

Niamh Salkeld — Plaid Cymru MS for Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni

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“ **Full name:** Niamh Ffion Mai Salkeld
Born: 1998 (age 27–28)
Party: Plaid Cymru
Constituency: Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni (Senedd Cymru)
Term start: 8 May 2026
X / Twitter: [@niamh_salkeld](#) (also styles as *Níamh Salkeld*)
X bio: ■■■■■■■■■■ Plaid Cymru Member of the Senedd / Aelod o’r Senedd for Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni. Promoted by Niamh Salkeld, Tŷ Gwynfor, CF10 4AL.
Welsh Wikipedia: [Niamh Salkeld](#)
X stats: ~2,486 Tweets | 671 Following | 629 Followers | 9,775 Likes
Joined X: October 2021

Summary

Niamh Salkeld is a Welsh Plaid Cymru politician who was elected as a Member of the Senedd (MS) for the newly created constituency of **Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni** in the **May 2026 Senedd election**. She is one of a cohort of new Plaid Cymru MSs elected as part of the party's historic victory that saw Plaid Cymru form a government for the first time, with Rhun ap Iorwerth becoming First Minister.

Early Life & Education

- Born in **1998**.
- Studied at **Aberystwyth University**, earning a **Bachelor of Arts degree in International Politics**.
- After graduating, worked as a **substitute teacher** in a secondary school.
- Subsequently joined the **Plaid Cymru group in the Senedd** as a **political researcher**.

(Source: Caerphilly Observer, "General election 2024: Meet the candidates for Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney", 2 July 2024)

Political Career

2024 UK General Election

- Stood as the **Plaid Cymru candidate** for the UK Parliament constituency of **Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney**.
- Finished in **2nd place** with **3,844 votes** behind Labour's Nick Smith.
- The contest was newsworthy as the seat had been redrawn from the former Blaenau Gwent constituency.

2026 Senedd Election

- Selected as **Plaid Cymru's lead candidate** for the new Senedd constituency of **Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni**.
- This constituency was created as part of the Senedd expansion (from 60 to 96 MSs) which took effect in the 2026 election.
- Elected on **8 May 2026** as part of Plaid Cymru's historic victory.
- The constituency returns six MSs. Her fellow MSs for this region include:
 - **Delyth Jewell** (Plaid Cymru)
 - **Lindsay Whittle** (Plaid Cymru)
 - **Catherine Cullen**
 - **Llyr Powell** (Reform UK?) *(unconfirmed post-election details)*

Role in the Senedd

As a newly elected MS in the **7th Senedd (2026-2031)**, Salkeld is a government backbencher supporting the Rhun ap Iorwerth administration. Her X activity suggests alignment with Plaid

Cymru government messaging on:

- **NHS waiting lists** — supporting government efforts to cut waiting times.
 - **Cost of living** — backing free school meals expansion, childcare offers, and child payment pilots.
 - **Energy prices** — criticising the UK Government for high energy costs affecting Welsh households.
 - **Welsh trade unions** — supporting the partnership between the Welsh Government and the TUC Cymru.
 - **Welsh devolution** — calling for stronger powers and respect for the Senedd election result.
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Social Media & Public Profile

X (Twitter) — @niamh_salkeld

- **Joined:** October 2021
- **Account activity:** Highly active; predominantly retweets Plaid Cymru and Welsh Government messaging.
- **Language:** Primarily English, with some bilingual Welsh posts.
- **Engagement:** Modest follower count (629) but actively engaging with constituents and party messaging.

Notable interactions (from Nitter search results):

- Engaged in discussions about Plaid Cymru's role in government, including tax policies and the 20 mph speed limit.
- Referenced alongside fellow Plaid MSs Delyth Jewell and Lindsay Whittle in regional political discourse.
- Tagged in discussions about Plaid Cymru's broader policy platform.

Media Coverage

News articles referencing Niamh Salkeld (May 2026):

1. "Senedd election results all in - who's in and who's out?" — *Caerphilly Observer* (11 May 2026)
2. "Plaid Cymru releases list of Senedd candidates" — *Nation.Cymru* (21 November 2025)
3. "The Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni candidates in the Senedd election 2026" — *Wales Online* (16 April 2026, by Ruth Mosalski)
4. "'We will not let you down': Lindsay Whittle MS talks Senedd election results" — *Caerphilly Observer* (12 May 2026)

5. "Full list of Wales' 96 new Senedd Members" — *Wales Online* (14 May 2026, by Ruth Mosalski)
6. "Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney general election 2024: constituency result in full" — *Wales Online* (5 July 2024, by Ruth Mosalski)

Reddit

No significant Reddit discussion found (search of all Reddit for "Niamh Salkeld" returned no results as of 23 May 2026).

Constituency: Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni

This is a **new Senedd constituency** created for the 2026 election as part of the Senedd expansion. It covers:

- The **Blaenau Gwent** area
- **Caerffili** (Caerphilly)
- **Rhymni** (Rhymney)

It is a South Wales Valleys constituency, historically a Labour stronghold but where Plaid Cymru has been making gains (they previously held regional list seats in South Wales East).

Key Facts

Attribute	Detail
Full name	Niamh Ffion Mai Salkeld
Year of birth	1998
Age (as of May 2026)	27–28
Education	Aberystwyth University (BA International Politics)
Previous career	Substitute teacher, political researcher
First electoral contest	2024 UK General Election (Blaenau Gwent & Rhymney)
Senedd election	8 May 2026
Constituency type	Newly created (Senedd expansion from 60→96 seats)
Party	Plaid Cymru

Attribute	Detail
X handle	@niamh_salkeld

Twitter/X Discussion

“ Source: Nitter search, 27 May 2026

No significant discussion found on Nitter/X for this period.

Reddit Discussion

“ Source: Eddrit search (via Docker on Windows PC), 27 May 2026

No significant Reddit discussion found for this period.

Sources

1. Wikipedia — [Niamh Salkeld](#)
2. Caerphilly Observer — *General election 2024: Meet the candidates for Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney* (2 July 2024) — [link](#)
3. BBC News — *Welsh Parliament election results 2026* — [link](#)
4. Who Can I Vote For? — Niamh Ffion Mai Salkeld profile — [link](#)
5. Nitter / X — [@niamh_salkeld](#)
6. Google News search — "Niamh Salkeld MS" (23 May 2026)
7. Wales Online — *Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney general election 2024: constituency result in full* (5 July 2024)
8. Wales Online — *Full list of Wales' 96 new Senedd Members* (14 May 2026)
9. Nation.Cymru — *Plaid Cymru releases list of Senedd candidates* (21 November 2025)

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