

# A guide to polling day in Blaenau Gwent

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## Everything you need to know about voting in person

The May elections are just around the corner; here is a useful guide to what you can expect if you're voting in person on Thursday, 6th May.

### Where is my polling station?

If you have registered to vote, you will receive a poll card through the post from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. It will tell you where your polling station is. Make sure you check your poll card before heading out to vote, in case your polling station has changed since you last voted. You can also find out where your polling station is on

You should bring your own pen or pencil, in order to minimise contact. You should also wear a face covering so that you can keep yourself, and others, safe on polling day.

If you forget to bring these with you, polling station staff will have spare face coverings and clean pencils available for you. You will not be prevented from entering the polling station if you forget these things.

## How long will it take?

It should only take a few minutes to vote. We have put arrangements in place to help maintain social distancing within the polling station. This means you may have to queue to enter. If you

## What if I need help?

If you're not sure what to do, or need any help, just ask the staff at the polling station – they will be happy to assist you.

## What if I have access issues?

If you have a disability which means you can't fill in the ballot paper yourself, you can ask the presiding officer – the person in charge of the polling station - to mark the ballot paper for you, or you can take someone along with you to help you.

If you have a visual impairment, you can ask for a large print ballot paper to refer to when you cast your vote, or a special tactile voting device that is designed so you can mark your ballot paper on your own.

## Should I tell anyone who I voted for?

Your vote is yours and yours alone: you do not need to tell anyone how you voted.

### Exit polls

Exit polls are sometimes conducted, where people – usually private companies working for newspapers or broadcasters – ask voters leaving the polling station who they voted for to help them predict what the outcome might be. You do not need to respond to their questions if you don't want to.

## Can I take selfies or other photos while I'm voting?

You shouldn't take photos inside the polling station as it might put the secrecy of the ballot at risk.

You are more than welcome to take photos outside the polling station and share them on social media to encourage your friends and family to vote.

## Can I take my friend / partner / child(ren) with me to the polling station?

For more information contact:

**Electoral Registration Team**

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