

Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1
2024-25 Forward Work Programme

18 July 2024 at 11.00am		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Home-to-School/College Transport Policy	Outcome of the HTST policy public consultation. To include aspects relating to: • Safe routes to schools • Implications of revised LDP • School catchment areas • Pupils' admission numbers • New school builds	<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. Head of Education and Family Support Group Manager (Strategy, Performance and Support) <u>Headteacher Nominees</u> Headteacher Maesteg Comprehensive Headteacher Nottage Primary

Monday 16 th September 2024 at 11.00am –		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Education, Early Years and Young People Directorate Strategic Plan 2023-26 Update	To include update on ALN and Budget implications from 2024-25	<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>Headteacher Nominees</u> Headteacher Brackla Primary School and Chair of Primary Federation Headteacher Pil Primary School Headteacher Brynteg Comprehensive

APPENDIX A

Monday 18 th November 2024 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Pupil Attendance	To include the consistent themes / concerns regarding pupil non-attendance in schools and the support in place.	<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. Head of Education and Family Support Group Manager, Early Years and Young People Interim Manager of Education Engagement Team Group Manager, Learner Support <u>Central South Consortium</u> Principal Improvement Manager <u>Headteacher Nominees</u> Headteacher Coety Primary School Assistant Headteacher Ysgol Gyfun Llangynwyd

Thursday 16 th January 2025 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025-26 to 2028-29 And Draft Terms of Reference for School Improvement Research Evaluation Panel	Pre Decision	<u>Cabinet Members</u> Leader of Council Deputy Leader of Council and Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services <u>Officers</u> Chief Executive Chief Officer, Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy Chief Officer, Finance, Housing & Change Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>Headteacher Nominees</u> Chair and Vice Chair of the Schools Budget Forum

APPENDIX A

Monday 31 st March 2025 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
School Modernisation		<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>Headteacher Nominees</u> Headteacher of Pencoed Primary School Headteacher of Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sger

Thursday 8 th May 2025 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Pupil Behaviour, Attendance and Exclusions (update)	Committee requested the following be included in the scope: - That Attendance be included within the scope of the Behaviour and Exclusions report scheduled for the March meeting to see what progress has been made as a result of some of the measures which would have been implemented. - An update on Keeping Learners Safe including, if appropriate, any update on the proposed working group set up by the Cabinet Member regarding Pupil safety (conclusions, if any at this stage, or some clarity about the membership and workings) - The impact of the waiting list for specialist provision on challenging behaviour and exclusions at mainstream schools - Referrals from COSC numbered 2, 3 and 4 below.	<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>CSC</u> <u>Headteacher Nominees - TBA</u> <u>External</u> Health Board Youth Council

APPENDIX A

	Committee requested the following invitees be invited: - Secondary school headteachers - Invitation be sent to Ysgol Bryn Castell - Health Board - Youth Council - A staff member within the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision team that specifically deals with and supports children with behavioural difficulty. - CAMHS - Chair of BASH and Chair of Primary School Federation	
--	---	--

Wednesday 3 July 2025 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
TBC		<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>CSC</u> <u>Headteacher Nominees - TBA</u> <u>External</u>

Monday 15 September 2025 at 11.00am		
Report Topics	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
TBC		<u>Cabinet Members</u> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services. <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People. <u>CSC</u> <u>Headteacher Nominees - TBA</u> <u>External</u>

Potential Items to be scheduled.

- ALN Provision and Implementation Update
 - Review of school improvement services
 - Review of post inspection plan
 - School mergers
 - Nursery Provision
 - Safeguarding
 - Future School Improvement Arrangements (SOSC 16 January 2025)
 - to be scheduled in early 2026 following Cabinet approval 4 February 2025 to monitor how it has been embedded into the system after 12 months.
 - Mental health and wellbeing support for learners (SOSC 1 18 November 2024)
 - to include a holistic focus on the mental health and wellbeing support provided to learners to assist them to attend education.
- to include information regarding any support regarding any support available from Social Services, General Practitioners, the Health Board and third sector.
- A **strategic and forward-looking report** to include the following: (SOSC 1 31 March 2025)
 - An audit of the condition of all schools in Bridgend County.
 - An analysis of the lessons learned from the school modernisation projects that have happened or in the process of being planned and built, including the impact of wider political and economic forces. The report would need to consider such issues as the role and value of price caps; risk management and mitigation, including the impact of ecological ones on project timing and costs; procurement; land acquisition; the impact of design changes to projects; and project management and oversight, especially in terms of the contribution made by Cabinet and the Corporate Management Board.
 - The future demography of the County Borough, and the impact of new and proposed housing developments, and the potential knock-on impact on school catchment areas and pupil numbers.
 - The future of school modernisation and project finance in Wales.
 - A report to include the following to be scheduled early on the 2025/26 Forward Work Programme: (SOSC 1 31 March 2025)
 - Individual Development Plans.
 - Additional Learning Needs.
 - Specialist Provision.
 - At its meeting on 31 March 2025, the Committee requested the following be added to the FWP:
 - School improvement plans – for scheduling early 2026.
 - School performance - Estyn reports – Member Briefing – To include school-level detail.
 - School deficits –in the form of a report to the Committee or a Member Briefing

Members Briefing sessions.

- New Estyn Inspection Framework / Local Government Education Services (LGES)
- Reporting of learner and pupil attainment outcomes - Session to be held to update Members on recommencing of reporting exam results.
- School Safeguarding Audits – Summary
- Update on Effective School Governing Bodies – Support and funding. Invitation to be extended to Governors Association.
- Future School Improvements - Member Development Briefing

Information reports to be provided.

- English Language School's catchment areas / capacity
- Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA) governors – Policy and rules - Criteria and procedure for the appointment and removal of local authority school governors'
- Corporate performance

Research and Evaluation Panel

- School Improvement Research and Evaluation Panel (REP)

Referred from COSC as Potential Items

1. COSC 24 October 2024:

The Committee expressed concern regarding the significant projected overspend in learner support and additional learning needs and the costs of providing the related statutory home to school transport. The Committee **recommended** that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 request a report to explore whether alternative models of delivering these services could contribute to cost savings.

Committee to consider for their FWP or allocation to Working Group.

2. COSC 28 January 2025 – Actioned:

The Committee discussed legacy issues from the pandemic impacting on pupil behaviour leading to an increase in exclusions and the significant increase in demand for ALN provision, expressed concern that the increase in demand may not be solely due to pandemic and asked whether further work was necessary to fully understand all of the reasons driving the increase in demand and overspend in ALN services.

The Committee were advised that educational specialists in Welsh Government were undertaking a detailed piece of work looking at the reasons for the additional demand and requested that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 consider requesting a report detailing the outcome of the exercise referred to above, when available, or to include it in the report on Behaviour scheduled to that Committee, as appropriate.

Outcome: Included in report request for the report: Pupil Behaviour, Attendance and Exclusions being reported to 8 May 2025.

3. COSC 17 March 2025 - Actioned:

The Committee expressed concern that the PI target of 100% relating to the roll-out of individual development plans (IDPs) delivered using the online IDP system had not been achieved (0%) and requested that SOSC 1 consider requesting a report to monitor the situation.'

Outcome : Cttee requested report to be added to the FWP at meeting on 31 March 2025

4. COSC 17 March 2025 - Actioned:

The Committee explored the possible link between pupil behaviour and permanent exclusions, and support for pupils with additional learning needs and the waiting lists for specialist provision.

The Committee therefore requested that the scope of the report regarding Pupil Behaviour scheduled to SOSC 1 on 8 May 2025 include a summary of the draft 5 year plan developed to address the demand on support services, specialist provision and schools.

Outcome: Included in report request for the report: Pupil Behaviour, Attendance and Exclusions being reported to 8 May 2025.