

**Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**2025-26 Forward Work Programme**

Thursday, 3 July 2025 at 11am		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Bridgend Youth Justice Service and Bridgend Youth Support Service</b>		<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b> Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b> Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People; Strategic Manager – Youth Justice Service; Operational Managers - Youth Justice Service; Group Manager (Early Years and Young People); and Youth Support Services Manager (BYS)</p> <p>Youth Council Representative</p>

Monday, 15 September 2025 at 11am		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Mental Health and Wellbeing Support for Learners</b>	To include a holistic focus on the mental health and wellbeing support provided to learners to assist them to attend education, and information regarding any support regarding any support available from Social Services, General Practitioners, the Health Board and third sector.	<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b> Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Wellbeing; Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services;</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b> Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People; Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing; Head of Learning; Group Manager – Prevention and Wellbeing</p> <p>Youth Council Representative</p> <p>Representatives from Health Representatives from CAMHS</p> <p>Headteacher Nominees</p>

**APPENDIX A**

~~Monday, 13 October 2025 at 11.00am~~ CANCELLED  
 Monday, 24 November 2025 at 11am

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Online Safety and Digital Learning - To be rescheduled to 24 November 2025</b>	<p>Overview of the issues regarding online safety and key priorities and challenges.</p> <p>To include:            Safeguarding/online safety            Digital Learning            Use of mobile phones/devices</p>	<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b>            Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b>            Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People;            Head of Learning;            Group Manager – (Schools);            Digital Lead Officer;            Lead Officer – Strategic Development (Primary Sector)            Lead Officer – Strategic Development (Secondary Sector)</p> <p>Youth Council Representative</p> <p>Headteacher Nominees</p>

Monday, 9 February 2026 at 11am

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Teaching and Learning</b>	<p>Teacher and Learner Feedback</p> <p>Progress Update - Implementation Curriculum for Wales</p>	<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b>            Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b>            Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People;            Head of Learning;            Group Manager – School Improvement</p> <p>Headteacher / Learner Representatives</p>

**APPENDIX A**

Monday, 16 March 2026 at 11am

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Early Review of School Improvement Arrangements into the Local Authority</b>		<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b> Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People; Head of Learning; Group Manager – School Improvement</p> <p>Headteacher Nominees</p> <p>Youth Council Representative</p>

Date to be arranged

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
<b>Future School Modernisation</b>	<p>An audit of the condition of all schools in Bridgend County.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b> Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services; Cabinet Member for Finance &amp; Performance;</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b> Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People; Corporate Director - Communities; Head of Learning;</p> <p>Deputy Head of Finance; Accountant – Capital and Grants;</p> <p>Interim Head of Operations - Community Services; Manager (Sustainable Communities for Learning); Group Manager – Corporate Landlord; Senior Portfolio Surveyor, Education and Wellbeing;</p> <p>Youth Council Representative</p> <p>Headteacher Nominees</p>

<p><b>School Maintenance TBC (Communities)</b></p>	<p>The future of school modernisation and project finance in Wales. To include an on the progress of increasing specialist provision.</p>	
<p>Physical Health, Healthy Living and Wellbeing</p>	<p>To include an Update on the Universal Primary Free School Meals Implementation.</p>	<p><b><u>Cabinet Member</u></b> Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Wellbeing; Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services;</p> <p><b><u>Officers</u></b> Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People; Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing; Head of Learning; Group Manager – Prevention and Wellbeing</p> <p><b><u>External</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Headteacher Nominees</u></b> Invitees to be confirmed</p> <p><b><u>Youth Council Representative</u></b> Invitee to be confirmed</p>

**Referral from Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 23 October 2025**

The Committee expressed concern regarding the number of schools projecting a deficit budget and the extent of the deficits and requested that Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (EYS OSC) consider requesting a report to monitor the situation.

**Referral from Social Service, Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 6 November 2025**

Members expressed concern that home-educated learners may not have adequate contact with the Local Authority and the Committee were advised that the level is set by National Guidance. The Committee **recommended** that legal advice be sought as to whether the Guidance can tailored to have increased contact with the learners and ensure they are appropriately safeguarded.

The Committee further **recommended** to refer the matter to Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider adding the matter to their Forward Work Programme to monitor the situation.

**Items to be Scheduled to the Committee's 2026-2027 Forward Work Programme**

- May/June 2026 – Close Current 3 year Strategic Plan and Open New 3 Year Strategic Plan (possibly to include Review of Post Inspection Plan)
- September 2026 – Future School Improvement Arrangements  
Home to School Transport Update Report

**Information Report to be provided:**

- Spring 2026 – English Language School Catchment Areas / Capacity

**Research and Evaluation Panel**

- TBC in 2026 - School Improvement Research and Evaluation Panel (REP)

**Briefings and Workshops**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Information Required / Committee's Role</b>	<b>Invitees and Date</b>
<b>New Estyn Inspection Framework / Local Government Education Services (LGES)</b>		
<b>Update on Effective School Governing Bodies – Appointment, Support and Funding</b>	Invitation to be extended to Governors Association	
<b>School Safeguarding Audits Summary</b>		TBC in 2026
<b>Pupil and Learner Attainment Outcomes</b>	To include Validated Exam Results	TBC in 2026
<b>Support for Home-Educated Learners</b>		TBC