Estyn

Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Inspection outcomes of education providers in Wales inspected during the 2019-2020 academic year

We have updated our website with summaries of outcomes of inspections carried out between 1 September 2019 and 16 March 2020, when inspections were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Publication date
9 September 2020

Next update
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's Annual Report will provide further evaluation and commentary on the performance of education and training in Wales during 2019-2020.

We will publish this on 9 December 2020.

Further information
Outcomes by provider, summaries for previous years by sector and location, and a summary of responses to our pre-inspection learner and parent questionnaires are on our website:

data.estyn.gov.wales
data.estyn.llyw.cymru

We announced on 16 March 2020 that inspections would be suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Information on our plans to resume inspection in future is available on our website: estyn.gov.wales/inspection/faqs-covid-19-and-inspection

Before the suspension of inspections, we had inspected 159 providers under our common inspection framework and 52 non-maintained nursery settings under joint inspection arrangements with Care Inspectorate Wales during 2019-2020.

Individual inspection reports and summaries of the inspection outcomes for these inspections are available on our website: estyn.gov.wales/inspection-reports

We also carried out three inspections of local government education services. The individual inspection reports on our website provide details of our findings from these inspections.

We had planned to inspect 351 providers during 2019-2020. (a)

(a)   Estyn (2019), *Annual Plan 2019-2020*. [Online].
Available from: https://www.estyn.gov.wales/system/files/2020-07/2019-20%2520-%2520Annual%2520Plan%2520final_0_0.pdf

Accessing our data

- This Statistical First Release has been pre-announced and published on our website and has been prepared according to the principles and protocols of the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

- Summaries of our inspection outcomes and questionnaire responses are on our website.

- Users can apply filters to customise their data views and download the results. It includes data for inspections carried out between 1 September 2010 and 16 March 2020, when inspections were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- There are four different sections:
    - 'Outcomes by provider': a list of the inspection outcomes for individual providers and groups.
    - 'Outcomes by sector':   inspection outcomes for whole sectors.
    - 'Outcomes across local authorities': summaries of inspection outcomes for each local authority in Wales.
    - 'Learner and parent questionnaire': summaries of the responses to our questionnaires.

- The inspection reports for individual providers containing detailed evaluations and commentaries on the inspection findings are available on our website:
  [estyn.gov.wales/inspection-reports](#)

Further commentary on our data

- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's Annual Report is published annually, and provides an evaluation and commentary on the inspection outcomes and the performance of education and training providers in Wales during the previous academic year.

- The Annual Report evaluating the full range of findings and analysis on the performance of education and training Wales for 2019-2020 is due to be published on 9 December 2020 and will be available on our website.

About our 2019-2020 inspection outcomes

- We inspect all education and training providers in Wales at least once within a seven year period that began on the 1 September 2016.

- We give three weeks' notice of inspection, except for non-maintained nurseries (10 working days), local government education services (10 weeks' notice) and initial teacher education (8 weeks' notice). The date of the next inspection is not linked to the date of the previous inspection.

- We publish inspection reports on our website following the inspection; most within 45 working days from the start of the inspection, but this varies a little for some sectors.

- The common inspection framework applies to all schools, independent specialist colleges, pupil referral units, work-based learning providers, further education colleges and Welsh for adults providers. It is organised as follows:

    1. Standards
    2. Wellbeing and attitudes to learning
    3. Teaching and learning experiences
    4. Care, support and guidance
    5. Leadership and management

- We use the following four point scale to show our inspection judgements:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Very strong, sustained performance and practice.
Good	Strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement.
Adequate and needs improvement	Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement.
Unsatisfactory and needs urgent improvement	Important weaknesses outweigh strengths.

- Information on our joint inspection arrangements with Care Inspectorate Wales is available on our website:
https://www.estyn.gov.wales/document/common-inspection-framework-non-maintained-settings

- During an inspection, we consider whether the provider needs any follow-up activity. This activity can range from identifying effective practice and requesting case studies of examples to recommending special measures.

- All our inspection judgements are quality assured by another Her Majesty's Inspector of Education and Training (HMI). The HMI undertaking this role will check the judgements made in an inspection report against the evidence gathered on the inspection, to make sure that there is a match. They will also check that the team has followed our published guidance for inspectors. Our quality assurance arrangements are assured by independent auditors.

- When analysing inspection outcomes data, it is important to note that there can be difficulties in comparing trends in outcomes between years due to variances in the sample of providers we inspected.

- Inspections were suspended from 16 March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- For further detail on our inspection process please visit our website:
estyn.gov.wales/inspection-process/inspection-explained

About our pre-inspection questionnaires

- We gather the views of learners, parents and carers, teachers and support staff, governors and work based learning employers before we inspect their education provider.

- We only publish summaries of learner, and parent and carer questionnaires. This is due to an insufficient volume of responses or individual inspections for the other questionnaires.

- Our questionnaires are tailored for each sector, but gather information on similar themes.

- Subjects are encouraged to complete these questionnaires electronically for efficiency, although the provider can request hard copies.

- For further detail on our questionnaires please refer to our website estyn.gov.wales/inspection-feedback/questionnaires

Comparability of this data

- It is difficult to compare our inspection outcomes with those of other countries because of the differing education and inspection systems.

- For further information on the inspection systems and outcomes in other UK countries, please see their individual websites:

England	Ofsted	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted
Northern Ireland	Education Training Inspectorate	www.etini.gov.uk/
Scotland	Education Scotland	https://education.gov.scot/

Relevance of this data

These statistics are used both within and outside Estyn to monitor educational trends. Some of the key users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales
- The Welsh Government
- The research community
- Education and training providers
- Regional education consortia, local authorities and education providers
- Students, academics and universities
- Learners, parents and guardians
- Individual citizens, private companies and the media