

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee: 23rd April 2018

Report of the Director of Learning and Skills

Summary of School Inspection Reports for Autumn Term 2017

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Members on the outcomes of school inspections for the autumn term 2017.
2. To update Members on the outcomes of recent Estyn monitoring activities.

Recommendations

1. That Members note the inspection judgements about the schools inspected during the autumn term.
2. That Members note the judgements made by Estyn in its monitoring activities regarding the progress of schools in addressing inspection recommendations.
3. That Members note the changes to Estyn inspection arrangements.

Reason for the Recommendations

1-3 In order that Members are aware of Estyn judgements about local schools.

Background

3. In September 2017 a new Estyn School Inspection Common Inspection Framework (CIF) was introduced across all schools in Wales.
4. An overview of the CIF is outlined in Appendix 1.

Relevant Issues and Options

5. Oak Field Primary School, Cadoxton Primary School and All Saints CiW Primary School were inspected during the autumn term 2017.
6. A summary of the inspection findings for each of the named schools is appended to this report (Appendix 2).
7. The purpose of inspections is to:

- Provide accountability to the users of the services and other stakeholders through public reporting on providers;
 - Promote improvement in education and training; and
 - Inform the development of national policy by Welsh Government.
8. School inspections are governed by the Education Act 2005 and related regulations. Inspections must be conducted by teams of inspectors, led by a HMI, additional inspector or registered inspector, and must result in a written report. Section 28 of the Education Act 2005, says that inspectors must report on:
- The educational standards achieved by the school;
 - The quality of education provided by the school;
 - How far education meets the needs of the range of pupils at the school;
 - The quality of leadership in and management of the school, including whether the financial resources are managed efficiently;
 - The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils at the school; and
 - The contribution of the school to the wellbeing of pupils.
9. During all core inspections, the inspection team will consider whether the school needs any follow-up activity.
10. When conducting school inspections, the main forms of evidence considered are:
- Briefings from Local Authorities;
 - Documentary evidence, including data on pupils' performance and progress;
 - Observation of teaching or training sessions and other activities;
 - Samples of pupils' work;
 - The views of pupils and stakeholders; and
 - Discussion with staff, leaders and managers, governors and others.
11. The reporting inspector is responsible for producing a final inspection report that is clear to a lay audience and helpful to the school. In most cases, the main body of the report is no longer than six pages.
12. Schools now receive 15 working days' written notice of an inspection.
13. Judgements are made under five inspection areas:
1. standards
 2. wellbeing and attitudes to learning
 3. teaching and learning experiences
 4. care, support and guidance
 5. leadership and management.

14. The judgements for each of the five key questions can be one of four options:
 - Excellent – very strong, sustained performance and practice
 - Good – strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement
 - Adequate and needs improvement - strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement
 - Unsatisfactory and needs urgent improvement - Important weaknesses outweigh strengths.
15. There are three types of follow-up category:
 - Estyn review
 - Significant improvement
 - Special measures
16. All follow-up work involves activity by Estyn inspectors. The activity involves increasing levels of intervention in proportion to need.
17. During the autumn term the overall judgements achieved by Vale of Glamorgan schools which were inspected were as follows:

School	Inspection Area 1: Standards	Inspection Area 2: wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Inspection Area 3: teaching and learning experiences	Inspection Area 4: care, support and guidance	Inspection Area 5: leadership and management
Oak Field Primary School	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good
Cadoxton Primary School	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent
All Saints CiW Primary School	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Good

18. Where Estyn identifies excellent practice during an inspection, schools are identified as having sector-leading practice. Excellent practice was identified in Oak Field Primary School, Cadoxton Primary School and All Saints CiW Primary School and they have been invited to prepare written case studies which will be published by Estyn and shared with other schools.
19. As a result of its inspection in May 2017 St. Richard Gwyn RC High School was identified as requiring Estyn review.

20. When a secondary school is identified as requiring Estyn review, the Local Authority is required to submit a progress report against the recommendations from the core inspection the following Autumn term. Estyn will consider the report and scrutinise the school's data and this may result in the school being removed from Estyn review, remaining in Estyn review or receiving a monitoring visit by Estyn inspectors during the academic year.
21. In November, Estyn reviewed the progress of St. Richard Gwyn RC High School and judged that progress had been made in respect of some of the key issues identified in the inspection but many of the improvements were still at an early stage of development. As a result, Estyn decided the school should remain in Estyn review and progress would be reviewed in October 2018 to be able to take into account another set of performance data.
22. At the end of the summer term, the Local Authority had one school requiring significant improvement (Bryn Hafren Comprehensive).
23. If a school is identified as requiring significant improvement, Estyn will inform the Welsh Government that the school has been placed in a statutory category.
24. The school and the Local Authority are required to produce action plans which must be sent to Estyn for approval.
25. While the responsibility for producing an action plan rests with the school, the Authority also has a number of key responsibilities. These include:
 - Ensuring that any issues identified by Estyn relating to the Local Authority are addressed;
 - Ensuring that delivery of the improvement plan is monitored through Challenge Adviser visits to schools;
 - Supporting schools to raise standards through identification and sharing of good practice.
26. In all instances the Directorate of Learning and Skills will work with schools to ensure an effective and robust action plan is developed to build upon areas of strength and to address identified shortcomings.
27. A re-visit by Estyn inspectors takes place approximately a year after publication of the inspection report. It focuses on the progress the school has made towards addressing the recommendations highlighted in the report.
28. If the team judges that the school has made enough progress in relation to the recommendations, the school would be removed from the list of schools requiring significant improvement. If progress is insufficient, the team would identify the school as requiring special measures.
29. Bryn Hafren was re-visited by Estyn in May 2017 and was judged to have made insufficient progress in relation to the recommendations overall. Estyn will re-visit the school during the course of this academic year to inspect progress.
30. There are no schools identified as requiring special measures.
31. Appendix 3 provides an overall summary of Estyn activity for the period September 2017 - December 2017 and a summary of schools in a follow up category.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

32. Follow-up activity for schools placed in a category will be resourced by the Central South Consortium.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

33. None.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

34. There are no legal implications arising from this report

Crime and Disorder Implications

35. There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

36. Welsh medium schools undergo school inspections by Estyn according to the same Common Inspection Framework, but through the medium of Welsh.

Corporate/Service Objectives

37. This report supports the Council's Wellbeing Outcome 3: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale, Corporate Objective 5 'Raising overall standards of achievement'.
38. This report supports the objectives listed in the Service Plan for School Improvement and Inclusion 2016/2020.

Policy Framework and Budget

39. The recommendations of this report are within existing policy framework and budget.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

40. Not applicable

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

41. Learning and Culture.

Background Papers

None.

Contact Officer

Morwen Hudson, Lead Officer for School Improvement / Senior Challenge Adviser

Officers Consulted

None

Responsible Officer:

Paula Ham, Director of Learning and Skills

Common Inspection Framework from September 2017



This framework applies to primary schools, secondary schools, all-age schools, maintained special schools, pupil referral units, independent schools, independent specialist colleges and work-based learning providers.

Inspection Areas	Aspects
01 Standards	1.1 Standards and progress overall 1.2 Standards and progress of specific groups 1.3 Standards and progress in skills
02 Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	2.1 Wellbeing 2.2 Attitudes to learning
03 Teaching and learning experiences	3.1 Quality of teaching 3.2 The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum 3.3 Provision for skills
04 Care, support and guidance	4.1 Tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support 4.2 Personal development 4.3 Safeguarding
05 Leadership and management	5.1 Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers 5.2 Self-evaluation processes and improvement planning 5.3 Professional learning 5.4 Use of resources



Please refer to the relevant inspection guidance for your sector for further information on the Common Inspection Framework at <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/inspection/inspection-guidance>.

INSPECTION FEEDBACK – INSPECTIONS 2017/18

LA	Vale of Glamorgan		
School	All Saints CiW Primary	Head teacher	Clare Lewis
Date	7/12/17	Reporting Inspector	Goronwyn Morris

IA	Area	Aspects	Judgement
1	Standards	1.1 Standards and progress overall 1.2 Standards and progress of specific groups 1.3 Standards and progress in skills	Good
2	Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	2.1 Wellbeing 2.2 Attitude to learning	Excellent
3	Teaching and learning experiences	3.1 Quality of teaching 3.2 The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum. 3.3 Provision of skills	Good
4	Care, support and guidance	4.1 Tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support 4.2 Healthy choices and active citizenship 4.3 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education 4.4 Safeguarding	Excellent
5	Leadership and management	5.1 Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers, including the governing body 5.2 Self-evaluation processes and improvement planning 5.3 Professional development 5.4 Use of resources	Good

PTO Summary Statement Recommendations,

Summary Statement.

No summary statement given

Recommendations

- R1 Improve standards of pupils' oral skills in Welsh outside of Welsh lessons in key stage 2
- R2 Improve pupils' experience at playtimes and lunchtimes so that they have more opportunities to make purposeful use of their time in the outdoor environment

Follow-Up Category:

No Follow-Up	Estyn Review	Significant Improvement	Special Measures
--------------	--------------	-------------------------	------------------

Excellent Practice Case Study: Yes

If Yes, please indicate the area(s) identified:

Wellbeing

INSPECTION FEEDBACK – INSPECTIONS 2017/18

LA	Vale of Glamorgan		
School	Oak Field Primary	Head teacher	Ian Williams
Date	28/9/17	Reporting Inspector	Jane Rees

IA	Area	Aspects	Judgement
1	Standards	1.1 Standards and progress overall 1.2 Standards and progress of specific groups 1.3 Standards and progress in skills	Good
2	Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	2.1 Wellbeing 2.2 Attitude to learning	Good
3	Teaching and learning experiences	3.1 Quality of teaching 3.2 The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum. 3.3 Provision of skills	Good
4	Care, support and guidance	4.1 Tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support 4.2 Healthy choices and active citizenship 4.3 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education 4.4 Safeguarding	Excellent
5	Leadership and management	5.1 Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers, including the governing body 5.2 Self-evaluation processes and improvement planning 5.3 Professional development 5.4 Use of resources	Good

PTO Summary Statement Recommendations,

Summary Statement.

No summary statement given at the feedback meeting.

Recommendations

- R1 Extend the good practice in nursery and reception across the foundation phase, particularly in relation to outdoor learning and developing pupils' independent skills
- R2 Improve pupils' writing, particularly that of boys
- R3 Improve attendance

Follow-Up Category:

No Follow-Up	Estyn Review	Significant Improvement	Special Measures
--------------	--------------	-------------------------	------------------

Excellent Practice Case Study: Yes

If Yes, please indicate the area(s) identified:

For the nurture provision in the school.

INSPECTION FEEDBACK – INSPECTIONS 2017/18

LA	Vale of Glamorgan		
School	Cadoxton	Head teacher	Janet Haywood
Date	30th November 2017	Reporting Inspector	Elizabeth Barry

IA	Area	Aspects	Judgement
1	Standards	1.1 Standards and progress overall 1.2 Standards and progress of specific groups 1.3 Standards and progress in skills	Good
2	Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	2.1 Wellbeing 2.2 Attitude to learning	Excellent
3	Teaching and learning experiences	3.1 Quality of teaching 3.2 The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum. 3.3 Provision of skills	Good
4	Care, support and guidance	4.1 Tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support 4.2 Healthy choices and active citizenship 4.3 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education 4.4 Safeguarding	Excellent
5	Leadership and management	5.1 Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers, including the governing body 5.2 Self-evaluation processes and improvement planning 5.3 Professional development 5.4 Use of resources	Excellent

PTO Summary Statement Recommendations,

Summary Statement.

Summary statement not given at feedback.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve pupils' ability to write at length and their handwriting skills
- R2 Improve pupils' Welsh skills in key stage 2
- R3 Improve opportunities for pupils to apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum in key stage 2

Follow-Up Category:

No Follow-Up	Estyn Review	Significant Improvement	Special Measures
--------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	------------------

Excellent Practice Case Study: Yes

If Yes, please indicate the area(s) identified:

- Nurture – everyone's responsibility
- Learning environment – Village
- Professional development

Summary of School Inspection activity from September 2017 – December 2017

Inspections					
School	Inspection area 1: Standards	Inspection area 2: wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Inspection area 3: teaching and learning experiences	Inspection area 4: care, support and guidance	Inspection area 5: leadership and management
Oak Field Primary School	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good
Cadoxton Primary School	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent
All Saints CiW Primary School	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Good

Follow up monitoring	
School/Setting	Outcome
St Richard Gwyn RC High School	Remained in Estyn review

Summary of Schools in a follow up category

Inspections		
School	Date of inspection	Follow up category
St Richard Gwyn RC High School	May 2017	Estyn review
Bryn Hafren Comprehensive	March 2012 May 2016 May 2017	Significant Improvement