

RE-INSPECTION
OF
HENDREFORGAN PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 7- 8, 2007

Hendreforgan Primary was inspected during the Autumn Term 2006 and judged to be in need of significant improvement.

Estyn undertook a follow-up inspection in November 2007, as part of the Welsh Assembly Government's requirements for monitoring schools in need of significant improvement.

Outcome of the re-inspection

Hendreforgan Primary is judged to have made good progress in relation to the recommendations for improvement identified in the inspection in September 2006. As a result, this school has been removed from the list of schools in need of significant improvement. This report is a written summary of the re-inspection findings.

Progress since the last inspection

The school's senior management group work well as a team, around a clear agenda for improvement. The Deputy Head, appointed shortly before the inspection in 2006, has brought much fresh thinking and has been influential in post-inspection planning and improving teaching and learning. Throughout the school, staff have responded enthusiastically to these developments and worked hard to implement the measures in the post inspection action plan.

The school is making good progress in:

- raising standards in the subjects judged to have shortcomings in the Section 28 inspection;
- improving pupils' attendance and punctuality;
- improving teaching and learning, by using more varied teaching approaches, a wider range of learning activities and greater attention to matching work to pupils' learning needs;
- developing positive behaviour management approaches that are working very well;

- implementing a well-planned assessment system and making use of assessment data to plan new work;
- developing the role of subject leaders so as to improve curriculum planning and self-evaluation;
- developing a more useful and precise format of individual education plans (IEPs);
- improving the quality of strategic leadership and management;
- implementing the post inspection action plan and monitoring and reviewing progress;
- developing systematic arrangements for school self-evaluation; and
- reviewing the impact of spending to secure improvement and ensure value for money.

Since the inspection of 2006 the school has worked well with Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Education Authority (LEA). The LEA has made an important contribution to the improvements achieved.

Recommendations

In order to maintain and build upon this progress, the school needs to:

- strengthen work to raise pupils' key skills, especially writing and promoting wider thinking skills;
- continue to implement the post-inspection action plan within the specified schedule;
- ensure that strategic leadership continues to evolve as a corporate process; and
- maintain close working arrangements with the LEA to achieve further improvements.