

**Report summary for parents
and carers on Bryntirion
Comprehensive School**
Date of inspection: March 2025

Summary

A notable strength of Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion Comprehensive School is the positive working relationships between staff and pupils. The school is a caring and inclusive community, which supports both pupils and staff. As a result, most pupils behave very well and treat their peers, staff and visitors with respect and care. Leaders have created a sound culture of safeguarding and, as a result, many pupils feel safe at school and that they have a trusted adult whom they could turn to if they have any concern.

The school has a clear vision for its curriculum and has prioritised well the development of teaching as part of these developments. There is a wide range of courses available at Key Stage 4 and in the sixth form and pupils are provided with useful advice and guidance on the next steps at transition points. The school's personal and social education provision is a particular strength. This includes a health and well-being curriculum, which is adapted according to the needs of pupils, and strong opportunities for pupils to develop their leadership skills. There is a wide range of opportunities for pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities and sixth form pupils contribute well to the life of the school. However, the current Year 9 curriculum model does not allow enough depth or continuity of learning in a minority of subjects.

The senior team provides strong leadership. There are clear lines of accountability and staff and leaders are supported well to carry out their roles. They are held to account well for the quality of the provision and pupil outcomes in their areas of responsibility. Leaders know the school well and plan effectively for improvement.

In many lessons, teaching is effective. In these instances, teachers plan challenging activities, which engage pupils well and ensure that they make secure progress in their learning. There are valuable opportunities across the curriculum for pupils to develop their skills. In a minority of lessons highly effective teaching leads to pupils making strong progress. Pupils in the sixth form are mature and show positive attitudes to learning. In the lessons observed during the inspection, pupils in the sixth form made good progress.

Pupils with additional learning needs, including those at the specialist resource base (SRB), are supported well in both their mainstream classes and through 'The Hive' provision, which is highly appreciated by both pupils and parents. Pastoral care is a strength of the school and ensures that, in most instances, pupils are ready to learn. Attendance rates are increasing and compare favourably with those at similar schools, although the attendance of pupils who are eligible for free school meals requires improvement.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made two recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Improve the attendance of pupils who are eligible for free school meals
- R2 Refine curriculum arrangements in Year 9 to ensure that there is continuity and depth of learning in all subjects

The school will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.

Full Report

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the [full report](#)

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