

Analysis of Estyn Inspection Reports

Flintshire SACRE /SAC

June 2024

Reports published in spring term 2024

School	Inspection by Estyn
Queensferry CP	November 2023
Penarlag CP	December 2023
Ysgol Bryn Gwalia	December 2023
The Hafod Federation – Ysgol Y Waun and Ysgol Gwernymynydd	January 2024 (pilot arrangements)
Ysgol Treffynnon	January 2024 (pilot arrangements)
Ysgol Bryn Deva	January 2024

1. Inspection Area: Learning

No comments relating specifically to Religion, Values and Ethics

2. Inspection Area: Wellbeing and attitudes to Learning

2.1 Most pupils develop a broad understanding of cultural diversity and eagerly share what they have learnt about the local environment and its history. Most pupils enjoy celebrating their own culture and language and that of their peers and have an appropriate understanding of what it is like to live in modern day Wales. They demonstrate a broad understanding of cultural diversity through their study of different faiths. This leads to pupils showing respect for the beliefs of others and an understanding that society is multi-cultural. (Queensferry CP)

2.2 Pupils have a growing awareness of their roles as responsible citizens. They actively influence their own lives and the lives of others in their community and beyond, through participating in a range of worthwhile fundraising activities. These help to support pupils to understand the plight of those less fortunate than themselves and develop as informed and ethical citizens. (Penarlag CP)

2.3 They enjoy learning about one another's cultures, languages and beliefs. By the time they reach Year 6, most pupils develop a good knowledge and

understanding of their rights as children. The work of the school pupil rights ambassadors promotes this effectively. (Ysgol Bryn Gwalia)

2.4 Most pupils are becoming ethically informed citizens, and many speak knowledgeably about their rights as children. They enjoy helping others and engage positively in active global citizenship. For example, following their teacher's visit to Lesotho, pupils consider the importance of their contribution to and impact on creating a caring society. (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

2.5 Staff ensure that helping pupils to develop their social and moral understanding is a high priority. Staff show care, respect and kindness to pupils and to each other. (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

3. Inspection Area: Teaching and Learning Experiences

3.1 The school's curriculum is broad and balanced. Staff have worked closely with pupils, parents and governors to create a vision for the school's curriculum. They ensure that the curriculum is relevant and accessible to all pupils. They use creative teaching approaches to engage pupils in a wide range of interesting learning experiences that build on their previous learning and develop their skills suitably. (Queensferry CP)

3.2 Teachers provide worthwhile opportunities for pupils to develop an awareness of their locality, Wales and Welsh culture and 'cynefin'. (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

3.3 The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum. Through this, teachers plan an interesting range of learning experiences. These support pupils to develop their knowledge and skills well. Teachers ensure that pupils contribute their ideas suitably to planning and this motivates pupils to engage well in their learning. The school enriches its curriculum successfully through visits and activities within the school grounds, local area and further afield. (Ysgol Bryn Gwalia)

3.4 The school has based its curriculum around topics that cover the areas of learning and experience in Curriculum for Wales. Area leads provide teachers with useful information to help them with their termly plans. (Ysgol Penarlag)

4. Inspection Area: Care, Support and Guidance

4.1 Whole-school acts of collective worship provide worthwhile contributions to pupils' spiritual and moral development through opportunities for pupils to reflect on important aspects of life (Queensferry CP)

4.2 Provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is sound. Across the school, pupils have a good range of opportunities to be involved in the arts such as through drama activities in class, Christmas and end of year productions and through good provision for art within the curriculum. A local church group regularly leads assemblies and pupils learn about a suitable range of religious, moral and global issues as they move through the school. (Ysgol Penarlwg)

4.3 A regular programme of assemblies, alongside curriculum work promotes the development of pupils' moral, spiritual and social skills well. For example, older pupils develop an understanding of conflict and peace through their work about the peace activist Malala. A systematic programme of lessons ensures that pupils develop a strong understanding of their own identity and an appreciation of other cultures. Staff encourage pupils to share their home language and beliefs whilst also learning what it is like to be a citizen in modern day Wales. The school's work with the local community helps pupils to develop an appropriate sense of cynefin. For example, pupils gain a strong sense of belonging through their work on 'The Seven Wonders of Mold.' (Ysgol Bryn Gwalia)

4.4 Teachers provide regular opportunities for pupils to reflect on their values and beliefs, and those of others. They plan thoughtful opportunities for pupils to learn about different countries and cultures. (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

4.5 The school provides regular opportunities for pupils to reflect on the values and beliefs of others. Through lessons and assemblies, staff ensure pupils have opportunities to discuss and share their opinions on responsibility and children's rights, helping them to develop their spiritual, moral and social understanding (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

5. Inspection Area: Leadership and Management

5.1 The headteacher is a strong role model who sets the strategic direction for the school accurately. Her sensitive and efficient leadership has a positive impact on all areas of the school. (Queensferry CP)

5.2 Senior leaders and the governing body have worked together well to create a vibrant school environment that promotes inclusion, equality and pupils' well-being successfully. The headteacher leads the school efficiently. (Ysgol Penarlwg)

5.3 The headteacher provides highly effective, compassionate leadership, which promotes the well-being of all successfully. As a result, most pupils have high levels of self-esteem and staff feel appreciated. (Ysgol Bryn Gwalia)

5.4 Governors also use their own expertise to support school progress effectively. For example, governors' work to monitor curriculum developments led to improvements in the school's provision for cynefin. (Ysgol Bryn Gwalia)

5.5 The headteacher provides strong and effective leadership. Since taking up the post, the headteacher has worked in collaboration with pupils, staff, governors and parents to establish a clear vision for the school based on nurturing pupils' well-being, with a focus on happiness, health and safety. (Ysgol Bryn Deva)

6. Pilot Inspection Reporting - Main findings

6.1 School leaders have succeeded in bringing two schools together with a shared sense of purpose. They have achieved this in the face of notable challenges over recent times. (Ysgol y Waun and Ysgol Gwernymynydd)

6.2 Leaders are working to improve pupils' understanding of Welsh heritage, culture and language. They provide opportunities for Criw Cymraeg to lead assemblies that aim to boost pupils' awareness and use of the Welsh language. (Ysgol y Waun and Ysgol Gwernymynydd)

6.3 Leaders have begun to develop pupils' appreciation of Welsh culture through the celebration of Welsh events such as Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen and an annual school Eisteddfod. Pupils learn traditional Welsh songs in expressive arts lessons and the choir are preparing for a Dydd Gwyl Dewi celebration. (Ysgol Treffynnon)

6.4 Pupils develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness suitably through a range of activities. (Ysgol Treffynnon)

6.5 The headteacher has a clear vision for the school based on caring for and valuing everyone in the school community. He provides passionate and committed leadership and is a strong role model who has high expectations of himself and others. (Ysgol Treffynnon)