

RE-INSPECTION
OF
WYESHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL
MONMOUTH
JANUARY 2007

Wyesham Junior School was inspected in November 2005, and judged as having serious weaknesses, as set out in Section 5 of 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 undertook a follow-up inspection, which focused on the key issues identified in the inspection in November 2005.

Outcome of the re-inspection

Wyesham Junior School is judged to have made some progress in respect of many of the key issues for action from the inspection of November 2005. However, because of the number of weaknesses and their serious nature, many of the improvements are still at an early stage of development. As a result, this school will remain on the list of schools with serious weaknesses until it closes at the end of the summer term 2007. Estyn intends to inspect Kymin Primary, which is the new school formed by the amalgamation of Wyesham Infant and Junior Schools, in 2007-2008.

This report is a written summary of the re-inspection findings.

Progress since the last inspection

The school is making progress in:

- raising pupils' standards in mathematics;
- strengthening the good features in pupils' work in English;
- beginning to consolidate pupils' scientific skills from year to year;
- improving the use of data to track pupils' progress;

- ensuring marking is consistent and is used to help pupils improve;
- encouraging pupils to develop positive attitudes to work;
- encouraging pupils to be more independent in their learning;
- improving the quality of leadership and management in the school;
- purchasing new resources to support the teaching of mathematics;
- encouraging parents to become more involved in their children's learning through a home/school website and homework club;
- improving teachers' planning;
- ensuring Governors and staff understand their role in safeguarding children; and
- monitoring pupils' attendance and ensuring that the school's boundaries are properly maintained.

Recommendations

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

- continue to raise standards in the core subjects;
- ensure pupils make greater use of their problem solving, investigative and enquiry skills;
- make better use of technology to support learning;
- improve self-evaluation procedures by introducing systematic and regular classroom monitoring;
- using information gained from monitoring and evaluation to identify strengths and weakness of the teaching and learning, staff training needs and to better inform progress in meeting targets in the Action Plan;
- make better use of the available data to identify areas for improvement for each year group and for individual pupils within classrooms;
- ensure that effective procedures are in place to comply with statutory requirements for performance management;
- ensure that all staff receive appropriate child protection training and have clear guidance on the procedures to be followed; and

- improve the governing body's strategic leadership.