

Education Recovery Plan – Overview

All schools, education providers and support services are fully operational, with children and young people able to access a full range of provision and services both school and community based, in order to meet their: Educational; Social; Emotional; Behavioural; and Other relevant needs.

Blaenau Gwent children and young people are able to effectively transition from one stage of their education to another, with wellbeing as a primary focus, supporting them to achieve their potential.

Recovery and Renewal Focus - Education has developed a detailed impact assessment in collaboration with key partners including schools, in order to determine the key priorities for recovery and renewal. The 4 overarching priority areas of focus are as follows:

- **Learner and staff Wellbeing**
- **Vulnerable Learners**
- **Academic Progress**
- **School Operations**

Present Position - Over the last academic session school operations have been negatively affected by the pandemic. The latest Welsh Government operational guidance seeks to resume normal school operations from the autumn-term 2021. During the 2020/21 academic session, data collection and school’s data management was reconfigured and/or suspended, therefore, we are currently working to establish the baseline for the above priorities as at September 2021. However, current levels of COVID within the community are affecting the school’s ability to resume normal practice. Therefore, the target for the autumn-term is to establish the baseline.

Implementation Plan - Education has worked to establish a detailed action plan for each impact area. The action plan details the work required with Council services, schools/headteachers, wider partners such as the Education Achievement Service, pupils and parents. In addition, stakeholder engagement and communication plans are in place, with 3 consultative groups having been established as follows:

- Recovery and Renewal Group
- Curriculum Reform Group
- School Operations Management Group

Key Measures to Determine Progress -The following data sets – both qualitative and quantitative, will be used to monitor and measure progress against each impact area:

Priority Area	PI	18/19	19/20	20/21	Target (when will we know we have recovered)?
Learner Wellbeing	Applications – Nursery	693	696	714	Applications are the same level or higher

					than pre-Covid levels. EHE numbers are the same or lower than pre-Covid levels.
Applications – Primary	739	731	701		Applications are the same level or higher than pre-Covid levels. EHE numbers are the same or lower than pre-Covid levels.
Applications – Secondary	677	679	696		Applications are the same level or higher than pre-Covid levels. EHE numbers are the same or lower than pre-Covid levels.
	July 2019	July 2020	July 2021		
Attendance – Primary	94.4	93.5	90.7		Attendance levels are consistently in line with or higher than Wales average.
Attendance Secondary	93.3	91.7	84.8		Attendance levels are consistently in line with or higher than Wales average.
	April 19 - March 20	April 20 - March 21	April 21 - September 2021		
Exclusions Primary	108	25	17		Exclusions are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.

	Exclusions Secondary	459	135	183	Exclusions are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.
	Average Number of Primary exclusions per month (no. of months in brackets)	9.8	3.6	3.4	Exclusions are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.
	Average Number of Secondary exclusions per month (no. of months in brackets)	41.7	19.3	36.6	Exclusions are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.
		2019	2020	2021	
Vulnerable Learners	Entitlement to FSM/Transitionally Protected (%)	21.1	24.6	30.4	FSM numbers are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels. This may take some time to show recovery due to entitlement being protected.
		April 19 - March 20	April 20 - March 21	April 21 - September 2021	
	Number of referrals to Social Services for children and young people of school age (3-16)	2382	2260	1702	Referrals to social services are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.
	Average Number of referrals to Social Services for children and young people of school age (3-16) per month (no. of months in brackets)	198.5 (12)	188.3 (12)	283.7 (6)	Referrals to social services are in line with or lower than pre-Covid levels.
	Digital Disadvantage	0	1,359 pupils with devices 161 pupils with MiFi Dongles	Under review	Need for blended learning is greatly reduced, meaning that schools have very few or no requests for devices of MiFi dongles.

Academic Progress

	2021				2020				2019			
	Capped 9	Literacy	Numeracy	Best Science	Capped 9	Literacy	Numeracy	Best Science	Capped 9	Literacy	Numeracy	Best Science
School 1	335.9	32.6	35.1	32.7	355.9	36.1	36.6	32.2	341	35	33	27
School 2	377.0	41.0	32.0	38.0	375.7	41.0	35.0	36.4	349	38	31	28
School 3	369.0	40.4	39.1	40.6	378.0	39.3	37.2	38.2	340	37	35	36
School 4	373.5	41.5	39.5	36.2	358.3	39.9	37.5	36.4	362	39	36	36

Improvement in performance from previous year.

Decline in performance from previous year.