



# Blaenhonddan Primary School

## Ysgol Gynradd Blaenhonddan

Main Road / Heol Fawr  
Bryncoch / Bryncoch  
Neath / Castell-nedd SA10 7PE

Tel / Ffôn: 01639 644366  
E-mail / E-bost: [blaenhonddanprimary@npt.school](mailto:blaenhonddanprimary@npt.school)  
Gwefan / Website : [blaenhonddanprimary.co.uk](http://blaenhonddanprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher / Pennaeth: Mrs Gayle Major

E-mail / E-bost: [MajorG4@hwbcymru.net](mailto:MajorG4@hwbcymru.net)

Chair of Governors / Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr: Mr Andrew Collins

**14<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

### Attendance Concerns

Dear Parents / Carers,

Below you will find the latest attendance information which I have received from the Local Authority (LA). As you will see, we have started the year with the worst attendance recorded over the last 5 years, if we make allowances for the Covid years.

Blaenhonddan prides itself on its high attendance and for many years we have been in the top 3 of all schools across NPT. In 2023/2024 – we recorded the highest attendance and last year we were second, so to start the year with such low attendance has come as quite a shock.

2018 – 2019 – 97% (Pre-Covid)  
2021 – 2022 – 92%  
2023 – 2024 – 96%  
2024 - 2025 - 95%  
2025 – 2026 - 93% for September only

The comparison for Blaenhonddan over the last two years is as follows: -

September 2024 – 175 sessions of holiday and 240 illness sessions.

September 2025 - 298 sessions of holiday and 261 illness sessions.

Across the LA in September, there were 6974 sessions of holiday, so there will be a push on schools in conjunction with the LA to issue fines for holiday absence. Blaenhonddan has never issued a fine, but we will be forced to follow this process for repeated holiday absences.



**Work Together, Play Together, Succeed Together**

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Castell-Nedd Port Talbot



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I know that holidays are important for families, and I understand that at certain times of the year, holidays are significantly cheaper, which does not help us in school and seems wholly unfair to you as families.

For us to work together to improve attendance, please may I ask you to think about:

1. Do you really need to book holidays during term time? If so, can this be limited to one?
2. Can you book with weekends included to reduce the days absent from school?
3. Can your child attend for whole or part of the day before departure?

I would like us to continue to be open and honest about the holidays taken, as we would like the children to share their experiences upon their return. So please continue to inform the school and complete the holiday request forms.

Weekly class attendance will continue to be placed on the school website and on Dojo and once I receive the monthly updates from the LA, will be shared too.

Angela Gill - Vice Chair of Governors is responsible for monitoring attendance and monthly meetings will be held so that attendance can be closely monitored.

Thank you for your co-operation as we try to improve upon our September attendance.

Kind regards,  
Gayle Major  
Headteacher



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