

Report

Cabinet



Part 1

Date: 13 November 2024

Subject **Summary Of Estyn Inspection Outcomes – January 2022 To July 2024**

Purpose To inform members of the judgements made by Estyn inspection teams of Newport schools from January 2022 – July 2024.

Author Chief Education Officer

Ward All

Summary This report provides a summary of school Estyn report outcomes from January 2022 to July 2024. The report identifies the schools and the dates on which the inspections took place, together with the follow up category and recommendations.

Proposal **For Cabinet to accept the report for information**

Action by Chief Education Officer

Timetable The implementation of individual school-based recommendations will be actioned immediately.

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Scrutiny Committee
- Education Senior Leaders
- The Cabinet Member for Education
- The Strategic Director for Transformation & Corporate

Signed

Background

Previous Estyn Common Inspection Framework (Sept 2017 onwards)

- 1.1 From September 2017 schools in Wales were inspected under the Common Inspection Framework (CIF). This judged schools under 5 Inspection Areas (IA):
 1. Standards
 2. Wellbeing and attitudes to learning
 3. Teaching and learning experiences
 4. Care, support and guidance
 5. Leadership and management
- 1.2 There was no separate judgement on 'current performance' and 'prospects for improvement'. The previous 4-point judgement scale remained, but its wording was amended to focus on actions to be taken to support improvement:
 - 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
- 1.3 There were 3 follow-up categories of support, as the previous Local Authority monitoring has ceased as an Estyn category. The last two remained as statutory categories:
 - Estyn Review
 - Significant Improvement
 - Special Measures

Estyn Common Inspection Framework (From 1 September 2022)

- 1.4 The new inspection framework commenced on 1 September 2022, however in the Spring and Summer of that year a small number of pilot inspections took place. This report therefore includes information from 1 January 2022.
- 1.5 Estyn's new a new approach to inspection in schools and Pupil Referral Units across Wales, no longer focused on a grading, detailing instead how well providers are helping a child to learn. This means that inspection reports no longer include summative gradings (e.g. 'Excellent', 'Good' or 'Adequate').
- 1.6 A key overview of findings is included in each report headline focusing on a school's strengths and areas for development. Estyn also produce a separate report summary for parents which allows parents to access the key information they need about an inspection.
- 1.7 Estyn's approach aligns with the personalisation of the new curriculum for Wales. Inspections also involve more in-person discussions, placing less emphasis on achievement data. They intend that their new inspection approach will make it easier for providers to gain meaningful insights that help them to improve without the spotlight on a judgement. Additionally, to reflect the Welsh Government's decision to no longer require statutory teacher assessment at the of various stages of education, Inspection Area 1 was renamed from Standards to Learning, to reflect the broader range of holistic evidence required about learner outcomes and progress.
- 1.8 There is however no change to the statutory categories of special measures and significant improvement. The category of Estyn Review is also retained.

- 1.9 Estyn have reduced the notice period for inspections from 15 to 10 working days. Estyn have committed to continue to work with partners and stakeholders to gather views as we look to further evolve our inspection framework, including moving towards more regular inspection across providers.
- 1.10 Comparisons over time with the previous framework are not possible, given that there are no judgements for the 5 Inspection Areas to compare.
- 1.11 For Newport schools 25 judgements are available at the time of writing (comprising of 22 primaries and 2 secondaries and one special school). Across the region a total of 105 schools have had inspection reports published (88 primaries, 3 special, 11 secondaries, 2 through schools and 1 PRU)
- 1.12 The following Newport schools have been inspected since January 2022, under the New Framework. Follow up category, the only summative data available is included in the table below (No Follow Up, Estyn Review, Significant Improvement, Special Measures)

School	Phase	Inspection Date	Follow-Up Category / Estyn Case Study
Crindau Primary	Primary	May-22	No Follow Up
Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed	Secondary	May-22	Estyn Review
St Patrick's RC Primary	Primary	Jun-22	No Follow Up
High Cross Primary	Primary	Oct-22	No Follow Up
Jubilee Park Primary	Primary	Oct-22	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Milton Primary	Primary	Oct-22	No Follow Up
Tredegar Park Primary	Primary	Oct-22	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Caerleon Lodge Hill Primary	Primary	Jan-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Monnow Primary	Primary	Feb-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Pillgwenlly Primary	Primary	Apr-23	Estyn Review
St Mary's RC Primary Newport	Primary	May-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Pentrepoeth Primary	Primary	May-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
St Woolos Primary	Primary	May-23	No Follow Up
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon	Primary	Oct-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Langstone Primary	Primary	Oct-23	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael	Primary	Oct-23	No Follow Up
St Andrews Primary	Primary	Jan-24	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Eveswell Primary	Primary	Feb-24	No Follow Up
Somerton Primary	Primary	Feb-24	No Follow Up
St Julians School*	Secondary	May-24	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Glan Llyn Primary	Primary	May-24	No Follow Up
Maindee Primary	Primary	Jun-24	No Follow Up
Maes Ebbw Special	Special	Jun-24	No Follow-Up and Case Study
Llanmartin Primary	Primary	Jul-24	No Follow Up
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli	Primary	Jun-24	No Follow Up

- 1.13 A range of case studies are now available on the Estyn website [Improvement resources search | Estyn](#). The following case studies (Cameos) have been completed by Newport Schools

School	Estyn Case Studies (that have been submitted) Please note that 5 have been submitted a further 6 have been requested by Estyn and may be in development.

Tredegear Park Primary Jan 23	Y Cartref: Beyond the doors of Tredegear Park Primary School – Developing Pupils’ Life Skills - Estyn
Jubilee Park Primary Mar 23	Creating the Conditions to Thrive - Creating a Culture of Professional Learning - Estyn
Pentrepoeth Primary Nov 23	Application of skills in the outdoor environment - Estyn
Langstone Primary School Mar 24	Developing effective provision for learning languages - Estyn
St Andrew’s Primary May 24	The role of the enabling adult to support effective environments and engaging experiences - Estyn

1.14 The table below compares with the Newport profile across the region and Wales. This includes published reports only. Please note percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding to 0 decimal places.

Estyn Follow Up Category:	Newport	SE Wales Region	Wales
No Follow-Up + Case Study	11(44%)	27 (26%)	133 (20%)
No Follow-Up	12 (48%)	60 (57%)	415 (61%)
Estyn Review	2 (8%)	10 (10%)	76 (11%)
Significant Improvement	0 (0%)	5 (5%)	23 (3%)
Special Measures	0 (0%)	3 (3%)	32 (5%)
TOTAL	25	105	679

1.15 Double the proportion of Newport schools have been identified as having practice worth sharing through a case study. Very few schools (2 of 25 (8%)) have required any form of Estyn Review and no schools have been placed in a follow up category. These are all lower than the proportions nationally.

1.16 Estyn inspections of schools are informative for the LA and the EAS in a number of ways. Although they report on a school in a specified period of time, they can be helpful in confirming that the school is receiving appropriate support and challenge and triangulate judgements which have been made prior to the inspection. Where schools are a cause for concern, recommendations made by Estyn will be the focus for intervention and the tracking of progress made. If the school is placed in a statutory category, then the LA can invoke powers of intervention immediately.

1.17 The table below summarises the recommendations for each Newport school inspected.

School	Recommendations
Crindau Primary	<p>R1 Develop the school’s curriculum further to include authentic and purposeful learning experiences for all pupils</p> <p>R2 Build on the good practice in teaching to ensure that all pupils are consistently engaged in their learning</p> <p>R3 Extend effective monitoring arrangements to include all leaders and teachers in evaluating the quality of teaching and learning</p>

Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed	<p>R1 Strengthen leadership capacity to ensure that leaders across the school operate more strategically in their areas of responsibility</p> <p>R2 Strengthen provision for inclusion and pupils' additional learning needs</p> <p>R3 Ensure more cohesive provision to develop pupils' reading, numeracy and digital competence skills</p> <p>R4 Strengthen leaders' ability to evaluate the quality of provision in light of its effect on pupils' learning, skills and wellbeing</p> <p>R5 Respond to the health and safety issue that was identified during the inspection</p>
St Patrick's RC Primary	<p>R1 Ensure that the targets set for school improvement are manageable</p> <p>R2 Ensure that teaching promotes independent learning successfully between Year 3 and Year 6</p> <p>R3 Plan effectively to improve pupils' numeracy, digital competency and physical skills</p> <p>R4 Strengthen the provision for pupils to speak Welsh, and to learn about the culture and heritage of Wales</p>
High Cross Primary	<p>R1 Ensure that school development targets are specific and focus sharply on improving outcomes for pupils</p> <p>R2 Secure progression in pupils' learning by ensuring that the curriculum builds systematically and coherently on their' existing skills, knowledge and understanding</p> <p>R3 Improve pupils' digital skills</p>
Jubilee Park Primary	<p>R1 The school should continue its improvement journey. There are no specific recommendations relating to this inspection.</p>
Milton Primary	<p>R1 Improve pupils' Welsh and information and communication technology (ICT) skills</p> <p>R2 Ensure that independent learning tasks challenge pupils consistently well</p> <p>R3 Sharpen evaluation and improvement strategies so that they focus more on pupils' learning</p>
Tredegar Park Primary	<p>R1 Offer pupils appropriately challenging learning activities that develop their independent learning skills'</p> <p>R2 Ensure that monitoring activities focus sharply on improving teaching and pupil progress</p> <p>R3 Strengthen pupils' independent reading skills</p> <p>R4 Improve pupils' use of spoken Welsh</p>
Caerleon Lodge Hill Primary	<p>R1 Monitor the impact of school improvement actions to evaluate their effectiveness and identify next steps.</p> <p>R2 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills.</p>
Monnow Primary	<p>R1 Improve attendance</p> <p>R2 Improve standards in Welsh</p> <p>R3 Further develop professional learning to improve consistency of teaching and the work of teaching assistants</p>

Pillgwenlly Primary	<p>R1 Address the issues relating to safeguarding identified at the time of the inspection</p> <p>R2 Sharpen evaluation and improvement processes so that they focus better, and impact more positively, on pupils' learning</p> <p>R3 Improve pupils' writing and their mathematical skills</p> <p>R4 Ensure that teachers provide pupils with challenging learning experiences more consistently and give them regular and helpful feedback on their learning</p>
St Mary's RC Primary Newport	<p>R1 Utilise the strong practice in the school to ensure that all teaching encourages pupils to think for themselves</p> <p>R2 Strengthen the provision for Welsh and develop provision for pupils to learn an international language</p>
Pentrepoeth Primary	<p>R1 Improve opportunities to build pupils' Welsh vocabulary and sentence structures progressively to ensure consistently strong progress as they move through the school</p>
St Woolos Primary	<p>R1 Improve pupils' digital and Welsh oracy skills</p> <p>R2 Improve provision for expressive arts, creativity and to support the development of pupils' physical skills</p>
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon	<p>R1 Disseminate good teaching practices across the school</p> <p>R2 Provide regular opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for their learning and develop as independent learners</p>
Langstone Primary	<p>R1 The school should continue its improvement journey. There are no specific recommendations relating to this inspection.</p>
Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael	<p>R1 Extend purposeful opportunities for pupils to make decisions about their learning with increasing independence</p> <p>R2 Ensure that members of the governing body participate fully in self-evaluation processes to identify all strengths and areas for improvement</p>
St Andrews Primary	<p>R1 Improve pupils' Welsh speaking skills</p>
Eveswell Primary	<p>R1 Refine teaching to ensure that pupils have enough opportunities to apply their skills more regularly in challenging contexts</p>
Somerton Primary	<p>R1 Improve the quality and consistency of teaching to ensure that all pupils have suitable challenge and are actively engaged in their learning</p> <p>R2 Improve the learning environments to support teaching, particularly for younger pupils to develop their independence and curiosity</p>
St Julians School	<p>R1 Improve the provision to develop pupils' understanding and appreciation of their Cynefin, the local area and Welsh culture and heritage</p> <p>R2 Improve the provision to develop pupils' digital skills</p>
Glan Llyn Primary	<p>R1 Improve pupils' digital skills</p> <p>R2 Enable pupils to make decisions about how they learn as well as what they learn</p>

Maindee Primary	R1 Ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to access the outdoors to make choices with their learning, develop curiosity and independently apply their skills
Maes Ebbw Special	R1 Further develop the role of middle leaders to increase capacity across the school. R2 Continue to improve the attendance of the few pupils who do not attend regularly
Llanmartin Primary	R1 Provide more opportunities for pupils to make choices about their learning, developing their independence and creativity R2 Ensure younger pupils have more opportunities to engage in purposeful outdoor learning
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli	R1 Ensure that teachers stretch pupils' learning further through effective questioning methods and oral feedback which are consistent across the school

1.18 There a number of key themes that emerge, with the most frequent references related to:

- Teaching
- Evaluation / Self-Evaluation
- Welsh
- Independent Learning
- Skills
- Pupil Challenge
- Writing
- Teacher's Feedback
- Leadership

1.19 During this period there are also a number of schools that have were originally inspected under the previous arrangements and have since had monitoring visits. Since January 2022, the following schools have had monitoring visits, with the dates and status being listed.

School	Original Inspection Date	Original Follow-up Status	Follow up Visit Date	Current Status
Bridge Achievement Centre	May 18	Special Measures	Mar 22	Removed from SM
Malpas CiW Primary	Nov 19	Special Measures	Nov 22	Removed from SM
Newport High	Nov 17	Special Measures	Mar 23	Removed from SM
Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed	May 22	Estyn Review	Jul 23	Removed from ER

1.20 The schools that have been removed from an Estyn statutory category have been supported to do so by both the Local Authority and the EAS. Support and where required specific intervention are initially co-ordinated through a Post Inspection Action Plan conference and following the Schools Causing Concern approach. This approach is explained in the Support for Schools report.

Conclusion

1.21 This report provides members with information on the outcomes of Estyn inspections in Newport Schools. Given the changes to the framework, in the middle of the cycle and the impact of the

pandemic, only approximately one half of Newport schools have been inspected. We will continue to provide members with updates on the profile of inspection outcomes, based on the new inspection framework which commenced operation in September 2024.

Financial Summary (Capital and Revenue)

There are no financial implications to this report

Risks

Given that the outcome of school inspections is currently strong, risks to the council is low.

Risk Title / Description	Risk Impact score of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Risk Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	Risk Mitigation Action(s) What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect?	Risk Owner Officer(s) responsible for dealing with the risk?
Schools do not follow up recommendations	L	L	Evidence around a school's response to an Estyn recommendation is linked to a School Improvement Partners agenda. Support is provided to schools who may not be progressing Estyn recommendations.	Headteacher with evidence overseen by the Chief Education Officer
Other Newport Schools move into an Estyn statutory category	M	M	School are supported regularly by School Improvement Partners. Information regarding a school's progress is shared with the Chief Education Officer. Schools requiring additional support are closely monitored to consider and avoid further risks. Systems to support this work are well embedded and work effectively, although changes in the school workforce or leadership can increase risks in this area.	Headteachers, Chairs of Governors, Chief Education Officer

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

This work links to the Corporate Plan 2022-2027, Wellbeing Being Objective 1 and The Education Service Plan 2024-2025.

Options Available and considered

1. For Cabinet to accept the report.
2. For Cabinet to not accept the report and request further information

Preferred Option and Why

Option 1: For Cabinet to accept the report.

The report provides a clear context and a full picture of Estyn Inspection reports for Newport schools.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

There are no financial implications to this report

Comments of Monitoring Officer

There are no legal implications arising from the report. The report has been drafted to provide information to the Cabinet, and it is open to the Cabinet to accept the report or request further information.

Comments of Head of People, Policy and Transformation

This report outlines the Estyn status of schools across Newport along with the progress that has been made. The report provides recommendations by which a school's progress can be measured. Support that has been provided to schools who were previously in Estyn's statutory category resulting positive outcomes. There is also demonstration of good practice as reflected in the table of regional and national comparisons on page 4.

This report takes to account relevant legislation and NCC specific plans.
There are no HR or FEIA requirements for this report.

Scrutiny Committees

Scrutiny met to consider this report on October 1st, 2024. The following comments were provided by Scrutiny Committee:

- The Committee requested to be appraised of reports where progress with Welsh language in education is highlighted.
- The Committee were pleased with progress.
- The Committee were content with report.

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment:

No FEIA was completed linked to this report, as a change or strategic decision linked to policy or people is not required.

Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

The report does contribute to the Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act and the Wellbeing Goals. The report supports:

- A Prosperous Wales: good Estyn outcomes support a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing fair work.
- A More Equal Wales. This report demonstrates that Newport schools have sound outcomes regardless of socio-economic circumstances or context.
- Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. A frequent recommendation emerging from Estyn inspections is linked to improving Welsh oracy. This recommendation will be followed up through schools and overseen by the Chief Education Officer.

This report also supports the 5 ways of workings through:

1. Integration and Collaboration: The report demonstrates how national and local priorities of Welsh Government, Estyn, the local authority and schools work together to meet the well being objectives.
2. Long Term: Good Estyn outcomes in schools safeguard the long-term needs of schools and its learners.
3. Prevention: This report shows excellent outcomes and is therefore preventative. Recommendations from Estyn also prevent any early problems occurring

2010 Equality Act

This report does not contain any specific reference to the 2010 Equalities Act, although under the Estyn Framework regard would be given to how a schools support the equalities agenda and ensures that the reporting of protected characteristics is promoted and responded to.

Socio-economic Duty

The report shows good outcomes for schools. The Estyn inspection framework considers and comments on 'how vulnerable learners are supported' in all aspects of education and if there are inequalities in outcomes between learners.

Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

This report supports the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure. Schools included in this report are both English Medium and Welsh Medium settings. All schools (and the local authority) share the common priority of supporting one million Welsh speakers by 2050 and the Welsh Language Measure. The recommendations provided to schools from Estyn are also linked to improving Welsh outcomes. These recommendations will be tracked by Headteachers, Governing Bodies and the local authority to ensure that they are met. Support and professional learning will be provided by the local authority to enable schools to thrive and meet their recommendations linked to Welsh Language.

Consultation

No public consultation has taken place regarding this report

Background Papers

Individual school inspection reports can be found here: [Latest inspection reports - Estyn \(gov.wales\)](#)

Best practice case study links have been included in the main body of the report.

Dated: 6 November 2024