

# Re-inspection of Cilycwm Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled Primary School

## April 2008

Cilycwm Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled Primary School was inspected in June 2006, 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).

Estyn undertook a re-inspection in April 2008 as part of the Welsh Assembly Government's requirements for schools with serious weaknesses. The re-inspection focused on the key issues identified in the inspection in June 2006.

### Outcome of the re-inspection – April 2008

Cilycwm Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled Primary School was judged to have made good progress in many of the key issues for action following the inspection in June 2006. As a result, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales is removing this school from the list of schools with serious weaknesses. This report is a summary of the re-inspection findings.

### Progress since the last inspection

The school has made good progress in:

- raising the standards achieved by the majority of pupils in Welsh. The school implements its language policy according to its stated aims and the local authority's guidelines. This is improving pupils' attitudes to Welsh and is having a positive impact on their communication skills including their bilingual competence. In key stage 1 standards in music have improved. Good features now outweigh shortcomings.
- raising standards achieved by pupils under five years of age. Lessons are planned and resourced appropriately and activities are matched well to the needs and interests of learners;
- developing and improving curricular planning. Teachers' plans are focused appropriately on developing pupils' key skills across the curriculum and their subject knowledge. Teachers' evaluation identifies areas for further improvement;
- improving the marking of pupils' work and in using the information to set individual targets for improvement; and

- improving leadership and management. The acting headteacher working closely with the local authority advisory service has established a clear direction for the life and work of the school. Self-evaluation identifies strengths and areas for further development and is linked to performance management targets. The school meets statutory requirements.

### **Recommendations for improvement**

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

- R1 continue to raise pupils' standards in music and Welsh, and to further develop their bilingual competence;
- R2 plan and organise teaching and learning activities that are matched more closely to pupils' stage of development within the key stage 2 class;
- R3 further develop the outside learning area for the early years and key stage 1 pupils; and
- R4 continue to develop the role of staff in school improvement and self-evaluation, and the governors in the strategic management of the school.