4: Mr A. Joy Year 5: Mrs K. McCarthy Year 5: Mrs B. Morris Year 6: Mrs A. Wilcox Year 6: Mr J. Hussey
Support Staff	
Miss F. Owen, Mrs L. Brown, Mr R. Hulme, Mrs N. Nelmes, Mrs L. O'Brien, Mr N. Alexander, Mrs R. Stevens, Miss J. Morgan, Mrs A. Davies, Mrs M. Heywood, Mr B. Richards, Mrs L. Werner, Mrs C. Munro, Miss R. Bowen-Jones, Mrs D. Seldon, Mr K. Herbert	
Administration Officers	Premises Officer
Mrs Z. Burke Mrs H. Deeks	Mr S. Wyatt-Williams
Midday Supervisors	
Mrs J. Bishop Mrs S. Taylor Mrs N. Chinnook Mr S. Randall Mrs H. Rees	

Financial Report

Brynmenyn Primary School has a delegated budget allocated by the Local Authority.

This is allocated using a specific formula which is applied across all schools so that there is fair funding of all Schools in Bridgend County Borough Council. Below is the final budget spend from financial year 2024/2025 (budgets run from April to March).

Employee Related Expenses	
Staff	£1,921, 688
Premises Related Costs	
Repairs and Maintenance	£10,708
Energy	£37, 439.78
Rates	£48, 894
Water	£3622
Cleaners and Cleaning Materials	£2512
Supplies and Services Expenses	
Teaching Resources and General Resources	£147, 032
Gross Expenditure	
Welsh Government Grants	£482,995
School Meals	£3,997
Net School Expenditure	
£1,647,196	



School Improvement



Securing School Improvement

At Brynmenyn Primary School, we have our pupils' safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision making and the ethos at Brynmenyn Primary School is key to the successful learning of all of our pupils.

The Headteacher and Deputy, together with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the school community, work together to identify school priorities, to plan and action developments, and to closely monitor impact.

What needs improving?

Through continuous monitoring and evaluation, we are able to identify whole-school priorities.

From our identification of priorities, staff development is planned for. Planned INSET focuses on ensuring all staff are kept up to date of current requirements in education and are equipped with the skills necessary to deliver the ever-changing demands of the curriculum.

Our School Improvement Plan (SIP) targets for 2024-2025 focused on:

- To improve teaching and learning
- To improve assessment and planning for progression.
- To improve distributed leadership and implement an effective monitoring and evaluation cycle.
- To improve standards of oracy in Welsh.





Curriculum Organisation & Teaching

At Brynmenyn Primary School we support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that in school, both staff and pupils learn new things every day.

We maintain that learning should be a rewarding, purposeful and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Through our teaching, we seek to equip pupils with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices and become lifelong learners.

We recognise that pupils learn best in different ways, and we aim to provide a rich and varied learning environment that supports our children in developing their skills and abilities, in order for them to achieve their full potential.

All of our teaching is underpinned by the four purposes of Curriculum for Wales and aims to:

- Support pupils in becoming confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners.
- Foster pupils' self-esteem and help them build positive relationships with others.
- Develop pupils' self-respect and encourage them to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others.
- Show respect for all cultures and in doing so, promote positive attitudes towards other people.
- Enable pupils to understand their community and help them feel valued as part of this community.
- Help pupils grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens by celebrating the achievements of both pupils and staff.

We ensure all of our learners are able to access the curriculum through differentiated work and ordinarily available provision. Pupils with ALN (Additional Learning Needs) access the curriculum through reasonable adjustments and alternative learning provision (ALP) as defined in their Individual Development Plan (IDP). Our school ALNCo deals with all aspects of ALN, including statemented pupils.

Nearly all of our pupils speak English as their first language. Our school is an English medium school.



Meeting the needs of all

At Brynmenyn Primary School, we wish to continue to strive for high standards through the provision of exciting and purposeful learning opportunities for all pupils.

We identify and support pupils with specific learning needs, including those identified as more able and talented (MAT) and those identified as having additional learning needs (ALN). For these learners (in addition to other pupils), progress is carefully monitored and tracked, intervention programmes are planned and external support is sought, if deemed necessary. Our school ALNCo (Additional Needs Coordinator) is Mrs A. Wilcox. She is responsible for coordinating the relevant support for our vulnerable learners and learners with the greatest needs.

Furthermore, underperforming groups are supported and their progress is closely tracked to ensure they achieve their potential.

Support staff effectively reinforce learning, working with groups and/or individuals depending on the needs identified. Teachers assess all pupils' learning both informally and formally, and targets are discussed and regularly reviewed with pupils.

Brynmenyn Primary School values the relationships with parents and carers. We try to involve parents and carers in pupils' learning at every opportunity.

Pupil Voice is a strength at Brynmenyn Primary School, and pupils are invited to have input into many aspects of school life.

Welsh

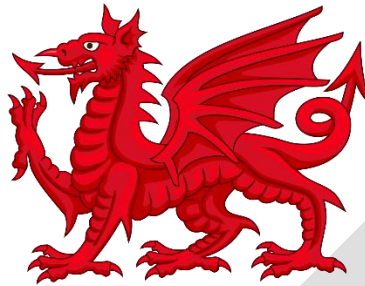
It is important that the pupils are taught Welsh as a second language. Learning the language enriches pupils' knowledge and understanding of the culture and heritage of Wales and it develops their personalities and ability to contribute to their community, giving them a sense of place and identity.

We recognise that very few pupils at Brynmenyn Primary School speak Welsh at home, and that school is often their only contact with the language and culture of Wales.

The aims of teaching Welsh are to:

- Develop pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing.
- Create a Welsh ethos, within which we promote the teaching of the Welsh language.

- Celebrate the traditions and cultures of Wales.
- Offer pupils opportunities to perform and compete through the medium of Welsh during school assemblies, concerts and Eisteddfodau.



Healthy, Confident and Safe Pupils

The development of healthy lifestyles is a high priority for our school. We continue to support and promote pupils' health and wellbeing.



We actively promote healthy eating. Pupils have access to drinking water throughout the day. We actively encourage parents to supply pupils with a healthy packed lunch. Fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets or food high in fat and salt are not encouraged. Pupils are asked to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable sticks to eat at break time. Pupils in the foundation phase receive milk during their morning routine.



Pupils take part in a range of activities to ensure that they feel safe, and staff and Governors receive child protection training. The school follows robust safeguarding and child protection procedures (including safe recruitment). We have an excellent health and wellbeing curriculum that we address through class sessions, assemblies and Jigsaw sessions. The results of pupil surveys continue to report that most feel happy and safe at Brynmenyn Primary School.



All pupils are encouraged to participate in exercise activities. At Brynmenyn Primary School, we work closely with the Halo Life Centre to utilise the local facilities. Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 participate in annual swimming activities.

Provision of toilet facilities

The school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. These toilets are cleaned on a daily basis, with extra checks carried out at lunchtime.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a high priority for us at Brynmenyn Primary School along with Bridgend County Borough Council. To improve rates, attendance is a high priority for us as a school.

Attendance is extremely important at Brynmenyn Primary School and we continually seek to ensure that our parents and pupils appreciate the importance of regular attendance at school.

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their potential. Welsh Government view good attendance as above 95% and we expect this to be the minimum level for all pupils at Brynmenyn Primary School.

Our EWO, Mrs D. Barcham, works regularly with the school to monitor the attendance of pupils. Home visits are made where concerns arise to ensure that pupil attendance is quickly addressed.

We remind all parents/carers that family holidays should be taken during school holiday periods.

	Autumn 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
Actual attendance	90.9%	91.4%	89.3%
Authorised absence	5.5%	6.0%	4.8%
Unauthorised absence	3.0%	2.2%	4.4%
Total attendance for 2023 - 2024	91.5%	91.7%	91.4%

Term Dates

Term dates for 2025-2026

	Autumn Term 2025	Spring Term 2026	Summer Term 2026
Term Start	Monday 1 st September	Monday 5 th January	Monday 13 th April
Half Term Start	Monday 27 th October	Monday 16 th February	Monday 25 th May
Half Term End	Friday 31 st October	Friday 20 th February	Friday 29 th May
Term End	Friday 19 th December	Friday 27 th March	Monday 20 th July

INSET DAYS: Monday 1st September, Friday 24th October, Monday 5th January, Monday 23rd February, Monday 20th July (one to be confirmed)