

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board**

26th July, 2018

### **Report of the Head of Transformation – Andrew Thomas**

**Matter** for information

**Wards Affected:** All

## **PUPIL ATTENDANCE UPDATE**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Members with information and data in relation to Neath Port Talbot pupil attendance covering the 2017/18 academic year to end of June, 2018.

### **Background**

2. This report provides Members with details of the latest available data for the 2017/18 academic year to end of June, 2018.

### **Attendance Data**

3. For the current academic year to date primary sector attendance rate stood at 94.28%, which saw a -0.40% decrease compared to the same period the previous year. The secondary sector attendance rate for this period was 93.31%, which saw a -0.01% decrease compared to the previous year.
4. During the year to date 15 primary schools increased their attendance compared with the same period last year, with 44 schools reporting a

decrease. In the secondary sector 5 schools increased their attendance with 6 reporting a decrease. [Note: for the purpose of statistical reporting, the data for Ysgol Bae Baglan and Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera - Bro Dur as all-through schools has been disaggregated into both the primary and secondary sectors.] A list of the individual school data comparing the two academic years to date is provided in Appendix A to this report.

5. Individual schools have responded well in reducing the number of authorised illness days and authorised holidays during term-time. Unsurprisingly though this has had a consequential knock-on impact and an increase in the number of unauthorised absences from schools over the past two years since this work with schools has been undertaken.
6. An increase in the number of unauthorised absences opens the way for the authority to issue a greater number of fixed penalty notices or commence prosecution via the Courts. Members will be aware from previous reports that an internal evaluation of the issuing of fixed penalty notices provides clear evidence that two-thirds of pupils whose parents are issued with a penalty notice results in better attendance after the penalty notice was served than before. The attendance of many pupils increased by double percentage points.
7. For the current academic year to the end of May, 2018 the number of fixed penalty notices issued to parents was 142 with 122 being issued over the course of the whole of the last academic year 2016/17. The number of cases that have been subject to Court action this academic year to date is 76 compared to 40 for the whole of the last academic year. Prior to the issuing of a penalty notice or commencement of Court proceedings individual cases are assessed and carefully considered on their own merit.
8. Unverified data by Welsh Government shows a good reduction in the number of pupils classified as persistently absent amongst secondary aged pupils within Neath Port Talbot. Further information and actual data will be provided to Members as part of the autumn term report following its publication by Welsh Government on persistent absenteeism.
9. Members will continue to be provided with regular reports on pupil attendance and the work being undertaken to improve the operation of the Education Welfare Service.

## **Financial Impact**

10. There is no financial impact associated with this proposal.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

11. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined that this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

## **Workforce Impacts**

12. There are no workforce or staffing issues directly associated with this report.

## **Legal Impacts**

13. There is no legal impact associated with this report.

## **Risk Management**

14. Members have previously determined that they wish to include the monitoring of pupil attendance as a regular activity within their on-going work programme. Such scrutiny maintains a high-level focus on attendance amongst schools within the County Borough whilst comparing internal pupil attendance with that of other authorities across Wales.

## **Consultation**

15. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

## **Recommendations**

16. That Members note the contents of this report.

## **Appendices**

17. Appendix A: List of schools with individual attendance rates.

## **List of Background Papers**

18. None.

## **Officer Contact**

19. John Burge, Manager of the School & Family Support Team

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## APPENDIX A

Abbey Primary	94.09%	-0.27%
Alderman Davies CIW	95.37%	0.18%
Alltwen Primary	95.26%	-0.07%
Awel y Môr	94.86%	-1.37%
Baglan Primary	94.61%	-0.46%
Blaenbaglan Primary	95.18%	-0.89%
Blaendulais Primary	94.49%	0.09%
Blaengwrach Primary	95.30%	0.47%
Blaenhonddan Primary	94.87%	0.05%
Brynoch CIW Primary	94.87%	0.03%
Brynhryfd Primary	91.99%	0.13%
Catwg Primary	94.85%	-0.21%
Central Primary	94.87%	-0.71%
Cilffriw Primary	94.85%	-1.25%
Coed Hirwaun Primary	95.83%	0.37%
Coedffranc Primary	95.02%	-1.07%
Creunant Primary	95.57%	-0.14%
Croeserw Primary	94.31%	-1.45%
Crymlyn Primary	95.82%	-0.85%
Crynallt Primary	94.39%	-0.29%
Cwmafan Primary	93.64%	-0.08%
Cwmnedd Primary	94.44%	-0.97%
Cymer Afan Primary	95.16%	0.17%
Eastern Primary	92.97%	0.35%
Glyncorwg Primary	95.65%	-0.23%
Gnoll Primary	94.18%	-0.26%
Godrergrraig Primary	94.57%	-1.20%
Groes Primary	94.20%	-0.36%
Llangiwr Primary	94.54%	-0.23%
Llansawel Primary	92.14%	-3.47%
Maesmarchog Primary	96.20%	-0.38%
Melin Primary	93.57%	0.26%
Penafan Primary	93.64%	-0.57%
Rhos Primary	94.89%	-0.17%
Rhydyfro Primary	94.26%	1.43%
Sandfields Primary	93.46%	-0.12%
St Joseph's Infant	94.61%	-0.96%
St Joseph's Junior	95.89%	-1.20%
St Joseph's Primary	94.18%	0.41%
St Therese's Primary	94.93%	-0.46%
Tairgwaith Primary	95.08%	-1.68%
Tonnau Primary	94.53%	0.20%
Tywyn Primary	95.05%	-0.31%
Wauanceirch Primary	94.52%	-1.57%
YGG Blaendulais	95.73%	-1.20%
YGG Castell-nedd	95.14%	-0.27%
YGG Cwmllynfell	94.91%	0.55%
YGG Cwmnedd	94.88%	-0.17%
YGG GCG	95.84%	-0.84%
YGG Pontardawe	95.44%	-0.17%
YGG Rhosafan	94.65%	-0.23%
YGG Trebannws	95.76%	-0.59%
YGG Tyle'r Ynn	95.02%	0.09%
YG Ystalyfera - Bro Dur	95.03%	-0.17%
Ynysfach Primary	94.88%	-0.53%
Ynysmaerdy Primary	95.23%	-0.79%
Ysgol Bae Baglan	93.58%	-0.84%
Ysgol Maes Y Coed	92.55%	-1.76%
Ysgol Hendrefelin	89.09%	-0.40%

Cefn Saeson	93.45%	0.12%
Cwmtawe	94.36%	0.05%
Cymer Afan	91.82%	-1.20%
Dwr y Felin	93.86%	-0.31%
Dyffryn School	93.41%	0.01%
Llangatwg	93.08%	-0.57%
St Joseph's RC	92.08%	0.52%
Ysgol Bae Baglan	92.20%	1.00%
YG Ystalyfera - Bro Dur	93.76%	-0.83%
Ysgol Maes Y Coed	86.13%	-2.05%
Ysgol Hendrefelin	81.34%	-0.52%