

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

14 MARCH 2023

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

ESTYN INSPECTION OUTCOMES FOR AFON Y FELIN PRIMARY SCHOOL, PIL PRIMARY SCHOOL, CORNELI PRIMARY SCHOOL AND BRYNMENYN PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the outcomes of the recent Estyn inspection visits to:

- Afon y Felin Primary School;
- Pîl Primary School;
- Corneli Primary School; and
- Brynmenyn Primary School.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

Supporting a successful sustainable economy - taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.

Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy, and independent lives.

Smarter use of resources - ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 All four primary schools were last inspected during the period of June 2012 to June 2014 under the old Estyn inspection framework.
- 3.2 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Estyn suspended inspections across all schools for a two-year period from March 2020 to February 2022.
- 3.3 During the spring and summer term 2022, Estyn piloted inspection arrangements that support renewal and reform in Welsh education. The new inspection reports will no longer include summative gradings, but instead will detail how well providers are helping a child to learn.
- 3.4 In the current Estyn reporting format, schools are judged as being in one of the following categories:
- No follow up
 - Estyn review
 - Significant improvement required
 - Special measures required
- 3.5 During summer and autumn term 2022, Estyn visited four primary schools in Bridgend. The full text of these reports is available on the Estyn website: www.estyn.gov.uk.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 Generally, the recommendations align to the areas for development that had been identified by the schools, reflecting the effective self-evaluation processes in each school.

Afon y Felin Primary School

- 4.2 Afon y Felin Primary School was inspected by Estyn in June 2022 and the report was published on 30 August 2022.
- 4.3 Estyn inspectors concluded that the school is making sufficient progress and **no follow-up action** is required.
- 4.4 The Afon y Felin Primary School report included the following recommendations:

Recommendation	Recommendation
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Recommendation 1	Strengthen self-evaluation processes to focus more specifically on the impact of teaching and learning
Recommendation 2	Ensure that teachers use assessment and feedback approaches effectively to support pupil progress
Recommendation 3	Plan purposeful opportunities for older pupils to develop their literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum

4.5 The local authority, along with Central South Consortium, supported the school in drawing up an action plan to show how the recommendations will be addressed.

Pîl Primary School

4.6 Pîl Primary School was inspected by Estyn in July 2022 and the report was published on 6 September 2022.

4.7 Estyn inspectors concluded that the school is making sufficient progress and **no follow-up action** is required.

4.8 The Pîl Primary School report included the following recommendations:

Recommendation	Recommendation
Recommendation 1	Sharpen monitoring procedures to focus precisely on the impact of teaching
Recommendation 2	Improve opportunities for pupils to develop their creative skills progressively
Recommendation 3	Refine teaching to enable pupils to exercise more independence in what and how they learn

4.9 The local authority, along with Central South Consortium, supported the school in drawing up an action plan to show how the recommendations will be addressed.

Corneli Primary School

4.10 Corneli Primary School was inspected by Estyn in October 2022 and the report was published on 5 December 2022.

4.11 Estyn inspectors concluded that the school is making sufficient progress and **no follow-up action** is required.

4.12 The Corneli Primary School report included the following recommendations:

Recommendation	Recommendation
Recommendation 1	Sharpen self-evaluation processes to focus more specifically on the impact of teaching on learning
Recommendation 2	Improve the quality of teachers' feedback to pupils to enable them to identify the next steps in their learning
Recommendation 3	Ensure that professional learning impacts positively and consistently on the quality of teaching and learning across the school
Recommendation 4	Provide meaningful opportunities for pupils to develop their independent learning skills

4.13 The local authority, along with Central South Consortium, will support the school in drawing up an action plan to show how the recommendations will be addressed. The school was also asked to produce a case study on its work in relation to how the school has supported the development of pupils' understanding of financial awareness, for dissemination on Estyn's website.

Brynmenyn Primary School

4.14 Brynmenyn Primary School was inspected by Estyn in October 2022 and the report was published on 19 December 2022.

4.15 Estyn inspectors concluded that the school is making sufficient progress and **no follow-up action** is required.

4.16 The Brynmenyn Primary School report included the following recommendations:

Recommendation	Recommendation
Recommendation 1	Focus monitoring, evaluation, and improvement strategies more sharply on improving provision and the standards of pupils' learning
Recommendation 2	Provide opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for their own learning and become independent learners

Recommendation 3	Improve pupils' Welsh speaking skills
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4.17 The local authority, along with Central South Consortium, will support the school in drawing up an action plan to show how the recommendations will be addressed.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no impact on the Council's policy framework or procedure rules.

6. Equality Act 2010 implications

6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment

7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment provides a comprehensive summary of the outcomes expected from the implementation of the service.

Long-term Supports the improvement of standards and outcomes in schools.

Prevention Development of post-inspection action plans or refinement of school improvement plans helped to ensure that recommendations identified are addressed and acted upon to secure school improvement, preventing standards from slipping. The local authority and Central South Consortium will continue to monitor the school's progress.

Integration Monitoring and acting upon school inspection reports is key to ensuring that outcomes for schools are achieved thus helping to support a successful economy.

Collaboration The local authority works closely with schools, Estyn and with Central South Consortium to deliver the well-being objectives related to school improvement. The local authority receives the school inspection reports from Estyn and this informs the work

conducted by Central South Consortium to deliver the support for school improvement services.

Involvement This area of work involves all stakeholders in school improvement. Schools work closely with Improvement Partners from Central South Consortium to refine their improvement plans or post-inspection action plans and to identify strategic support from the local authority, Central South Consortium and elsewhere (as required) reflecting the diversity of stakeholders involved in aspects of school improvement.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this information report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet notes the content of this report.

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Background documents: None