

RE-INSPECTION
OF
PILLGWENLLY PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWPORT
18-19 OCTOBER 2004

Pillgwenlly Primary School was inspected during 9-13 June 2003, and judged to have serious weaknesses, as set out in the Welsh Assembly Government's Circular 28/03: *Schools requiring special measures or found to have serious weaknesses following inspection under Section 10 of the School Inspection Act 1996* (December 2002).

As part of the Welsh Assembly Government's requirements for schools with serious weaknesses, Estyn has undertaken a follow-up inspection, which focused on the key issues identified in the inspection in June.

Outcome of the inspection

Pillgwenlly Primary School is judged to have made good progress in respect of the key issues for action following the inspection of 9-13 June 2003. As a result of this progress, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales has recommended that this school no longer has serious weaknesses. This report is a summary of the re-inspection findings.

Progress since the last inspection

The school has made good progress in:

- improving the quality of leadership in the school. The headteacher provides strong, purposeful leadership and collaborates well with the deputy headteacher and assistant headteacher. Together, their work has been a significant factor in taking the school forward;
- strengthening the senior management team and developing coherent and systematic approaches to ensure school improvement. Staff roles and responsibilities are clear and effective in practice;
- developing the role of the subject curriculum leader in monitoring and evaluating standards;
- improving short-term planning and the development of the curriculum so that work is matched to pupils' individual learning needs;
- improving arrangements for the provision of learning support throughout the school. The development of "nurture" classes has contributed significantly to improvements in pupils' behaviour, attitudes to learning and standards of achievement;
- raising the quality of teaching and sharing good practice throughout the school. Almost all of the teaching observed during the re-inspection was good and there were no shortcomings in important areas;
- raising pupils' standards of attainment in national tasks and tests in English, mathematics and science. Standards have also improved in physical education in key stage 2;
- developing effective arrangements for assessment, recording and reporting;
- improving pupils' behaviour and social skills in key stage 2; and
- improving attendance and punctuality throughout the school.

Recommendations for improvement

In order to maintain and improve on this progress, the school should:

- continue to develop the role of subject curriculum leaders in evaluating standards and quality of educational provision;

- implement the draft policy on key skills and ensure there is clarity about the key skills and common requirements of the National Curriculum;
- continue to refine arrangements for the provision of learning support;
- help pupils to become further involved in improving their own performance;
- maintain the consistent approach to managing pupils' behaviour; and
- continue with the good efforts to increase the attendance rate.