

News release

15 February 2010

Estyn announces Chief Inspector

From Monday 15 February, Estyn's Strategic Director, Ann Keane, will take up the position of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales until a longer term appointment is made from the autumn.

Ann Keane said, "It is an honour to take up the role of Chief Inspector and I am confident that Estyn is in a strong position to drive forward the good work that Dr Bill Maxwell accomplished during his leadership. We are on track to deliver our new inspection framework and over the next few months I will work closely with the senior management team to ensure business continuity throughout the interim period."

-ENDS-

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Notes to Editors:

Biography

Welsh speaking, Ann Keane was born in Carmarthen and attended Llanboidy and Llandovery Primary Schools, and Ysgol Pantycelyn, Llandovery, followed by the Ystalyfera Grammar School and Llandysul Grammar School.

Ann later moved to Aberystwyth to read English literature and art at UCW Aberystwyth and then attended London School of Economics during which time she gained post-graduate qualifications in education and social administration. She went on to gain a Masters degree in art history at University College London.

Her early professional career was spent as a teacher in Brentside Secondary School in London, Merthyr Tydfil Technical College, Harrow College of Art and Canterbury College of Art before being appointed to the Essex Institute of Higher Education (now Anglia Ruskin University).

In 1984, Ann joined the Welsh Inspectorate for Education and Training (Estyn) and has held several posts, including those of District Inspector, Managing HMI and Head of Directorate responsible for the inspection of early years provision, primary, secondary, special and independent schools, further education and Welsh-medium and bilingual provision.

More recently, Ann was appointed Strategic Director at Estyn with overall responsibility for providing public accountability through the delivery of cyclical inspections of education and training in Wales.

About Estyn

Estyn is the education and training inspectorate for Wales. Estyn commissions independent inspectors (registered, team and lay inspectors) and Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training to carry out inspections across the full range of education and training providers.

Estyn inspects nursery schools and settings that are maintained by, or receive funding from, local education authorities (LEAs), primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, independent schools, further education, adult community-based learning, youth support services, local education authorities, teacher education and training, work-based learning, offender learning, careers companies, and the education, guidance and training elements of the Department for Work and Pensions funded training programmes.