

# BRYNLLYWARCH HALL SCHOOL

## YSGOL BRYNLLYWARCH



# Prospectus

**2022/2023**

# **Welcome to Brynlywarch Hall School**

Brynlywarch Hall School is a special school that supports pupils aged 7 to 19 years old with complex emotional, social and behavioural special educational needs alongside specific learning difficulties and other additional learning needs. We are located in Kerry, approximately 3 miles from Newtown, Powys in rural Mid-Wales.

Choosing a special school is one of the most important decisions that you will make. Your child will need to feel safe and secure and be assured that they will have access to a wide range of opportunities and experiences which will shape the rest of their life. We believe that your child is entitled to the very best in education in a safe, nurturing and secure environment and here, at Brynlywarch Hall School, we offer just that.

The caring and devoted staff will ensure that your child reaches their full potential. We believe in hard work and in encouraging achievement of all kinds. Our approach is founded on a special partnership between you as parents, the school and your child's education is most successful when parents are closely involved in their child's development. We will, therefore, work closely with you to ensure your child achieves the very best and grows into a confident, capable young person, prepared for adult life.

Our welcome to you and your child is warm and on-going and please remember that we are always willing to talk to parents at any mutually agreed time.

*G. D. Randell*

G. D. Randell  
Head Teacher

## **School Vision**

*Brynnllywarch Hall School provides a **fresh start** where there are **high expectations** through **challenge** for all and by all. **Quality teaching and nurture** enables all of our students to **manage their emotions** and take their place in society as **lifelong learners**.*

# School Details

Name of School:	Brynlllywarch Hall School
Address of School:	Brynlllywarch Hall School Kerry Newtown Powys. SY16 4PB
Main Office:	01686 670276
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:office@brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk">office@brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:head@brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk">head@brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk</a>
School Website:	<a href="http://www.brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk">www.brynlllywarch.powys.sch.uk</a>
Education Office:	Communities Skills & Learning Powys County Council County Hall Llandrindod Wells Powys. LD1 5LG 01597 826000
<u>Senior Leadership Team:</u>	
Headteacher	Mr Gavin Randell
Deputy Headteacher	Mr Neil Jones
Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Sarah Morgan
<u>Senior Teachers:</u>	
Blended Learning	Mrs Dionne Rondell
Wellbeing and BTEC quality nominee	Mr Daniel Hedge
<u>Chair of Governors:</u>	Mrs. K. Roberts-Jones.

# **Admissions**

Parents considering applying to the school for the admission of their child/children are most welcome to visit the school when it is in session. Please contact the school to make an appointment.

Further information regarding admission procedures are available from Powys County Council, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys or the Educational Psychologist Service.

# **Home-School Agreement**

On accepting a place at Brynllwarch School, parents and students are expected to sign the 'home-school' agreement.

The school will agree to provide a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment in which each child is treated as an individual and the needs of all are considered. We will encourage students to work hard, to behave appropriately and take pride and pleasure in the own and others' achievements.

The parents will endeavour to work together at home and in school to ensure good standards of behaviour and a positive attitude towards school and work at all times.

We will work together on the basis of mutual respect to help our students become confident and enthusiastic learners.

# **Curriculum**

The primary aim of our curriculum is to engage reluctant students in the act of learning as a pleasurable and profitable experience. Our students are offered a wide ranging, bespoke and varied curriculum, with an emphasis upon the acquisition of a wide range of skills to develop the holistic needs of the individual.

At key stages 2 and 3 students are taught using a primary class based approach with most subjects being taught by their class teacher. For key stages 4 and 5, a similar class based approach is used but with more flexibility to ensure aspects of the curriculum are covered by



specialist teachers. At key stages 4 and 5, pupils also follow individual learning pathways focussing on their needs and future aspirations for after school.

In line with the new curriculum for Wales, pupils work towards four core purposes. They will be the starting point for all decisions on the content and experiences developed as part of the curriculum to support all children and young people to be:

- Ambitious, capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.
- Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.
- Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

These core purposes are incorporated into all aspects of the curriculum and help inform our planning for the six areas of Learning and Experience;

- Expressive arts
- Health and well-being
- Humanities
- Languages, literacy and communication
- Mathematics and numeracy
- Science and technology.



Areas of continued development in all curriculum areas are the aspects of literacy, numeracy and digital competency. All statutory curriculum requirements are met.

Our students all have a Statement of Special Educational Needs. This forms the basis of all Individual Education Plans which are reviewed on a termly basis. Educational reviews then take place on an annual basis. Full subject reports are produced annually. In addition, students undergo a regular learning and achievement review as part of our internal assessment.



# Qualifications

To ensure the needs and aspirations of our pupils continues to be met, our qualifications are reviewed on an annual basis.

## **BTEC**

### **(Business and Technology Education Council)**

Pearson BTEC Agriculture: Level 2

Pearson BTEC Applied Science: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Home Cooking Skills: Level 1 / 2

Pearson BTEC Horse Care: Level 2

Pearson BTEC Landbased Studies: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Performing Arts: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Safe Road Skills and Attitudes: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Sport: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Workskills: Entry level 3 – Level 2

Pearson BTEC Construction: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Vocational: Level 1

Pearson BTEC Sweet Level 1 / 2

## **Entry Level / Entry Pathways**

WJEC Entry Level: English

WJEC Entry Level: Mathematics

WJEC Entry Level: Science

WJEC Entry Pathways: Humanities

WJEC Entry Pathways: Science Today

## **Essential Skills Wales**

WJEC Essential Skills Wales: Application of Number

WJEC Essential Skills Wales: Communication

WJEC Essential Skills Wales: Digital Literacy Skills



## External Agencies

At Brynllwarch Hall School we have formed strong links with external agencies in the community. Working alongside external agencies such as;

Bike to the Future

Careers Wales

Clun Organics

Dairy Dreams

Footsteps on the Farm

Hope Initiatives

Phoenix Project

The Gamechanger Project

This is not an exhaustive list, working alongside external agencies enhances our curriculum and allows our pupils offsite experiences in a safe and well managed environment to complement their time within school and work towards accreditation suited to their needs and future aspirations.

Qualifications delivered by our external agencies include:

ASDAN short courses

Motor Vehicle Studies Level 1 Award / Certificate

Personal and Social Education Level 1 Award

## Extra-Curricular

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Enterprise Projects





Forest Schools

Horse riding (RDA)

Horticulture

Outdoor Pursuits

Swimming

Trampolining

Work Experience

## **GCSE**

**(General Certificate of Secondary Education)**

WJEC GCSE English Language

WJEC GCSE Mathematics

WJEC GCSE Applied Science

## **London Institute for Banking & Finance**

Lessons in Financial Education (LiFE) Level 1 Award / Certificate

Lessons in Financial Education (LiFE) Level 2 Award / Certificate



# **Outreach Service**

At Brynllwarch we are proud to have an Outreach Service which offers advice, support and training including:

Individual referrals, observation, assessment and planning

Support and Strategies

Transition support between mainstream to specialist settings

Sharing and modelling good practice

We offer support for all those living and working with:

Anxiety

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Autistic Spectrum Condition

Depression

Moderate Learning Difficulties  
 Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
 Social Conduct Disorder  
 Social, Emotional & Mental Health Difficulties  
 Stress

## **Pastoral Care**

A child who feels safe, valued and happy is in the best position to gain maximum benefit from time spent in school. We strive to ensure that this is the case in our school.

We have a zero-tolerance on bullying and students are made aware of our anti-bullying policy through their PSE lessons, assemblies and work with KIVA.

We frequently stress to pupils the importance of telling someone if they feel that they are being bullied in any way. We ensure that all of our pupils have access to a trusted, emotionally available adult who can support them. We also ensure pupils have access to trained Emotional, Literacy, Support Assistants to provide emotional and social support and development.

Bullying is a regular topic in assemblies and your child should be left in no doubt as to what action to take if they are bullied.

Form tutors maintain regular contact with parents on a daily / weekly basis.

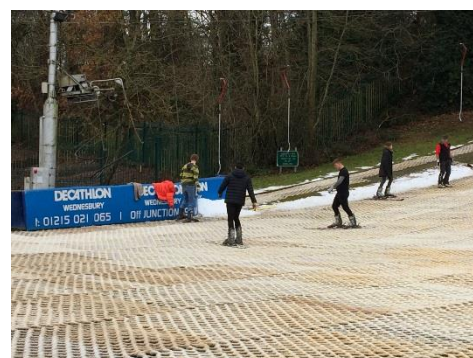
We provide a dedicated well-being area and students are able to access a variety of support services including counselling, music therapy, animal therapy, art based therapy, rebound therapy and health/lifestyle support from external agencies such as CAIS.

## **Reward System**

At Brynllwarch we believe hard work should be rewarded and we strive to give our pupils the best possible opportunities. We have a reward system where every pupil can earn up to £10 worth Amazon vouchers per week. In

addition to this, pupils can experience offsite trips at the end of a term. Pupil voice is a key factor and where appropriate, helps us inform our activities and rewards. To be eligible for our rewards, pupils need to work towards core expectations within school;

- Being engaged in their classwork



- Being in class
- Being punctual to lessons
- Completing the work set
- Good manners
- Wearing correct uniform.

To monitor and track pupil behaviour and engagement, we use Sleuth, an online tool where staff can input positive behaviours and those of a concern. For each lesson pupils can gain points by meeting their core expectations. On occasion, where pupils have exceeded expectations, additional points can be obtained for displaying; compassion, courage, determination, humility and resilience. Extra points are also given to pupils for using the Welsh language. Children on trips and visits are checked in regularly by their teachers. All trips and visits are assessed for risk.



# School Uniform

We have a school uniform that we actively encourage students to wear. We believe our uniform adds to the ethos of the school assisting with good behaviour and fostering a strong feeling of belonging amongst the children. Our **school colour** is black with the school logo displayed on a sweatshirt. **School uniform** consists of the following:

Sweatshirts (from school)	Black with Logo
Shoes (trainers are not permitted)	Black, low heeled, leather
Boys Uniform	Black Polo Shirt, Black or Grey Trousers. Suitable Coat.
Girls Uniform	Black Polo Shirt, Black Skirt or Trousers. Suitable Coat.
Physical Education	Black Shorts or Joggers, T-Shirt, football socks & trainers.
Swimming	Swimming trunks (boys) Swimsuit (Girls) One-piece.

Please note that **extreme hair styles and colours** are not permitted in school.

Jewellery is **not allowed** except one small stud or sleeper per ear.

# School Timetable

Time	Activity	Total Teaching Time
8:50 – 9:20	Ready to Learn	30 minutes
9:20 – 10:45am	Teaching Time	1 hour 25 mins
10:45 – 11:05am	Morning Break	
11:05 – 12:40pm	Teaching Time	1 hour 40 mins
12:40 – 1:20pm	Lunch	
1:20 – 1:30pm	Social skills development	
1:30 – 3:05pm	Teaching Time	1 hour 40 mins
3:05pm	Dismissal	
		Total 5 hours
<b>Total Teaching Time per Week</b>		<b>25 hours</b>



# Term Dates

<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>
Monday 5 September 2022 to Friday 28 October 2022
<b>Half Term - Monday 31 October 2022 to Friday 4 November 2022</b>
Monday 7 November 2022 to Wednesday 21 December 2022
<b>Spring Term 2023</b>
Monday 9 January 2023 to Friday 17 February 2023
<b>Half Term - Monday 20 February 2023 to Friday 24 February 2023</b>
Monday 27 February 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023
<b>Summer Term 2023</b>
Monday 17 April 2023 to Friday 26 May 2023
<b>Half Term - Monday 29 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023</b>
Monday 5 June 2023 to Friday 21 July 2023
<b>Non-Pupil Days 2022 / 23</b>
Thursday 1 September 2022
Friday 2 September 2022
Monday 10 October 2022
Monday 17 July 2023
Monday 24 July 2023
<b>Useful Dates 2022 / 23</b>
<b>Good Friday</b> - Friday 7 April 2023
<b>Easter Monday</b> - Monday 10 April 2023
<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b> - Monday 1 May 2023
<b>Spring Bank Holiday</b> - Monday 29 May 2023
<b>Royal Welsh Show</b> - Monday 24 July - Thursday 27 July 2023

# **Safeguarding**

Brynllwarch Hall School is committed to safeguarding your child and to following the recommendations laid out in the Children Act 2004, which broadly states that children and young people have rights of their own, independent of those of their parents, guardians and carers. These rights and responsibilities should be recognised and respected.

To enable all children and young people to achieve their potential, they should:

- Have their basic needs met.
- Enjoy the medical, educational, leisure and welfare services necessary for a healthy and positive childhood.
- Live in a safe environment protected from exploitation, abuse and harm.
- Feel loved and valued and be supported by a network of reliable and affectionate relationships.
- Have a positive image of themselves and a secure sense of identity including cultural and racial identity.
- Be consulted and have views taken into account on all matters and decisions that affect their lives
- Be helped to develop good inter-personal skills and confidence in social situations to enable them to become competent in looking after themselves and coping with everyday living.
- Where there is a conflict of interest between parents and children, and in all decisions relating to their future, the child's interest must be given primary considerations

We will endeavour to safeguard children by:

- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, making a referral to Children's Services where necessary, and involving parents and children appropriately
- Following the procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers

- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
- Providing staff with safeguarding and child protection throughout the academic year
- Regularly reviewing our policy and good practice.

**The Designated Safeguarding Officer is:**

Mr Randell (Headteacher)

**The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer is:**

Mrs Tracey Howells

**The Designated Safeguarding Governor is:**

Kath Roberts-Jones

Michael Gedrim is the Lead for Safeguarding in Powys.

A copy of the school Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy can be found on the school website.

## **School Meals**

### **Breakfast Club / School Snacks**

All pupils have breakfast club in their classbase, this includes toast and other refreshments. In addition to this, fruit is available throughout the day. All of our refreshments are free of charge to pupils.

### **School Meals**

Hot and cold meals are available daily and eaten in the school hall.

The School Meals Service operates a “Healthy Eating” policy, which is reflected in the menus offered.

Provision is made for children wishing to bring their own packed lunch to eat in the school hall. Please note that no glass bottles are allowed and we ask you not to include any fizzy drinks. Packed lunch boxes are stored in a designated area. This area is not refrigerated so please consider the contents carefully. At present we have no cool or refrigerated storage areas available to facilitate this. In 2017 all schools in Powys were upgraded to the new cashless system in canteens which is

supported through Parent Pay details of this are available from the school office. Our school meals are run by Powys Catering.

## **Free School Meals & Clothing Grants**

Free School Meals are provided for children of parents in receipt of appropriate benefits. Please note that we do not distinguish between paying and non-paying pupils.

## **Complaints**

A formal complaints procedure exists in line with The Education Act 1996 although we hope that you would contact us to discuss any issue informally in the first instance. Should you wish to make a formal complaint, a copy of the procedures can be obtained directly from the school.

## **School Security**

The buildings are protected by intruder alarms and there is perimeter fencing around the school site. Parents must give permission for photographs of pupils to be used in publicity. All visitors to the school must sign in at the main office. Visitors are issued with badges to identify them when walking around the school grounds. All staff are checked by the Data Barring Service.

## **Trauma Informed School Award**



In 2020, Brynllwarch Hall School became the first school in Powys to be awarded the status of a Trauma and Mental Health Informed School by the Trauma Informed Schools UK organisation. The award recognises that, at Brynllwarch, we put our pupils' and our staff's mental health and wellbeing at the forefront of everything we do, ensuring we have an environment where everyone feels safe and valued. We also recognise that the relationships pupils have with staff are most important in ensuring they feel safe and protected in school.

At Brynllwarch, our staff are trained to understand the impact traumatic experiences can have on children and young people – the effects they can have on the body and on brain development which can cause difficulty with managing emotions and behaviour. We have also trained our staff in knowing how to respond to pupils who are distressed. We have embedded an approach that

helps these young people to learn how to build trusting relationships and to self-regulate, an approach that is not just beneficial for pupils who have experience trauma, but is a whole school approach that helps everyone.

**The Award report stated that:**

*"Brynllwarch Hall is a warm, caring environment in which young people thrive because of the outstanding positive relationships that exist between staff and young people. Every adult knows the children well and delights in the success that they achieve, no matter how small that may be. Young people enjoy talking to adults and are able to talk to them about day-to-day events as well as painful life experiences.*

*The school has been on a journey of improvement which has resulted in the development of nurturing classes with emotionally available adults that are consistently and readily accessible to the young people. All adults understand that young people need to develop life skills that will enable them to live life well both academically and socially but recognise that wellbeing and positive mental health sits at the heart of that and is what comes first to make that possible."*

Further information can be found in the Behaviour and Relationship policy on the school website.