

Appendix 1: Schools Standards Monitoring Group

Draft Terms of Reference

Flintshire's School Standards Monitoring Group will support the improvement of school standards. The Group gives headteachers and Chairs of Governors the opportunity to discuss the performance and standards of a school with Councillors and senior officers in a non-public forum.

Membership of the Group:

Cabinet Member for Education

Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny

Volunteer Members of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny

Director of Lifelong Learning

Principal School Improvement Officers

Appropriate School Improvement Officer – depending on school in attendance

The Group will:

1. Monitor the work of the local authority and its partners in securing improvement in individual schools.
2. Monitor the interventions of the local authority in schools identified as causing concern.
3. Monitor the performance of every school on a yearly basis.
4. Consider the following information:
 - Key stage results
 - Other attainment information, including outcomes for “vulnerable” learners
 - Estyn reports
 - Welsh Government Banding Information
 - Attendance
 - Exclusions
 - School contexts and contextualised performance
5. Receive written and oral reports from the lead officers for school improvement.
6. Question the lead officers for school improvement in relation to school Standards.
7. In relation to Primary Schools at Stage 4 in the Council's school improvement monitoring procedures, and Secondary or Special Schools in Estyn categories of requiring significant improvement or special measures, receive a verbal presentation from the Headteacher and School Improvement Officer on the context

of the school and school standards.

8. Question the Headteacher and Chair of Governors in relation to school standards.
9. Identify areas of good practice and support its dissemination.
10. Identify areas and actions for improvement.
11. Provide Headteachers and Chairs of Governors the opportunity to comment on the support received from the Council.

12. Following the meeting, notes and action points from the meeting will be circulated to all members of the Group. The appropriate School Improvement Officer will visit schools to go through the action points. The School Improvement Officer will then attend the next SSMG to update the Group on how the actions have/will progress.

13. Issues raised through SSMG will be included as part of the Quarterly Performance Report taken to Lifelong Learning Scrutiny. Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee's regular work programme may also consider themes arising from school performance monitoring work, although by protocol reference isn't made to individual schools in the full meeting of the committee. The Cabinet Member will provide verbal reports to Cabinet and the Director of Lifelong Learning to Council Management Team as appropriate.