

Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary

GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2025-2026



Happy Together, Learning for Life
Dysgu Hapus, Dysgu Byw

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Chair of Governors

Mrs M. Thomas
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Furzeland Drive
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Clerk to Governors

Mrs R. Tucker
c/o Bryncoch CIW Primary School
Furzeland Drive
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We have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report to Parents for the year
2025/2026

School Language Category - English

Welsh Language Pupils are taught Welsh Second Language

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Here we are again at the beginning of another school year, which means it is time once again for the parents of Bryncoch Church in Wales to receive the Annual Governors' Report to Parents. We would like to once again give everyone a warm welcome to another school year, although, strictly speaking, by the time you read this, we will be well into the Autumn Term. By now, we hope that any new pupils and their parents/carers who have decided to join us have settled in and are enjoying all that our school has to offer: a happy, friendly, secure place to be part of, where they and all our children can be, as our school logo says, "Happy Together, Learning for Life."

We are proud of the support our parents give to our school through ensuring their children regularly attend school, and this is seen by our school having the best attendance record in the whole of Neath Port Talbot, something that we should all be proud of.

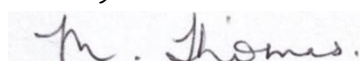
Our staff have, throughout the year, been working diligently as a team, not only with the children but also with parents, to ensure the high standards we have come to expect are maintained. There have been many school visits. I was very fortunate to be able to accompany our Year 5/6 pupils on their recent visit to London, where they visited the Houses of Parliament and actually saw Members of Parliament in action during a debate and met our local MP. Visiting Westminster Abbey was also possible, and that too made their London visit very special. The children who went on this visit were a real credit to the school, not only behaving so well but also taking part so knowledgeably with their questions and, as usual, being so articulate with their responses. I am pleased to be able to share something with you that I will never forget. We had finished our tour of the Abbey and were on our way to meet the other group when one girl asked the lady showing us around, "Where is Queen Elizabeth I buried?" To our delight, she took us back into a side room and then we not only saw the resting place of Elizabeth, but also that of her sister Mary and the two little princes. All that because of a question from one girl.

The support that the school receives from a dedicated, supportive PTA is greatly appreciated by the governors. Their time and effort are well rewarded in all they achieve. We really are very grateful to them.

Our "Playgroup" on Thursday mornings has also been given a new makeover. We are indebted to Mrs Tucker for taking this on. It is such a happy morning, and it is so good to see dads coming along with their little ones.

We are all proud to be part of Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary School and feel privileged to be part of a school which strives to support every child to achieve their potential, no matter what that may be. The Bryncoch community is most fortunate to have our school in its locality.

Kind Regards



Margaret Thomas

Chair of Governors
Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr

1. ANNUAL MEETING WITH PARENTS

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body on matters which are of concern to them.

There has not been a meeting with parents to report back on to you in this report. No meeting has been requested by parents.

2. GOVERNORS

The Governing Body is made up of volunteers who give their time freely and it is their continued support that helps to guide the management of the school through their role as a critical friend.

Composition of the Governing Body 2025-2026

Name	Governor Type	End of Term
Mrs M. Thomas (Chair)	Foundation PCC	07.11.27
Rev S. Bodycombe (Vice Chair)	Foundation Ex Officio	Ongoing
Mr P. Keys (Vice Chair)	Foundation	21.03.27
Mrs C. Roberts	Foundation	05.10.27
Mrs T. Conway	Foundation	14.04.28
Mrs C. Cross-Jones	Foundation	17.12.27
Mrs D. Lewis	Foundation	27.11.26
	Foundation	
Cllr A. Burton	Blaenhonddan Community Council	15.10.26
Mrs R. Ashton	NPTCBC	27.04.29
Miss Jessica Webb	Parents Representative	16.09.29
Mrs F. Rose	Teacher Representative	22.09.28
Mrs V. Morgan	Non-Teaching Representative	31.10.26
Mr M. Sinnett	Headteacher	

The Governing Body members serve for a period of four years.

The last academic year has seen a new face on the Governing Body. Joining us in the last academic year is Miss Jessica Webb as Parent Governor.

3. GOVERNORS' EXPENSES

Governors are entitled to claim expenses for attendance at governors' meetings, training events and in order to carry out their duties. During the year ending August 2026, no expenses were claimed.

4. GOVERNORS' COMMITTEES

Governors work through a structure of committees, which consider, report and make recommendations to the full Governing Body. The Head Teacher and Chair of Governors are entitled to attend any committee. The committees are reviewed at each AGM. The membership was set in October and updated during the year with the replacement governors.

5. ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The number of children on roll at the end of the academic year July 2026 was 102.

Headteacher: Mr Marc Sinnett

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Ffion Rose

Teaching Staff:

Mrs T. Rogers

Ms L. Martin

Mrs J. Morgan

Mrs F. Rose

Non-Teaching Staff:

Mrs R. Tucker – Administrative Officer

Mrs P. Oates – Teaching Assistant

Mrs R. Brown – Teaching Assistant

Mrs V. Morgan – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs L. Evans – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs E. Ball – Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor

Ms M. King – Teaching Assistant

Miss C. Crellin – Teaching Assistant

Mrs M. Jones – Lunchtime Supervisor

Mr M. Evans – Caretaker

6. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR 2025 – 2026

1. To strengthen leadership at all levels, including TLR holders and SLT.
2. To embed enquiry-based learning and skills development within the Curriculum for Wales framework.
3. To promote active and independent learning strategies across the school.

Full details of priorities can be found in the School Improvement Plan which is available to parents upon request.

7. SESSION TIMES

Morning session begins at 8.50am and ends at 11.40am in Nursery.

Morning session begins at 8.50am and ends at 12.00 pm in Reception and Years 1-6.

Afternoon sessions begin at 12:55pm and end at 3.20pm.

8. ATTENDANCE

As you are aware, regular attendance and punctuality play a vital part in a child's education. It is essential that pupils attend regularly if they are to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. The Educational Welfare Officer works closely with the Headteacher to promote good attendance and to support families with difficulties.

Our attendance for 2025/26 as of 20th July 2025 is 94.7%.

School liaises closely with the Local Authority to monitor attendance and punctuality. We have close contact with the Education Welfare Officer whereby home visits, telephone calls and follow up visits are carried out to reduce absences in named pupils / families. All families are urged to contact the school on the first day of a pupil's absence and every day thereafter.

9. EXCLUSIONS

There have been no permanent exclusions in the school over the past 4 years.

10. DISABILITY / EQUALITY POLICY

The school has a comprehensive Policy for Equal Opportunities, which has been adopted by the school's Governing Body. The Governing Body, Head Teacher and all staff, seek to promote equal opportunities and good relations between persons of different racial groups, able bodied and disabled persons and between males and females. Equal opportunity is promoted for everyone and throughout all aspects of school life at Bryncoch CiW Primary School. Governors also follow legal requirements in making appointments and receive advice from the Local Authority's Human Resource Department.

At Bryncoch Primary School, we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff and all those receiving services from the school. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which people feel free to disclose their disability and to participate fully in school life.

11. THE CURRICULUM, TEACHING METHODS AND ORGANISATION AT SCHOOL

The new Curriculum for Wales is being further developed at the school. This encompasses the new six areas of learning and experience (AOLEs): Languages, Literacy and Communication. Maths and Numeracy, Science and Technology, Expressive Arts, Humanities and Health and Well-being. In addition, a Literacy and Numeracy Skills Framework runs through the heart of all areas alongside a Digital Competency framework. Being a Church school within the Diocese of Llandaff, we also have a strong RVE curriculum and underpinning Values.

Teaching time during a normal school week comprises of:

- Early Years – 22 hours 5 minutes
- Reception/Year 1 – 23 hours 45 minutes
- Years 2-6 – 24 hours 10 minutes

Pupils in all years (Year 1 – Year 6) are tested annually in Reading, Spelling and Mathematics. The results of these tests help us to set school targets and more importantly to check that pupils are making expected progress in their learning. Pupils from Years 2 – 6 sit a National Test in Literacy (Reading) and two tests in Numeracy – one Procedural Number and the other in Reasoning. Results of these are reported via HWB.

12. TEACHING METHODS

Throughout the school, a variety of teaching methods are employed in various lessons. Whole class teaching takes place as well as group, paired and individual work. Work is also differentiated to suit the needs of individual pupils. Teaching assistants are employed in the school and work with individuals and groups of children under the direction of the class teacher.

13. ORGANISATION

The organisation of classes throughout the school is governed by pupil numbers and staffing restrictions. At the present time, there are 4 classes.

Classes consist of:

Nursery – 18 pupils

Reception - 11 pupils

Year 1 / 2 - 22 pupils

Year 3 / Year 4 – 21 pupils

Year 5 / Year 6 - 30 pupils

Total - 102 pupils

14. CURRICULUM ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

The school enters regular consultation with representatives of the LA in order to support pupils with additional learning needs.

We want all pupils to feel equally valued at Bryncoch CiW Primary School. When necessary, pupils may be withdrawn from class to work in a small group or on an individual basis with a teaching assistant.

The school also makes use of LA support staff to provide additional, specialised, teaching resources and advice.

Staff are in regular receipt of up-to-date training which is appropriate to the needs of pupils in our school.

The LA has a policy for inclusion of all pupils including disabled pupils, which the school has adopted. The Additional Learning Needs Policy is regularly reviewed and The Code of Practice is adhered to stringently. The school's policy for Additional Learning Needs can be viewed at school.

The school's ALN Governor is Rev. Steve Bodycombe.

As of July 2026 we have a total of 8 pupils on the ALN register (1 of whom have a LA IDP) and 23 pupils on an Individual Learning Plan across the whole school, with a variety of additional needs. A range of appropriate intervention strategies and support is given to these pupils on a daily basis.

15 .WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE

Welsh is delivered as part of the Languages, Literacy and Communication area of the New Curriculum for Wales. Enjoyment in learning the language is incorporated in a variety of situations: incidental, conversational, display and in singing. Welsh is used in most areas of the curriculum and is an integral part of classroom life.

As pupils progress, they develop reading and writing skills in Welsh in addition to oral skills.

We receive support and relevant teaching materials from peripatetic Welsh teacher visits, delivering lessons and providing support to all staff throughout the school.

We aim to promote bilingualism across the curriculum and aim to enable pupils to communicate effectively in English and Welsh at a level appropriate to their age and ability. Bilingual development is on-going within the school and is often apparent in most areas of the curriculum.

The Cwricwlwm Cymreig is also important in our pupils' development and understanding of their Welsh heritage and is reflected throughout the year in a range of activities linked with the aims of 'Cynefin' at the heart of the new curriculum.

16. SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

The school prospectus is currently in the process of being reviewed and updated. Until the revised version is published, the existing prospectus remains in force and all information contained within it continues to apply. An electronic copy of the current prospectus is available on the school website, and a copy is provided upon admission to the school.

17. COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

Weekly newsletters are sent to parents via the school's communication service informing them of future events, activities and any relevant school news. They are also available on Google Classroom and the school website, which can be accessed by children, parents and prospective parents. The website is www.brynochciwprimary.co.uk.

Our website has been developed to include more relevant information and to become a 'one-stop shop' for all information regarding school – www.brynochciwprimary.co.uk

Parent's meetings are held in the Autumn and Spring Term and an Open Information Evening is organised for the Summer Term. Parents are invited to their children's classes to see their learning environments, workbooks and to meet with their teachers.

Nursery-Y6 children's parents had an opportunity to attend the Christmas concert. Year 6 parents were invited to the End of Year summer show. Nursery Parents were invited to attend the Nursery Graduation.

18. LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Our school enjoys wonderful support from St. Matthews Church, Vicar Bodycombe and the parishioners.

We are very proud of the strong links that BCIW has with the wider community.

We have regular assemblies from Penny and Mark from Aion Church with termly Messy Church sessions attended by different year groups.

Volunteers from the community continue to come into school to help in a range of activities such as supporting reading and to assist in school/class visits. Additionally, the school hosts a weekly 'Stay and Play' and provides a base for the local Rainbow/Brownies group. We welcome and provide placements for students at school, to enable them to gain valuable experiences to equip them for the world of work. Links with the police remain strong. Local police officers, PCSOs and the School Liaison Officer visit school to deliver raising awareness sessions. In addition, visits are made from community dentists, the fire service, the school nurse and the health visitor etc. The School Nurse and Music Service have also supported delivery of the curriculum with visits to the school.

19. SPORT

All pupils take part in weekly physical education and games lessons as part of the National Curriculum during which pupils have access to gymnastics, dance, games, athletics and outdoor adventure lessons. In addition, all pupils in Years 3-6 have access to swimming lessons in block sessions at Neath Swimming Pool.

Older pupils continue to participate in competitions and organised festivals. Sports include rugby, football and netball.

20. SCHOOL LEAVERS

Of the 16 Year 6 pupils who leave the school at the end of the academic Year 2025/26, all transferred to Dwr Y Felin Comprehensive School.

21. 2026/2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

The school terms and holidays for the academic year 2026/2027 are as follows:

		Mid Term Holiday			
Term	Term	Begins	Ends	Term Ends	Days
Autumn 2026	Tuesday 1 st September	Monday 26 th October	Friday 30 th October	Friday 18 th December	74
Spring 2027	Monday 4 th January	Monday 8 th February	Friday 12 th February	Friday 19 th March	50
Summer 2027	Monday 5 th April	Monday 31 st May	Friday 4 th June	Tuesday 20 th July	71
				Total	195

Bank Holidays:

Friday 26th March 2027 – Good Friday

Monday 29th March 2027 – Easter Monday

Monday 3rd May 2027 – May Bank Holiday

Monday 31st May 2027 – Spring Bank Holiday

22. SCHOOL POLICIES

The staff and Governors have prepared and approved a series of policies. These policies have followed national/local guidance in many cases.

Copies of relevant policies and information can be found on the school website or by request from the school office.

Policies are monitored, reviewed and, if necessary, adapted at set timescales (usually over a one- or three-year period) or when updated guidance becomes available.

23. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

The condition and state of repair of the buildings have been monitored by the Governing Body. All children or visitors who arrive after this time must use the main entrance, and access is controlled by an electronic intercom system. All security locks can be opened from inside the building. Regulation fire doors have been fitted to all classrooms, hall & cloakroom entrances. All visitors to the school are asked to sign the Visitors' Book and wear lanyards so they can be easily identified.

There are 4 qualified first aiders in school.

24. TOILET FACILITIES

There are separate and adequate toilet facilities for boys and girls in all parts of the school building. All toilets are cleaned daily. The school also has a unisex disabled toilet located near the entrance to the building.

25. DELEGATED SCHOOL BUDGET**Neath Port Talbot CBC****Period: Apr25 - Mar26****Bryncoch Primary School**

<u>DELEGATED COSTS 2025/26</u>	
	<i>YTD-Actual</i>
TEACHERS SALARIES	£449,900
SALARIES	£178,346
WAGES	
OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	£262
PREMISES	£21,191
TRANSPORTATION	
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	£44,742
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	
SUPPORT SERVICES	£90,182
GOVERNMENT GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	-£68,941
SALES	-£102
FEES AND CHARGES INCOME	-£31,639
RENTS	
INTERNAL RECHARGES	-£5,036
INTEREST RECEIVED	
TRANSFERS	-£201,485
TOTAL	477,419.00

<u>NON-DELEGATED COSTS 2025/26</u>	
	<i>YTD-Actual</i>
TEACHERS SALARIES	0.00
OTHER EMPLOYEES	24,470.00
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	
MISC INCOME	
CAPITAL CHARGES	
CONTRIBUTION TO/FROM RESERVES	
TRANSPORTATION	
TOTAL	24,470