

Blaengwrach Primary School



School Prospectus

2025-2026

Mrs L. Williams

Head Teacher

Date adopted: 4/12/25

Mr R. Owen

Chairperson

Review Date: 4/12/26



School Prospectus

Heol Wenallt

Cwmgwrach

Neath

SA11 5PS

Tel/fax: (01639) 720342

Head Teacher: Mrs Louise Williams



Chair of Governors: Mr Richard Owen

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to warmly welcome your family to our school. It is our privilege that we have the opportunity to provide your child with the very best learning experiences. The children are at the heart of every decision we make to ensure that our pupils are happy, confident and successful individuals. At Blaengwrach Primary School we aim to provide an environment that challenges, inspires and supports all children to achieve their full potential and aspirations by designing and creating a curriculum unique to our school and accessible to all learners. We recognise that a child's education is a 'once in a lifetime' chance which we aim to make as fun, relevant and successful as possible.

Our pupils deserve a safe, secure and stimulating environment, where they are interested and motivated to learn. Access to our bespoke curriculum, combined with the expertise, commitment and enthusiasm of our staff, underpinned by rigorous planning, will enable all children to achieve academically, to learn about the world, their locality and people around them and become responsible and caring citizens. We celebrate diversity and promote inclusion for all pupils as part of one nurturing school community.

Our curriculum allows all children to learn and achieve through exciting, fun, and relevant experiences, with opportunities to explore and discover enabling our children to become confident, independent and resilient learners in our ever-changing world.

It is our responsibility to ensure that our pupils are equipped with 'life-long' skills that will prepare them to face the 21st century with independence, confidence and success. Our pupils are given a wealth of opportunities where their full potential is recognised and actively promoted.

We aim to support our children to make sense of their own identities and those of others in our community, in Wales and across the world, and to grow the self-belief to know that they can affect change, not just at home, in school, or in their community, but in Wales and on the world stage.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to lead a dedicated team of hard-working and committed staff. Our priority is to ensure your child's success by working closely with



you as parents and carers and the local community. We believe that your child's education is a partnership between school and home, and value your support on all occasions.

Our motto 'Believe, Achieve, Succeed' is embedded in our philosophy and permeates our whole school ethos.

The experiences our children will have been a part of at Blaengwrach Primary aims to fire their imagination and shape their dreams. Through our curriculum our children will have goals to aim for, interests that sustain them and a passion for success with the very best chance of a future filled with happiness, choice and opportunity.

I hope that our handbook provides further information about our school including our aims, our curriculum and school life. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions or queries.

I look forward to working in close partnership with you during this phase of your child's educational journey.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Louise Williams BEd (Hons), NPQH

Headteacher



Address from our Chair of Governors

As someone who grew up in Blaengwrach and attended this very school—and later watched my own son thrive here—I feel incredibly proud and privileged to now serve as Chair of Governors. Blaengwrach Primary isn't just a school; it's at the heart of our community, a place where generations have learned, grown, and built lifelong memories.

Our Governing Body works hand in hand with our Headteacher, Mrs. Williams, and her dedicated team to support the smooth running and continued success of the school. Blaengwrach is a warm, caring school with high standards in every aspect of school life. The building, the staff, and most importantly, the pupils are a vital part of our village, and the school plays an active role in local events.

Our children are at the heart of everything we do. They are encouraged to have a voice and help shape the future of the school through the School Council, Eco Committee, and regular opportunities to share their ideas. We want every child to grow in confidence and develop the skills to become active, responsible citizens.

This prospectus gives you a glimpse of what makes Blaengwrach Primary so special. I hope you enjoy reading it and that you'll consider joining our school family.

Mr R B Owen

Chair of Governors



Our School Context

Blaengwrach Primary School is situated in the Upper Neath Valley and serves the communities of Blaengwrach, Cwmgwrach and Glynneath. We are very fortunate to be sited in a picturesque location and we offer a wide and varied programme of extracurricular activities.

The school has two buildings; the original block which was built in 1908 and the 'new addition' which was built six years later in 1914. The buildings are separated by play areas. We are extremely lucky to own a school field and a nature area very close to our school. We take every opportunity to make the most of our wonderful grounds.



The original building houses the Head Teacher's Office, the Administration Office, the Junior Library, the Junior Rainbow Sensory Room and Junior classrooms.

The Infant building houses the Staff Room, Infant Hall and Dining Area and Infant Library, Infant Classrooms and the Infant Rainbow Sensory room. There is also a separate enclosed play area which has both hard and grassed surfaces.

Blaengwrach Primary School is a single site school located in the village of Cwmgwrach. It is in an attractive setting and parents and children are encouraged to develop ideas for the enhancement of the external environment of the school. Pupil voice is a particular strength in our school; we are very proud holders of the Healthy Schools National Award, Rights Respecting Gold Award, the second ECO-School Green Flag and the Bronze Siarter Iaith.

Strong Home/School links are vital, and we work hard to develop good working relationships with parents and carers. Regular opportunities are provided for parents to connect with school and keep up to date with children's progress, through regular Class Open events and Adult and child learning sessions with our Family Engagement Officer. Letters, newsletters, texts and class dojo ensure up to date information is always available. Our school website: <https://blaengwrach-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/> is an ideal way of keeping up to date with diary dates, newsletters and gaining answers to many questions you may have. Our Governors, Headteacher and Staff are always eager to discuss any queries you may have at a mutually convenient time.

General Information

Blaengwrach Primary School
Heol Wenallt
Cwmgwrach
Neath
Neath Port Talbot
SA11 5PS
01639 720342

Email: office@blaengwrachprimary.npt.school

Website: <https://blaengwrach-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/>

Director of Education: Mr Andrew Thomas

Head Teacher: Mrs Louise Williams

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Lian Lewis

Administration Officer: Mrs Ann Alexis

Bursar: Mrs Kirsty Gough



Age Range of Pupils:

3 – 11 years

Chair of Governors:

Mr Richard Owen

Numbers on Roll:

146

Our Governing Body

Our school Governors have legal duties, powers and responsibilities. They make important decisions about how the school is run. They meet as a whole body at least once a term and review school policies and procedures on an annual basis. In addition to this, various sub-committees such as Finance, Curriculum and Health and Safety meet regularly to scrutinise in further detail the work of the school. This information is used to inform our school self-evaluation report and identify improvement priorities for the following year. The Governing Body consists of parents, support staff, local Council representatives and teachers, and they work closely together to support and shape our school for the benefit of our children. Our Clerk to Governors may be contacted using the school telephone number and address or using the details below.

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS:

Mr Richard Owen
c/o Blaengwrach Primary School
Heol Wenallt
Cwmgwrach
Neath
SA11 5PS

CLERK TO GOVERNING BODY:

Liam Price
Schools and Family Support Team
Neath Port Talbot Civic Centre
Port Talbot
SA13 1PJ
01639 763518

The Governors have reviewed and approved the following Policies recently:



NPT Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, NPT Admission Policy, Lockdown Policy, ALN Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Health and Safety Procedure, School Vision, Curriculum Statement, NPT Attendance and Punctuation Policy, ESDGC Policy.

Governing Body

GOVERNOR STATUS	NAME	DATE ELECTED	OFFICE ENDS
LA	Mrs Sharon Davies Vice Chairperson	01/04/23	31/03/27
	Vacancy		
	Cllr Hayley Davies	27/09/22	26/09/26
COMMUNITY (CO-OPTED) (Minor Authority)	Mr Ward Jones	05/01/24	04/01/28
	Mr Richard B Owen Chairperson	08/11/23	07/11/27
	Carolyn Edwards	30/06/23	29/06/27
	Mr Jamie Ellson	03/07/24	02/07/28
PARENT	Miss Ffion Edwards	03/10/25	02/10/29
	Mrs Grace Wild	03/02/23	02/02/27
	Miss Niamh Chammings	15/05/24	14/05/28
	Vacancy		
HEAD TEACHER (Voting)	Mrs Louise Williams	01/09/2023	---
NON-TEACHING STAFF	Mrs Ann Alexis	01/10/25	30/09/29
TEACHING STAFF	Mrs Lian Lewis	24/09/24	23/09/28

CLERK TO GOVERNING BODY: Mr Liam Price



Aims of Our School

Believe Achieve Succeed

To provide a school ethos where each child feels valued, respected, listened to and proud of themselves, their school and their local community. **Article 12**

To encourage children to set themselves high standards to become ambitious and enthusiastic individuals with enquiring minds, ready to learn throughout their lives.

Article 29

To provide a rich learning environment which stimulates, motivates and excites children to express themselves within a range of contexts. **Article 3**

To develop independent, collaborative learners who are able to identify and grasp opportunities, by taking risks and thinking creatively to solve problems. **Article 29**

To value strong partnerships with children, parents and the wider school community. **Article 3**

To promote the use of bilingualism and to respect the needs and rights of others as a valued member of a diverse society. **Article 30**

To empower children to be committed to our sustainable future by encouraging the ability to make measured decisions and face and overcome challenges. **Article 29**

To support the development of children's health and wellbeing; building confidence, resilience and empathy. **Article 24**



Our School Day

Doors open	Session 1	Break time	Session 2	Lunchtime	Session 3	Break time	Session 4
8.40am	8.50am – 10.30am	10.30am – 10.45am	10.45am – 11.50am	11.50am – 12.50pm	12.50pm – 2.20pm	2.20pm – 2.30pm	2.30pm – 3.20pm

Nursery Session times
Morning session 8.50am - 11.20am Afternoon session 12.50 p.m.-3.20 p.m.

After School Clubs

After school clubs end at 4:15pm. All children who attend after school clubs must be collected by a responsible adult or given signed consent for them to walk home.

Breakfast Club

We currently run a free breakfast club from 8:10am – 8:40am. Children are offered a healthy breakfast which ‘kick-starts’ their day with a variety of nutritious choices including toast, cereal and fruit juice. All children attending Breakfast Club must be signed in by a responsible adult. All children must be registered with Breakfast club using the form available from the office prior to attending for the first time. Entry to Breakfast Club is via School Street entrance.

School Security

The security and safety of the children and staff while at school is of paramount importance. At the beginning of each school day, children enter the school through the Infant or Junior gates which are then secured and remain so until the end of the school day.



During the day, a single-entry system is electronically operated via the school office, and the main school gate remains locked. Any visitors to school are required to contact the school to gain access on 01639 720342. Children who are late or who are being collected early can only enter and leave through the main entrance where they are officially signed in/out.

During playtimes, children are well-supervised, and playground gates remain secured throughout the day.

There are trained First Aiders on site and all members of staff adhere to the Health and Safety Policy which is available from the office upon request.

Regular Health and Safety checks are carried out by the Head Teacher, Governors, School Bursar and external agencies throughout the year.

School Organisation

Our class structure is governed by our variable year group numbers. Where classes are involved in a mixed-age arrangement, the Governors agree that classes are organised according to a number of factors, including date of birth, balance of gender, dynamics, ability and friendship groups.

The needs of each child are catered for through the hard work and commitment of our dedicated staff. Detailed concept planning, a wide range of assessments and monitoring of progress with a thorough knowledge of where each child is on their learning journey and their next steps ensures that a purposeful, authentic curriculum is taught to cater for the needs and interest of each child.

Regardless of whether children are placed in a 'single year group' or a 'mixed year group', each specific cohort of children will display a range of abilities and qualities which our staff are highly trained to cater for. Each year group has access to 'age' and 'stage' appropriate experiences. At our school, there will be times when each child will work in a variety of different learning areas both inside and outside the classroom.

We are supported by peripatetic teachers for Welsh and Music, and pupils are given the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. Currently our pupils are learning to play the piano, clarinet, flute and saxophone. NPT Cerdd provide first taster experience sessions to our Year 4 pupils including Brass and Strings.

We take the national priorities of high standards and aspirations for all very seriously. Regardless of which class a child is placed in, our highly trained staff cater for specific 'groups of learners' to ensure that each child is sufficiently challenged, making good progress in relation to their starting point and reducing barriers to learning.



Various intervention programmes including Language Link, Speech Link, Wellcomm etc. are taught to support various identified groups of learners throughout the week. Children are also taught in groups according to their stage and not their age throughout the week. This ensures children are receiving tailor made opportunities to reach their full potential.

Ensuring every pupil reaches their full potential remains a priority for the school and pupil progress is tracked closely to ensure the curriculum meets the needs of every child and any intervention that is required is identified early on.

Many trips and visits are undertaken throughout the year, which complements our curriculum. Two are residential in nature and are only available due to the commitment of staff who give up a considerable amount of their own time for our pupils. Year 4 visit Llangrannog in May in order to develop their Welsh language skills and they have a lot of fun in the process! Year 6 pupils visit Manor Park, Abernant. They take part in a wide range of outdoor adventurous activities. Trips such as these provide great benefits for the children involved.

There is excellent attendance at our Parent/carer consultations throughout the academic year. This reflects the commitment of our parents and carers and their wish to play a full role in the education of their children.

Admissions

In accordance with the School Admission Code stated by the Welsh Government, parents are able to express a preference for any school. The school has adopted and follows the Local Authority Admission Procedures. Full details of the Neath Port Talbot admission policy can be found in the Information for Parents Handbook which is available from School and Family Support Team 01639 763600. All requests for admission to our school must be made to the Local Authority. We are always happy to help with any queries and we have access to admission forms should you require any assistance. Additionally, parents may contact the School Admission Team on 01639 763580/ 01639 763730 or admissions@npt.gov.uk . Applications can also be completed online through [School admissions - Neath Port Talbot Council](#)

Our school currently operates Nursery provision. Attendance is on a part-time basis in either the morning or afternoon sessions. Admission to the Nursery may be achieved the first Monday after the child's third birthday providing that Nursery places exist.

Children are admitted to full-time education in September after their fourth Birthday when children join Reception. Parents are advised to apply for a full-time place for school by completing the online admission form in Nursery (usually in November) on [School admissions - Neath Port Talbot Council](#). New Reception parents/carers are invited to attend a 'welcome session' with their child during the Summer Term prior to their child beginning full time education in the September.



We welcome all families into our happy, friendly school and look forward to meeting you should you wish to visit us and view our school.

Pupil Voice

Pupils have a strong voice at our school and pupil voice is valued and encouraged at our school. Annually, we have a School Council 'Un Llais' – 'One Voice', which consists of pupil school council representatives. School Council are involved in policy and decision making in the school and have created their own child friendly anti-bullying policy as well as organising whole school council sessions for all pupils and liaise with school council representatives from our cluster family of schools. We also have pupil Changemaker, Attendance and Safeguarding Officer roles. Year 6 pupils are prefects who have responsibility for various roles throughout the school day and they also undertake the roles of Sports Ambassadors and Mini Police. School Council also work hard with teachers and local councillors to shape and improve our village and community. Children know their rights and we have been awarded the Gold Award Rights Respecting School Award with several pupils acting as Super Rights Respecting Ambassadors. In addition, we have been awarded the second Green ECO Flag (Article 12).



The Welsh Language

Although our pupils are taught through the medium of English, our pupils are encouraged to use Welsh throughout the day and when greeting others. Pupils are also encouraged to use Welsh to communicate outside of formal instruction such as games during playtime and instructions throughout the day. Welsh is spoken and practised in each class throughout the school, and this is reinforced by our very enthusiastic Ciriw Cymraeg at breaktimes and during assemblies. The school actively promotes the development of the Welsh language and is committed to following the Siarter Iaith. We have been awarded the Bronze Siarter Iaith award and are working towards our Silver award. The Welsh advisory team visit the school regularly to support and work alongside our teachers and children. We are members of the Urdd and as a result are able to enter the Eisteddfod competitions throughout the year and receive language support from the Urdd leaders. Our older pupils competed in the Urdd Eisteddfod during the academic year 2024/25 in the Art and Craft: Textiles competition, and two pupils experienced success being awarded 2nd and 3rd place in the local area rounds of the competition.

St. David's day is an important part of our heritage and is celebrated through our curriculum; pupils have the opportunity where appropriate to apply their knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, environmental, historical and linguistic characteristics of Wales (Article 30). During the academic year 2024/25 during Welsh week our children enjoyed a whole school family Welsh cultural activities including Art, rugby skills, Twmpath, poetry, handwriting, art and reciting competition, a Welsh language Silent disco, and a Year 6 Welsh language quiz with Menter Iaith competing in the final round of the competition alongside LA local primary schools.

Local and Global Citizenship

We are very proud of the charity fundraising throughout the academic year and during the academic year 2024/25 we raised valuable funds for a variety of charities including Macmillan Cancer, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Dogs Trust, Jeans4Genes, Foodbank Wales etc. and donating clothes to Rags2Riches.

The Curriculum

Everything we do and everything a child experiences at Blaengwrach Primary in pursuit of the four purposes is called our curriculum. Senior leaders, staff, governors, pupils, parents and carers have worked collaboratively to develop a shared vision for the curriculum and are developing a shared understanding of progression at Blaengwrach Primary School.

The curriculum at Blaengwrach Primary meets the requirements of Curriculum for Wales focusing on ensuring that our pupils embody the four purposes as Ambitious Capable Learners; Enterprising Creative Contributors; Ethical and Informed Citizens and Healthy Confident Individuals. Our curriculum is progressive and ensures that pupils develop control and



independence in the development of their literacy, numeracy, digital and integral skills in addition to ensuring pupils engage with increasingly complex and sophisticated content to progress their knowledge and understanding.

Learners develop their understanding of the What Matters statements. By exploring and revisiting the statements of What Matters our learners deepen their knowledge and understanding during their time at Blaengwrach and as part of their learning continuum to progress to a more sophisticated understanding of the key knowledge, ideas and principles in each Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE).

Concepts, topics, themes will change from school to school, and term to term, but the curriculum consists of six AoLEs and experiences as well as cross curricular themes of literacy, numeracy and digital competency. Our curriculum is designed to create a sense of belonging in our pupils in a physical, geographical, historical, cultural, social and cultural sense as a place that has shaped and continues to shape the community.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We have a wide variety of extra-curricular school clubs available to our children.

Rugby and football coaching and Netball takes place weekly, enabling pupils to develop their ball skills and this provides an opportunity for pupils to compete in local tournaments.

Our peripatetic music teacher delivers music tuition each week. The children have the opportunity to learn to play flute, clarinet or saxophone.

There is also a very well attended choir club at lunchtime which enables pupils to perform at various events in school and in the community.

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in ECO club, Netball club, Football club, Rugby club, Choir and an after-school parent and child crafting club in Autumn term 2025.

Healthy Schools Initiative

Mrs Canham is our Healthy School Co-ordinator, and we have been successfully awarded the prestigious Healthy Schools National Award. Throughout the year, we have taken several steps to support healthy eating across the school:

Healthy School Meals: Our school meals continue to meet the Welsh Government's nutritional standards. We offer a balanced menu that includes fresh fruit and vegetables daily, and we cater for a range of dietary needs. Lunchboxes are encouraged to be healthy; fizzy, sugary drinks are avoided by all pupils.



Healthy Snacks: Pupils are encouraged to bring healthy snacks such as fruit or vegetables for break times. In addition, a Fruit Tuck Shop is run every break time by the Year 6 prefects to encourage healthy eating and develop numeracy skills. We also discourage sugary treats and fizzy drinks.

Drinking water: Children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day, and we encourage them to bring reusable water bottles to stay hydrated and to be able to concentrate more readily.

Links to the curriculum: Healthy eating is embedded in our curriculum through science, health and wellbeing lessons, and themed activities. Pupils learn about food groups, nutrition, and the importance of a balanced diet.

Celebrating Success: We celebrate pupils who make healthy choices and take part in related activities, reinforcing positive behaviour in a fun and encouraging way.

We are very pleased to be actively involved in promoting the Anti-Bullying Alliance message during Anti-Bullying Week and throughout the school year. We strongly encourage pupils in our school to choose respect, support each other, and consider each other's feelings and wellbeing.

Staff have attended Zones of Regulation and we have 2 fully trained Emotional Literacy Support Assistants to support pupil's social and emotional development and wellbeing. Sessions are regularly planned to support pupils individually and within small groups/class sessions.

Sporting Achievements

Sport in our school continues to thrive as we continue to provide our children with a full and varied programme of sporting activities.

The school has a very successful rugby, football and netball team. Pupils have taken part in tournaments and have been very successful. We continue to strive for an inclusive sports curriculum, whereby all pupils enjoy a full range of sporting activities (Article 31).



During the academic year 2024/25, a number of pupils attended trials and we are extremely proud of their resilience and success with one pupil being selected for the Neath Schools Rugby team, da iawn pawb!

Staff and Governors would like to congratulate the many pupils who have taken part in all the sporting and non-sporting activities throughout the year and all the dedicated staff, parents and friends who regularly give their free time to help the pupils and school achieve the many sporting successes.

Other Events

We strive to provide a variety of meaningful experiences for our pupils, including educational visits, day trips and residential visits. Many trips and visits are undertaken during the year which complements our curriculum. Some experiences are residential in nature and are only available due the commitment of staff who give up considerable amounts of their own time. All year groups take part in a wide range of activities. Trips such as these provide great benefits for the children involved. We are indebted to the support from staff to make these visits possible. When possible, grants are applied for to enable all pupils to engage in school visits and we are looking forward to further planned visits and experiences during the academic year 2025/26.

We worked hard collaboratively as a whole school community to obtain the second ECO Green Flag; we continue to promote a number of activities to support this including litter picking, biodiversity areas in the village and pet litter bag stations; We have also cut back on our use of paper in the school by using electronic methods of communication.

The school has strong links with our Cluster Family of Schools including primary and comprehensive schools. Staff meet with colleagues from our cluster of schools for training opportunities, shared INSET training and to seek and share good practice. As Family of Schools we work together to plan engaging transition activities for our pupils and we are looking forward to further collaboration during the academic year 2025/26.

During the academic year 2024-25 pupils have enjoyed visits to Abernant, Llangrannog, St Fagan's, Theatr Na'Nog, Swimming at Glynneath Leisure Centre, Wiggly's Farm, Zipworld, Urdd Eisteddford recording and Jambori, Techniquet Cardiff, Aberavon Beach, Crucial Crew, Margam Park, Gwyn Hall, Swansea Bay University for the Holocaust Memorial Concert, John Harries Rugby Tournament and regular visits to the local community.

There are many visitors to the school throughout the year, all of whom greatly enrich the pupils learning. The Governors are grateful to all of them for giving their time and expertise.

We encourage visitors to school to enhance the learning and experiences of our pupils. Pupils have enjoyed working with PC Kent, Steps of Faith, School Nurse, Fire Service, Missionaries from



Brazil and American students, Local Historian and have experienced Lifesaving Skills, Road Safety and Cyclecraft, NPT Mobile Library, water safety and Scholastic Book Fair.

At Blaengwrach Primary supporting our school community is a priority. Throughout the year, we assist families by providing access to food parcels, pre-loved school uniform and Christmas jumper swap, toy parcels and food hampers as part of our annual Christmas appeal.

We are pleased to be able to host our annual Christmas concerts for families and our local community and other community focussed events at the community hall and would like to thank local businesses, members of the community, and friends of the school for their very generous donations to support our pupils. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Community Council for their continued support by allowing school to hire the Community Hall, a fantastic community facility, to support our pupils and families.

We are very pleased to be part of the Wales Credit Union programme, practice commended by Estyn during our Estyn Inspection in May 2023. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils run a Credit Union savings club for all full-time pupils. This is very popular, and many pupils are now long-standing savers; promoting financial management is a very important life skill.

Additional Learning Needs

All children with additional Learning Needs have an Individual Development Plan in line with current legislation and guidance.

Learners with any level of Additional Learning Need who require Additional Learning Provision' (ALP) to be made available for them are entitled to an IDP outlining their support needs. This system protects the rights of all children, regardless of the extent of their additional learning needs.

When a school or LA is 'made aware' that a child or young person may have additional learning needs [ALN], it MUST decide whether that child or young person has additional learning needs unless:

- an individual development plan (IDP) is already in place for the child or young person a decision has already been made and the school is satisfied that the child's needs have not changed since that decision and there is no new information.

The system puts the learner at the heart of everything that happens, and our school takes a person-centred approach to planning for and supporting children and young people. The



ALN Act 2018 states that the views, wishes and feelings of children, their parents and young people must be considered at all stages of the IDP process. Parents can request that a school consider their child's needs and request that a decision regarding ALN and IDP's are made.

As a caring school we are committed to inclusion and equality, and we recognise the uniqueness of each individual. Every effort is made to provide the necessary resources to help all pupils access the curriculum as fully as possible. The school co-operates with other professionals in seeking each child's full entitlement e.g. wellbeing and behaviour service, physiotherapist, speech therapist, visual impairment personnel, hearing impairment personnel etc. (Article 23).

Provision for additional learning needs is strong and very well coordinated across the school..

Pupil progress is closely tracked to identify strengths and when specific support is needed. School liaises closely with outside specialists, such as the education psychologist and speech therapist, wellbeing and behaviour team, who provide further expertise.

Staff make effective use of detailed individual learning passports to summarise for parents their children's strengths, interests, where they need more support and how this can be achieved. In addition, it includes a chronology of events, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) as well as a one-page profile. Also included is a what's working what's not for the pupil, carers and school a 4 plus 1 sheet which supports staff to reflect, plan and respond on their provision, evidence of parental support, professional reports and relevant tracking sheets.

A range of well-timed interventions ensures that pupils make appropriate progress in their learning from their varied starting points. Pupils who require additional support are identified at an early stage and have their needs met.

IDPs contain detailed, person centred outcomes. Pupils and parents make an effective contribution to these processes, and this ensures that they understand the outcomes fully. When required, the school involves specialist services effectively. Intervention strategies have a positive effect. The school has effective arrangements to support pupils' wellbeing. Staff have created a caring community that nurtures pupils' personal and social skills effectively. Teachers and support staff know their pupils well and respond sensitively to the needs and interests of individuals.



Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality is rigorously monitored, with parents being reminded in newsletters about the importance of contacting school on the first day of their child's absence. We operate a First Day Response system and follow the Local Authority Attendance Policy. If we have not received a message from home, a text message is sent to which parents are requested to respond. Letters are sent to parents detailing any concerns and consequent procedures.

Attendance posters are displayed around the school reminding parents and carers of the importance of regular attendance.

Personalised colour coded individual pupil attendance percentages are sent to parents termly with a reminder of how important regular attendance and punctuality is.

A breakdown of the consequences of poor attendance is also included. This is helpful to keep parents and carers fully informed. We offer support regarding attendance to any family should they require it.

Whole school attendance for 2024/25 was 92.95% improving by 0.76% from the academic year 2023/24. Our attendance target is 95%. If a child's attendance falls below 90% this may become a cause for concern and your child may be at risk of underachievement.

An Education Welfare Officer visits the Head Teacher fortnightly and will visit families who require support and encouragement regarding attendance and punctuality (Article 28).

Charging and Remissions

We operate a Charging and Remissions policy which is available on request. Although no charge is made for most school time activities, parents/carers are invited to make voluntary contributions towards the cost of educational visits which form part of the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum. We strive to keep visit costs as affordable as possible and subsidise whenever possible through regular fund raising. There is no obligation to contribute and no pupil in the group will be omitted, but it will be necessary to have substantial voluntary contributions in order that the activity goes ahead. However, visits and activities may be cancelled for the entire group/class if there are insufficient funds to cover the costs. Please speak to our Head Teacher, Mrs Williams, if you have any concerns regarding costs. Your concerns will be treated in confidence.

Complaints

Should any parent/carer have any concerns or complaints relating to any matter concerning the school, they are encouraged to arrange an appointment with Mrs Williams, the Head Teacher, who will deal sensitively with all matters. A Complaints Policy is available upon request and can be viewed on the school website.



Equal Opportunities and Strategic Equality Plan

At Blaengwrach Primary school, we recognise our duty and responsibility to establish equality for all learners, staff, other members of the school community and service users regardless of their race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy & maternity, religion or belief, marriage and civil partnership as defined within the Equality Act 2010. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in school life. A copy is available from the office upon request (Article 23).

Safeguarding, Child Protection and Children Looked After (CLA)

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

It is the responsibility of our Head Teacher to ensure that all Child Protection procedures are followed correctly and that all staff are trained appropriately to the required standard. A Child Protection policy is available from the office upon request, and it can be viewed on the school website.

The Designated Child Protection Officer is Mrs Williams. The Deputy Designated Child Protection Officer is Mrs Lewis. The Designated Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sharon Davies. Should you have any concerns or information you wish to share, please contact any member of staff. All cases will be dealt professionally with efficiency and discretion.

Mrs Williams, Head Teacher, is the member of staff designated as having responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of Children Looked After (CLA). Should you wish to speak to her about any queries regarding CLA provision, she may be contacted at 01639 720342 (Article 19).



Term Dates for the Academic Year 2025-26

Autumn term 2025

Monday, 1 September - Friday, 24 October

Half-term holiday: Monday, 27 - Friday, 31 October

Monday, 3 November - Friday, 19 December

Christmas holiday: Monday, 22 December - Friday, 2 January

Spring term 2026

Monday, 5 January - Friday, 13 February

Half-term holiday: Monday, 16 - Friday, 20 February

Monday, 23 February - Friday, 27 March

Easter holiday: Monday, 30 March - Friday, 10 April

Summer term 2026

Monday, 13 April - Friday, 22 May

Half-term holiday: Monday, 25 - Friday, 29 May

Monday, 1 June - Monday, 20 July

Summer holiday: Tuesday, 21 July - Monday, 31 August

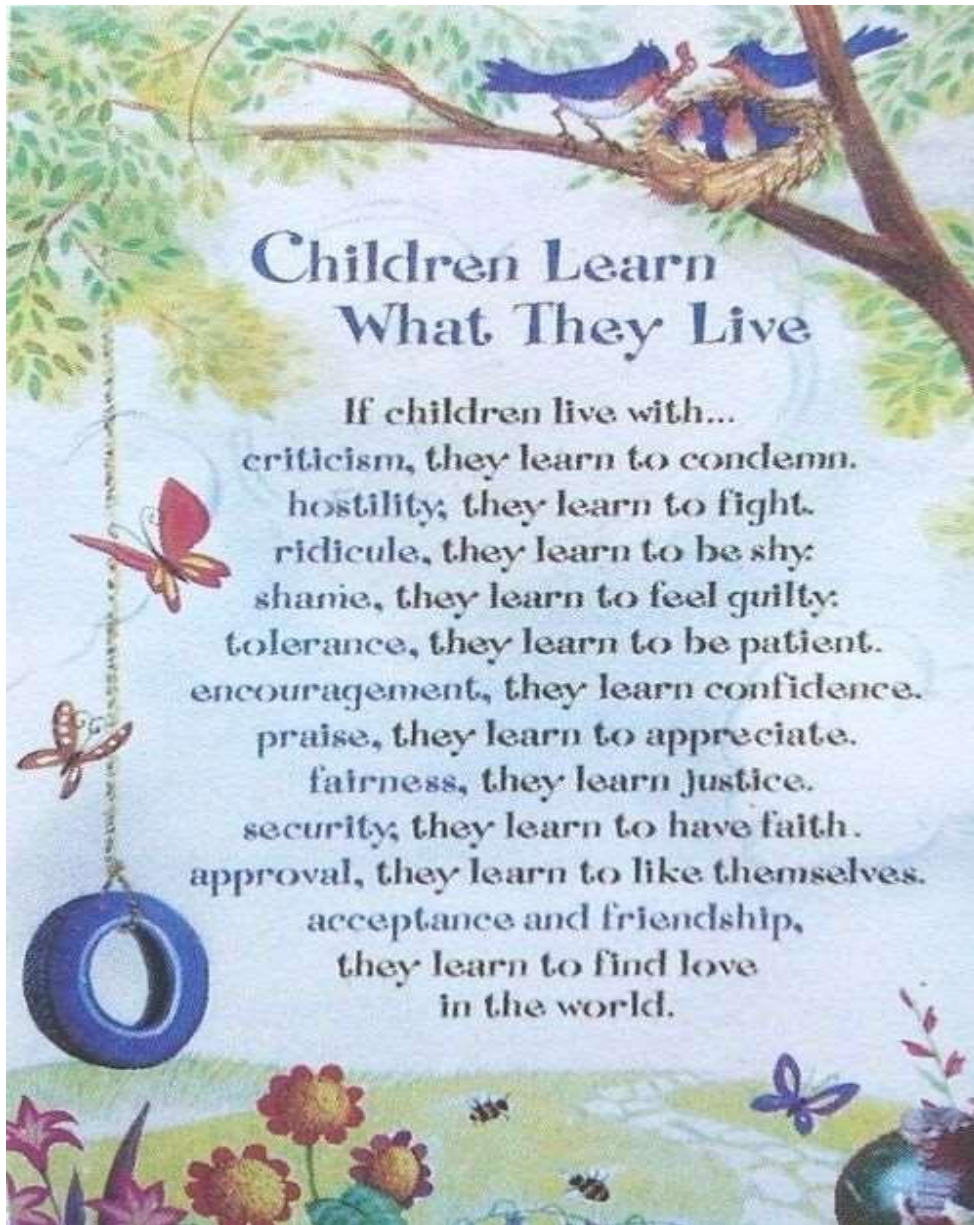
Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff preparation on six days between
Monday, 1 September 2025 and Monday, 20 July 2026.

Details of INSET days will be sent via text, newsletters or through the school website.



Acknowledgements

The Governing Body wishes to thank pupils, staff and the community who all play a huge role in helping the school achieve its goals. Our school continues to grow from strength to strength and when we all work together and when every learner believes in themselves, they can achieve their goals and succeed in their chosen path.



Author Unknown