

Meeting of:	Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 03 March 2025
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Learning and Culture
Report Title:	Vale of Glamorgan Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022-32 - Update on Annual Review report 2023-24
Purpose of Report:	To update Scrutiny on the progress of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Annual Review Report 2023-24 and the feedback received from Welsh Government
Report Owner:	Liz Jones, Director of Learning and Skills
Responsible Officer:	Lisa Lewis, Operational Manager, Strategy & Resources
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Cllr Rhiannon Birch, Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for noting by Scrutiny Committee
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers strategy places a duty on all local authorities in Wales to increase the proportion of all school year groups that receive their education through the medium of Welsh and places a particular emphasis on increasing the number of learners in Year 1 taught through the medium of Welsh. A key commitment within the plan is the proposal to increase the number of Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh to 24% by 2031-32. This equates to approximately 390 year one places being made available by 2031-32. This target is challenging and in the middle of the target range we have been set by Welsh Government. To address our duty, the Council has produced a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022-32 vision and strategy which was approved by Cabinet on 8th September 2022. An Annual Review Report 2023-24 (attached at Appendix A) was required to be submitted to Welsh Government on the year two performance of our WESP. This was submitted on 31st July 2024 with Annual Review Report feedback (attached at Appendix B) received from Welsh Government on 4th December 2024. The feedback from Welsh Government was excellent and provided a basis for ongoing discussion and support. No amendments or revisions to the report were required as a result of the feedback received. This report outlines the key points within our Annual Review Report which can be considered in full alongside the feedback received from Welsh Government. 	

Recommendation

1. That Scrutiny notes the contents of the Annual Review Report 2023-2024 and the feedback received by Welsh Government in terms of the long term commitment outlined in our [Welsh in Education Strategic Plan \(WESP\) 2022-32](#).

Reason for Recommendation

1. To ensure Scrutiny Committee are informed of the progress and challenges identified to date in relation to our responsibilities outlined in our [Welsh in Education Strategic Plan \(WESP\) 2022-32](#).

1. Background

- 1.1 The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 places a duty on all Local Authorities in Wales to consult on, produce and review plans that provide the strategic direction for the planning and delivery of Welsh medium and Welsh language education in their locality.
- 1.2 There have been significant changes in the Welsh medium education sector at local and national levels since the Council's first WESP and regulations regarding WESP's have been revised and updated. Additionally, [Cymraeg 2050 – A million Welsh speakers](#) introduces a long-term vision for a Wales where the Welsh language thrives.
- 1.3 Cymraeg 2050 aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers to 1 million by 2050 and ensuring that the percentage of the population that speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh, increases from 10% (in 2013–15) to 20% by 2050.
- 1.4 Statutory education has a vital role to play in increasing the number of Welsh speakers. We must increase the number of school learners with the opportunity to develop Welsh language skills in school and the opportunity to use it in their everyday lives, significantly, to achieve these goals.
- 1.5 The Council's WESP 2022-32 is subject to annual review. This report outlines the findings of the Annual Review Report 2023-24, and the feedback received on the report by Welsh Government.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Welsh Government has recognised that for the plans of local authorities to be truly strategic and successful, a long-term approach is required.
- 2.2 Annual action plans have been implemented and subject to annual reviews ensuring that the WESP maintains its focus on the actions required to meet its targets.

- 2.3 All local authorities are required to prepare a WESP based on ambitious strategic targets, calculated using the methodology developed by Welsh Government. The targets correspond with the education milestones of Cymraeg 2050.
- 2.4 The first ten-year Plan commenced on 1st September 2022 and will expire on 31st August 2032.
- 2.5 The Plan for increasing and improving the planning of the provision of Welsh-medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan proposes to increase the number of Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh to 24% by 2031-32.
- 2.6 Our WESP progress is currently considered to be progressing well as projects are running to schedule and have already made a strong positive impact on our plans to achieve 24% of Welsh medium Year 1 learners by 2032. However there remains some concern with regard to creating demand for Welsh medium education and the impact of a lower birth rate across the Vale on our ambitions.
- 2.7 It is acknowledged by Welsh Government that there have been a number of key achievements in year 2 of the Council's WESP. It should be noted however that there is a risk due to the financial climate and pressures both nationally and within the Council, that reduced funding streams may have an adverse impact on our overall future WESP ambitions.
- 2.8 Increased choice caused by surplus capacity due to a lower birth rate can dilute progress and this will need to be considered carefully in our engagement and promotion activities. The financial climate both nationally and within the Council may also have an adverse impact on our overall ambitions. Overall, this leaves us with a self-assessment of Amber, with some elements of Green, in particular with reference to our Capital Programme.
- 2.9 To support the planning process, Councils are required to arrange Plans around 7 outcomes. The outcomes reflect a learner's education journey and are consistent with the policy areas of [Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers](#).
- 2.10 The Annual Review Report 2023-24 outlined challenges and progress against these outcomes. These are summarised below.

Key Achievements

2.11 Ysgol Sant Baruc

- The expansion of Ysgol Sant Baruc into a 420-place school was completed in April 2023 with an additional 30 places being available in the reception class each year going forward, 60 places available in total. The relocation of Ysgol Sant Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. 39 pupils were admitted to the reception class of the school for September 2023, and this has increased to 60 for September 2024 meaning that the reception class is fully subscribed.

2.12 New School campus for Ysgol Iolo Morganwg

- The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was completed last academic year. The project will be developed on a parcel of section 106 land which was transferred to the Vale of Glamorgan this academic year. The Ysgol Iolo Morganwg development will also increase the number of places available to 60 places

in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector. This increase will be incremental, by increasing the admission number for reception intake in the first instance.

- The new campus will also include an immersion unit which will provide additional support for pupils aged 7 and above transferring from English medium schools. It will also provide opportunities for adult community learning, encouraging more parents and adults in the west of the Vale to learn the Welsh language.

2.13 Rolling Programme

- The Sustainable communities for Learning (ScfL) team submitted their rolling programme in March 2024, outlining the potential Welsh medium projects.
- The Council are currently looking at potential sites within the Western Vale for a Welsh medium secondary school project. Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg formed part of the Band B, Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. From September 2027, the projected intake into year 7 at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg will start to exceed the school admission number in some age ranges although the school will still be under capacity overall due to smaller cohorts in older year groups. The school is projected to be at capacity overall by 2030 when a new Welsh medium secondary school will be required to support the Welsh Government Cymraeg 2050 national strategy, and targets outlined in the Council's WESP. The proposal will increase secondary sector capacity to meet the extra demand arising from increased places in the primary sector.
- Although not all schools can benefit from Sustainable Communities for Learning funding or new developments, by ensuring a positive presentation in the media of our actions towards achieving our WESP ambitions, we're promoting a positive picture of our investment in Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan which can only support our aim of increasing the number of pupils in Welsh medium education.

2.14 Ysgol Gwaun y Nant Specialist Resource Base (SRB)

- The Council consulted on the proposal to create specialist Welsh medium educational provision for pupils aged 4-11 years during 2023/24 academic year. The purpose of this specialist resource is to support individual learners as well as improve the capacity of the home school to create a fully inclusive environment where all learners are given the opportunity to succeed and have access to an education that meets their needs.
- The Specialist Resource Base (SRB) opened in September 2024 and provides periods of integrated provision for pupils with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum condition and those experiencing significant social communication, interaction, or regulation difficulties. This include pupils whose high level of anxiety is impacting significantly on their ability to access mainstream education.

2.15 Immersion Centre – Welsh Language Centre

- From September 2023 to June 2024, 11 latecomers were welcomed at the Welsh Language Centre to receive full-time late immersion education. Three of the learners' parents had chosen to transfer from an English medium school within the Vale of Glamorgan, while the remaining learners' families had moved into the area.

Newcomers have been pupils admitted to a range of schools across the Vale: Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Ysgol Sant Baruc, and Ysgol Sant Curig.

- In addition to our immersion provision for latecomers, 9 pupils from Vale Welsh medium schools, aged between 5 and 10, have received daily immersion support at the Centre. These were identified by their teachers as individuals who could benefit from additional support, to increase their understanding and use of Welsh. Some children within the group were at risk of leaving Welsh medium education without intervention. Now, two of the learners have transitioned full-time back to their mainstream Welsh medium class, having developed the ability to communicate confidently and effectively in Welsh.

Outcome 1: More nursery children/ three year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

- Welsh medium nursery figures rose over the last year. According to PLASC, in January 2023, there were 280 pupils in Welsh medium local authority nurseries, in January 2024, this had risen to 305. The main reason for this was the increase in nursery numbers in Ysgol Sant Baruc which rose from 39 pupils in January 2023 to 75 pupils in January 2024 and then rising to 91 pupils after the 2024 summer intake. All the other schools have either seen small increases or decreases and the picture for these schools is quite static. In PLASC 2024, 17.9% of nursery aged children are receiving their early years education through the medium of Welsh.
- Welsh medium nursery figures fell from 2019-2021 but appear to have plateaued over the last 3 years. This is in line with a drop in birth rates which has impacted admissions in both English and Welsh medium schools and highlights the challenge ahead of us. A decline in birth rates since 2018 is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors.
- Promotion and engagements activities are a key aspect of our plans going forward. Whilst the Council has increased capacity in the nursery sector to facilitate future Welsh medium growth, the challenge remains in terms of engaging parents and some communities of the benefits of bilingualism to facilitate the growth required to meet intended targets. We will continue to monitor the numbers and percentage of 3-year-olds in the Vale of Glamorgan receiving their education through the medium of Welsh and actively promote Welsh medium education.

Outcome 2: More reception class children/ five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

- Currently 16.0% of Year 1 children are taught through the medium of Welsh. This will need to be improved upon if we are going to reach our target of 24% by 2032.

PLASC Year	WM Y1 pupils	Total Y1 pupils	% WM
PLASC 2021	252	1626	15.5%
PLASC 2022	252	1590	15.8%
PLASC 2023	254	1609	15.8%

PLASC 2024	257	1585	16.0%
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- The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase incrementally over the next five-year period following the expansion of Ysgol Sant Baruc into a 420-place school on the Barry Waterfront in April 2023 with an additional 30 places being available in the reception class each year feeding through to the year 1 age group. The relocation of Ysgol Sant Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within Barry. The reception class at Ysgol Sant Baruc of 60 places available was full in September 2024.
- The expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg is scheduled to be completed in September 2027 or earlier. Both of the above schemes will increase the number of places available by 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector.
- As part of the Ysgol Iolo Morganwg scheme, the Council has secured over £888k to support the development of an Immersion unit at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg which will provide additional support for pupils aged 7 and above transferring from English medium schools. It will also provide opportunities for adult community learning, encouraging more parents and adults to learn the Welsh Language.
- The Council has increased and will be increasing the number of school places further in the primary sector to facilitate future Welsh medium growth and to meet WESP targets. The challenge again will be to persuade parents and communities of the benefits of bilingualism to facilitate the primary growth necessary to meet intended targets. The Vale of Glamorgan has seen a decline in birth rates since 2018 that is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors at primary level.

Outcome 3: More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

Pupil Transfer figures – 2023/24

Data	2022/23	2023/24
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Year 2 and Year 3 in the Vale of Glamorgan.	99%	99%
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Year 6 and Year 7 in the Vale of Glamorgan.	95%	92%
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages Year 9 and Year 10.	99%	100%

- The local authority will continue to work with the relevant schools directly and through the Council’s Welsh Education Forum’s (WEF) Working Groups to continue to improve the above transfer figures. In particular the Working Group will further consider more innovative ways to engage with families when they are considering switching their child(ren) from Year 6 (Primary) Welsh medium education to Year 7 (Secondary) English medium education.
- Transition and retention rates remain positive and continue to be monitored by the Council’s admissions team, the Welsh Education Forum (WEF) and it’s Working Groups. The Council continues to further develop our understanding of, and

initiatives for, the enhancement of transition and retention rates between each key stage.

- The Council has strengthened the relationship between its School Admissions Team, Welsh Education Officer and the Lead Teacher within its Immersion Centre.
- Together they work to identify, support and engage with any families who have shown interest in Welsh medium education. Additionally, processes are in place if the Admissions Team receives a request from a family to transfer a pupil out of Welsh medium education. Each request is reviewed and subject to the circumstances, the Welsh Education Officer offers to discuss the reasons behind the request with a parent / carer. The purpose of this approach is to explore if there are any additional measures, interventions or steps that could be introduced so the pupil could remain in Welsh medium education. It has been a very positive strategy with a range of pupils remaining in Welsh medium education who otherwise may have transferred to English medium education. Families and schools have appreciated the support as we work with the relevant school, various Council education teams and external partners like RhAG to propose solutions.
- A full time Transition/Progression Officer, funded through the Welsh Immersion Grant, has been employed since September 2023 based in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. The role supports Outcome 3 of the WESP to ensure more children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another. Between September 2023 and July 2024, 149 pupils were targeted for intensive language support in year 6, and 20 in year 5. In the secondary sector the Transition/Progression Officer is teaching a total of 24 pupils in years 7 and 8.

Outcome 4: More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh

Year	2021		2022		2023	
KS4	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
Welsh First Language GCSE	157	10.2%	161	10.5%	175	10.7%
Welsh Second Language GCSE	1067	69.2%	1138	74.4%	1205	73.5%
Welsh Second Language Entry Level	24	1.6%	38	2.5%	24	1.5%
Total	1542	100.0%	1529	100.0%	1639	100.0%

KS5	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
Welsh First Language A Level	3	0.4%	13	1.7%	3	0.4%
Welsh First Language AS Level	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Welsh Second Language A Level	12	1.6%	9	1.2%	3	0.4%
Welsh Second Language AS Level	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	2	0.3%
Not Sat Welsh Language Exams	717	98.0%	724	96.9%	717	98.8%
Total	732	100.0%	747	100.0%	726	100.0%

- 177 Year 11 and 78 Year 13 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg will have studied KS4 and KS5 through the medium of Welsh in 2023. 175 (10.7%) pupils sat Welsh 1st language GCSE exams.
- 1205 (73.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language GCSE exams. 24 (1.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language entry level exams. 14.3% of pupils did not sit any Welsh language exam.

- In 2023, 3 (0.4%) pupils sat Welsh 1st Language A Level exams. 3 (0.4%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language A Level exams (2 from Stanwell, 1 from St Cyres).
- The Central South Consortium (CSC) has regularly shared resources via all communication platforms to support both Welsh and English medium secondary schools to promote studying Welsh as a subject and benefits of choosing A Level Welsh. A new CSC Continuum of Welsh Language Patterns has been developed by CSC for English medium schools along with an audio version.
- The CSC Continuum of Welsh Language Patterns has been developed in accordance with CfW guidance and offers schools a linguistic foundation for designing their school level curriculum for Welsh in English medium schools. This continuum is a series of progressive and developmental language patterns. It has been divided into Progression Steps 1 to 3 in line with the Curriculum for Wales. Language patterns develop within each progression step as well as from one step to the next.
- The Council and the CSC promoted a campaign by Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to encourage more young learners to study Welsh A-Level. There are promotional assets to raise awareness around the endless benefits the language has on academic, cultural and working life.

Outcome 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school

Siarter Iaith / Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus data (as of July 2024)

Number of schools	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award
Siarter Iaith Primary	1	5	1
(Welsh medium) Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Primary	25	7	2
(English medium) Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Secondary	0	3	1
(English medium) Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Special	1	0	0

- Since September 2023, 9 English medium primary schools have received the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Bronze Award and 3 the silver award. One English medium secondary school has received the bronze and silver award, and one has received gold. One special school has received the bronze award.
- All Welsh and English medium primary, secondary, and special schools are engaged with the Siarter Iaith or Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 46 schools (87%) have received an award to date. This is an increase of 11 schools (21%) since 2022/23. This progress is a result of strategic targeting of challenge and support by the Central South Consortium (CSC).
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg and Whitmore High School took advantage of CSC collaboration funding to partake in the Cymraeg partnership project between Welsh and English medium schools. Both schools collaborated successfully to develop strategies to improve pupil's Welsh oracy skills and the schools have agreed to

continue collaborating beyond the funded project. Llanfair Primary School collaborated with Ysgol Calon y Cymoedd in Bridgend with the project focussed on developing oracy in response to Llanfair's Estyn recommendation and supporting Calon y Cymoedd towards their Siarter Iaith gold award. Schools report a successful collaboration with Llanfair competing for the first time in the Eisteddfod. Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc and Barry Island Primary also collaborated on a project to develop pupils' oracy skills.

Outcome 6: An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018

- Good early gains have been secured by the Council in reviewing the arrangements made for ALN provision. This includes consideration of the sufficiency and quality of additional learning provision (ALP) through the medium of Welsh. Strong processes enable the service to gather timely data and information in a structured way from schools, specialist officers, educational psychologists, health professionals and families.
- Effective analysis of need has enabled the Council to focus on building specialist workforce capacity. A proactive recruitment campaign has enabled the service to secure specialist teachers in the following areas: visual impairment (including a QTVI and in the process of advertising for a Welsh-medium Brailist), hearing impairment (QTHI), speech and language advisory teacher which complements the existing educational psychology and neurodiversity support already available through the medium of Welsh.
- In response to a growing need, a specialist resource base was set up as a pilot during this academic year at Gwaun y Nant catering for learners who have difficulties because of their neurodiversity, social communication or high levels of anxiety. This has the capacity to offer 16 part time-placements and one teacher and two LSAs have been successfully recruited. The emphasis is on early intervention with a particular focus on parallel skill development of the home school with an expectation that most learners will return to and expect to have their Needs met at their local mainstream school. The resource base, although in its infancy, has proved a success. This enables the service to ensure progression for those learners who require specialist resources, with the primary addition complementing the satellite provision (with 10 spaces) that already exist at secondary level at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.
- The emphasis on the educational reforms articulates the need to create strong and inclusive schools that are committed to excellence and well-being where every learner matters and matters equally. Very good progress has been made in the Council in developing leadership for ALN in mainstream schools, including Welsh medium schools, with a working party providing clarity and guidance in relation to minimum standards and expectations.
- Although good progress has been secured in many aspects of ALN leadership and provision, creating an equitable bilingual system is a significant challenge for the Council. Despite increasing Welsh medium specialist teacher capacity and opening a new resource base, compared to the English-medium sector, there remains a

disparity in terms of breadth and depth that is likely to remain an issue and maintaining any gain is highly vulnerable to staff turnover.

- Further challenges remain with the availability of assessment, diagnostic or screening resources available in Welsh. In the region we have made excellent progress in a joint endeavour between all five local authorities, Central South Consortium, Cardiff University and Cadwyn Cymraeg to commission the development of a standardised, fit-for-purpose Welsh medium reading test, which is now available to all schools. We are currently in the process of developing a spelling test. Whilst such innovative practice is to be commended, it nevertheless falls very short of matching the availability of the plethora of resources available to English medium Schools.
- Mid-year transfers are analysed to identify whether the reason for moves from Welsh medium to English medium or EHE are as a result of parental perception that the ALN Needs of their child cannot be met. At present, there is a significant increase in the Vale of Glamorgan of parents withdrawing their children from mainstream settings to electively home educate citing lack of ALN provision. However, this seems to be a general trend and not specific to Welsh medium schools.
- The Council has arrangements with Cardiff to secure sufficiency of provision and resources specifically in relation to utilising spaces at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, where it is felt that the ALN needs of learners are complex and cannot be met in-house. There are also joint arrangements in place to support sensory impairment.

Outcome 7: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh.

- CSC has revised and promoted a playlist focussed on supporting schools to strategically plan Welsh language professional learning for practitioners, linked to the Welsh Language competency Framework. CSC and Canolfan Cymraeg Cenedlaethol professional learning is aligned to the framework. The resource has also been signposted in all SWAC SIMS documentation going to schools, emphasising the importance of regular staff assessment and data updates to improve data accuracy and quality. CSC presented to all Vale Headteachers regarding strategically planning Welsh language professional learning and SWAC in Autumn 2023.
- CSC provides a wide variety of asynchronous, face to face and bespoke Welsh language professional learning for practitioners linked to the Welsh language competency framework. Since September 2023, 179 practitioners have engaged in Welsh language professional learning which is an increase of 16 practitioners from 2022/23. Nearly all practitioners state that the professional learning will improve their practice in the classroom and will make strong progress in changing their behaviours.
- CSC continues to use social media platforms with the aim of attracting Welsh speaking teachers/leaders to consider working in the CSC region.
<https://www.cscjes.org.uk/work-in-the-region>
- CSC initiated and has worked in collaboration with Cardiff Metropolitan University and Welsh Government to develop a new fast track route to achieving Qualified

Teacher Status (QTS) in the Welsh medium sector. Unfortunately, this project did not receive accreditation from EWC in April 2024.

- 1 practitioner from the Vale of Glamorgan, out of 7 regional spaces, engaged with the Welsh Sabbatical Scheme at Cardiff University during 2023/24 and CSC is providing strong post-sabbatical support including networking and bespoke visits by CSC officers to aid strategic planning. 4 practitioners from the Vale of Glamorgan have been selected for the two-term foundation/intermediate sabbatical programme from September 2024. This is the highest take up to date from Vale schools.
- CSC Welsh Language Skills assessment resources have been signposted in all SWAC SIMS documentation going to schools, emphasising the importance of regular staff assessment and data updates to improve data accuracy and quality.
- During the 2023-24 academic year, one deputy head was successfully appointed to a Welsh medium primary school in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- One deputy headteacher from a Welsh medium school has successfully obtained the NPQH qualification during the spring term 2024. As a result, two primary deputy headteachers have the NPQH qualification across all Welsh medium schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- Three participants from three Welsh medium schools from the Vale of Glamorgan have engaged with the national middle leaders' development programme. One participant from another Welsh medium school has engaged with the national senior leaders' development programme.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 ("the 2015 Act") requires the Council to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.
- 3.2 The 2015 Act requires public bodies across Wales named in the Act to work towards achieving seven well-being goals, including 'A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language'. We have a duty to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language and to work towards the achievement of the well-being goals.
- 3.3 The Council has committed as part of the Corporate Plan 2020-2025 to achieving a vision of 'Working Together for a Brighter Future'. This plan is reflective of the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations Act and is comprised of four Well-being objectives to deliver this vision:
 - Objective 1 – To work with and for our communities
 - Objective 2 – To support learning, employment and sustainable economic growth

Objective 3 – To support people at home and in their community

Objective 4 – To respect, enhance and enjoy our environment

3.4 The WESP supports Objective 1 and 2 by:

- Promoting the use of the Welsh Language and contribute to the Welsh Government target of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.
- Ensuring there is appropriate access to quality early years, nursery and education provision enabling people to achieve their best possible outcomes whatever their age.
- Working with education, training providers, businesses and other agencies to provide a range of advice, support & training opportunities which improve people's skills and readiness for work.

3.5 To make sure we are all working towards the same purpose, the 2015 Act puts in place seven well-being goals on the Council. The 2015 Act makes it clear the listed public bodies must work to achieve all of the goals, not just one or two, these being:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh Language
- A globally responsible Wales

3.6 These proposals contribute to achieving the wellbeing goals by ensuring that the Council fulfils its responsibilities to increase the number of Welsh medium learners and in doing so play its part in ensuring the success of Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers.

3.7 Welsh Governments Welsh language strategy *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers* was published in August 2017. Welsh Governments ambition for reaching a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and to continue to encourage more people to use and speak Welsh in their everyday lives is incorporated in the aims and values of the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and also Prosperity for all: the national strategy.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

4.1 None applicable as a result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1 The WESP planning and consultation process has been delivered within existing resources. Proposals for future development will be subject to consultation and Cabinet approval where necessary.

Employment

- 5.2 There are no employment considerations as a direct result of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3 Section 84 of The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (“the 2013 Act”) requires a local authority to prepare a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (“the Plan”) and outlines that a Plan must contain:

- A local authority’s proposals on how it will carry out its education functions to:
- Improve the planning of the provision of education through the medium of Welsh (“Welsh-medium education”) in its area.
- Improve the standards of Welsh-medium education and of the teaching of Welsh in its area.
- The local authority’s targets for improving the planning of the provision of Welsh-medium education in its area and for improving the standards of that education and of the teaching of Welsh in its area

- 5.4 Section 87 of the 2013 Act gives Welsh Ministers powers to make regulations which will make further provisions on matters such as the form and content of a Plan, its timing and duration, keeping the Plan under review, consultation and submission of the Plan for approval to the Welsh Ministers and its publication. Regulations may also make provision enabling a joint Plan by two or more local authorities.

- 5.5 The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019, were laid on 5 December 2019 and came into force on 1 January 2020.

- 5.6 The 2019 Regulations were the first regulations made under the section 87 powers. The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019³ (“The 2019 Regulations”) replace those regulations and make provision for a local authority to prepare a ten-year Plan, the first to have effect from 1 September 2022, subject to the Welsh Ministers’ approval. They also make provision for the following matters:

- the form and content of a Plan (regulation 3);
- the duration of the Plan (regulation 4);
- the date by which the Plan must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers for approval (regulation 5);
- the approval of a Plan (regulation 6);
- timescales for submitting a review report (regulation 7);

- arrangements for revising a Plan (regulation 8);
- the persons and bodies that a local authority must consult on the draft Plan (regulation 9);
- the date by which the Plan must be published (regulation 10);
- the manner of publication of a Plan (regulation 11);
- the revocation, with savings, of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Assessing Demand for Welsh Medium Education (Wales) Regulations 2013 (regulation 12);
- report on the progress made to meet the targets contained in the previous Plan or previous revised Plan.

5.7 Section 84 also sets out with whom a local authority is required to consult in preparing or revising its Plan and provides the Welsh Ministers with a power to prescribe other persons with which the local authority must consult.

5.8 Section 85 of the 2013 Act requires each local authority to submit its Plan to Welsh Ministers for approval.

6. Background Papers

None.

ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN

2023-24

Name of Local Authority

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Author:	Jeremy Morgan (Welsh Education Officer)
Approver:	Liz Jones (Director of Learning and Skills)
Date	July 2024

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS / HIGHLIGHTS

Ysgol Sant Baruc

The expansion of Ysgol Sant Baruc into a 420-place school was completed in April 2023 with an additional 30 places being available in the reception class each year going forward, 60 places available in total. The relocation of Ysgol Sant Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. 39 pupils were admitted to the reception class of the school for September 2023, and this has increased to 60 for September 2024 meaning that the reception class is fully subscribed.



New School campus for Ysgol Iolo Morganwg

The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was completed last academic year. The project will be developed on a parcel of section 106 land which was transferred to the Vale of Glamorgan this academic year. The Ysgol Iolo Morganwg development will also increase the number of places available to 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector. This increase will be incremental, by increasing the admission number for reception intake in the first instance.

The new campus will also include an immersion unit which will provide additional support for pupils aged 7 and above transferring from English medium schools. It will also provide opportunities for adult community learning, encouraging more parents and adults in the west of the Vale to learn the Welsh language.

The Sustainable communities for Learning (ScfL) Programme team have undertaken a feasibility test to fit as part of the design development. The Outline Business case for Ysgol Iolo Morganwg will be submitted to Welsh Government in July 2024 to secure funding to support this development which will be funded 65:35 by Welsh Government and the Vale of Glamorgan Council. In the meantime, the Council are planning to proceed with the tender in August 2024.

The Council shared the news about the new school campus planned for [Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg](#). It was also published in the South Wales Echo on 2 June 2023 and covered by Wales Online, with an estimated combined reach of over 600k. The Council's Facebook post in early June received 1,759 engagements (likes, comments, shares, media views and post clicks) to date.

Rolling Programme

The Sustainable communities for Learning (ScfL) team submitted their rolling programme in March 2024, outlining the potential Welsh medium projects.

The Council are currently looking at potential sites within the Western Vale for a Welsh medium secondary school project. Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg formed part of the Band B, Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. From September 2027, the projected intake into year 7 at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg will start to exceed the school admission number although the school will still be under capacity overall due to smaller cohorts in older year groups. The school is projected to be at capacity overall by 2030 when a new Welsh medium secondary school will be required to support the Welsh Government Cymraeg 2050 national strategy, and targets outlined in the Council's WESP. The proposal will increase secondary sector capacity to meet the extra demand arising from increased places in the primary sector.

Although not all schools can benefit from Sustainable Communities for Learning funding or new developments, by ensuring a positive presentation in the media of our actions towards achieving our WESP ambitions, we're promoting a positive picture of our investment in Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan which can only support our aim of increasing the number of pupils in Welsh medium education.

Ysgol Gwaun y Nant Specialist Resource Base (SRB)

The Council have consulted on the proposal to create specialist Welsh medium educational provision for pupils aged 4-11 years. The purpose of this specialist resource would be to support individual learners as well as improve the capacity of the home school to create a fully inclusive environment where all learners are given the opportunity to succeed and have access to an education that meets their needs.

The Specialist Resource Base (SRB) would provide periods of integrated provision for pupils with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum condition and those experiencing significant social communication, interaction, or regulation difficulties. This will include pupils whose high level of anxiety is impacting significantly on their ability to access mainstream education. The Specialist Resource Base will be fully operational in September 2024.

Immersion Centre – Welsh Language Centre

From September 2023 to June 2024, 11 latecomers were welcomed at the [Welsh Language Centre](#) to receive full-time late immersion education. Three of the learners' parents had chosen to transfer from an English medium school within the Vale of Glamorgan, while the remaining learners' families had moved into the area. Now, only two of the latecomers remain at the Welsh Language Centre, while the others are thriving at their mainstream Welsh-medium school. This year's newcomers have been pupils admitted to a range of schools across the Vale: Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Ysgol Sant Baruc, and Ysgol Sant Curig.

In addition to our immersion provision for latecomers, 9 pupils from Vale Welsh medium schools, aged between 5 and 10, have received daily immersion support at the Centre. These were identified by their teachers as individuals who could benefit from additional support, to increase their understanding and use of Welsh. Some children within the group were at risk of leaving Welsh medium education without intervention. Now, two of the learners have transitioned full-time back to their mainstream Welsh medium class, having developed the ability to communicate confidently and effectively in Welsh.

	Total number of learners 2022-23	Total number of learners 2023-24
Late Immersion education for learners new to the Welsh Language	3 learners	11 learners
Immersion support for learners currently attending Welsh-medium schools	65 learners	9 learners

OVERALL PLAN SUMMARY

The projects outlined above are considered to be **green** as they have completed or running to schedule and have already made a strong positive impact on our plans to achieve 24% of Welsh medium Year 1 learners by 2032. However, there remains some concern about creating demand for Welsh medium education and the impact of a lower birth rate across the Vale on our ambitions. Increased choice caused by surplus capacity due to a lower birth rate can dilute progress and this will need to be considered carefully in our engagement and promotion activities.

The Council would also need to progress with the new Welsh medium secondary school project within the rolling programme to retain pupils from primary age in Welsh medium secondary education. The proposal is to monitor the projections in years 1 and 2 of the programme and plan for a development to be delivered by 2027 as indicated above.

The financial climate both nationally and within the Council may also have an adverse impact on our overall ambitions. Overall, this leaves us with a self-assessment of **amber**, with some elements of **green**, in particular with reference to our Capital programme.

FORWARD LOOK MILESTONES

Currently 16% of Year 1 children are taught through the medium of Welsh. This will need to be improved upon if we are going to reach our target of 24% by 2032.

PLASC Year	WM Y1 pupils	Total Y1 pupils	% WM
PLASC 2021	252	1626	15.5%
PLASC 2022	252	1615	15.6%
PLASC 2023	254	1609	15.8%
PLASC 2024	257	1585	16.0%

The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase incrementally following the relocation and expansion of Ysgol Sant Baruc into a 420-place school on the Barry Waterfront in April 2023 with an additional 30 places being available in the reception class each year feeding through to the year 1 age group, 60 places in total.

Admissions to the reception class of the school for September 2023 were 39 pupils and this has increased to 60 for September 2024. The reception class is full for September 2024, and this is likely to be the same outcome for September 2025 given the schools current nursery numbers that will progress to reception in 2025.

The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was successfully completed last academic year and is timetabled to open in its new site in 2027. Both above schemes combined will increase the number of places available by 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector.

The current forecast indicates that the percentage over the next five years remains at around 16% despite increases in school capacity. There is currently no obvious increase in demand for Welsh medium education being seen in the Vale of Glamorgan to boost the figures dramatically. The challenge will be engaging with parents to encourage them to consider Welsh medium education. There is currently a dip in birth rates which brings additional challenges. Birth rates in the Vale start to increase from 2025 onwards.

Outcome 1

More nursery children/ three year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Number of children attending Welsh medium nursery units in Primary schools 2019-2024

School	No of places available 2019/2020	NOR 2019/2020	No of places available 2020/2021	NOR 2020/2021	No of places available 2021/2022	NOR 2021/2022	No of places available 2022/2023	NOR 2022/2023	No of places available 2023/2024	NOR 2023/2024
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	30	30	66*	43	66	34	66	28	66	33
Ysgol Dewi Sant	56*	49	56	41	56	43	56	42	56	40
Ysgol Pen y Garth	76	70	76	65	76	59	76	55	76	56
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	82	53	82	42	82	42	82	31	82	34
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	56	56	56	56	56	53	56	52	56	46
Ysgol St Baruc	48	48	48	48	48	48	96*	58	96	91
Ysgol St Curig	114	107	114	111	114	95	114	82	114	74
Total	462	413	498	406	498	374	546	348	546	374

NOR (Number on Roll) for the academic year - school admissions data team *Increase in places

Ysgol Sant Baruc nursery is predicted to be at full capacity for the 2024-25 academic year.

Welsh medium nursery figures rose over the last year. According to PLASC, in January 2023, there were 280 pupils in Welsh medium local authority nurseries, in January 2024, this had risen to 305. The main reason for this was the increase in nursery numbers in Ysgol Sant Baruc which rose from 39 pupils in January 2023 to 75 pupils in January 2024 and then rising to 91 pupils after the 2024 summer intake. All the other schools have either seen small increases or decreases and the picture for these schools is quite static. In PLASC 2024, 17.9% of nursery aged children are receiving their early years education through the medium of Welsh,

Welsh medium nursery figures fell from 2019-2021 but appear to have plateaued over the last 3 years. This is in line with a drop in birth rates which has impacted admissions in both English and Welsh medium schools and highlights the challenge ahead of us. A decline in birth rates since 2018 is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors.

Promotion and engagements activities are a key aspect of our plans going forward. Currently 18% of nursery aged children are receiving their early years education through the medium of Welsh, which is a little lower than anticipated. Whilst the Council has increased capacity in the nursery sector to facilitate future Welsh medium growth, the challenge remains in terms of engaging parents and some communities of the benefits of bilingualism to facilitate the growth required to meet intended targets. We will continue to monitor the numbers and percentage of 3-year-olds in the Vale of Glamorgan receiving their education through the medium of Welsh and actively promote Welsh medium education.

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment annual report and updated Action Plan was completed in June 2024. There are currently 6 Cylchoedd within the Vale of Glamorgan, 3 in Barry (1 Flying Start setting), 1 in Penarth (previously in Dinas Powys), 1 in Llantwit Major and 1 in Cowbridge.

Funding was jointly identified by the Council and Mudiad Meithrin in December to extend the contract of the Ti a Fi officer. The Ti a Fi officer is supporting several existing settings and discussions are taking place to explore new opportunities to develop further provision to raise the awareness of Welsh medium provision.

There are 3 Cymraeg i Blant groups in the Vale of Glamorgan. Cymraeg i Blant (Welsh for Kids) helps new parents learn and supports them to introduce Welsh into the home when opting for Welsh medium childcare and education.

Dechrau'n Deg / Flying Start

In 2022-23, Flying Start provided 44 Welsh-medium childcare places. In 2023-24, Flying Start has increased the number of available Welsh medium language places and now provide 52 places across both internal and commissioned providers (not including the 2-year-old childcare offer).

With the roll out of Phase 2 expansion (2-year-old offer) we currently have 21 children placed within Welsh medium settings across the expansion areas. Flying Start are currently working with an established Welsh medium provider to start accepting childcare funding through Flying Start/2-year-old childcare offer to create more available places.

The expansion for Phase 2 in 2024-25 was significantly lower than anticipated, with an increase in target numbers for childcare only rising by 20 children across the current expansion areas.

Cylch Meithrin Progression Data into Welsh Medium Education 2021 to 2023

Cylchoedd Meithrin	2021-22			
	No of children attending	No transferring to WM	No transferring to EM	% transferring to WM
Cylch Meithrin Bethel (Penarth)	13	13	0	100%
Cylch Meithrin Bethesda (Barry)	20	19	1	95%
Cylch Meithrin Dechrau Dysgu (Ysgol Gwaun y Nant - Barry)	21	18	3	85.71%
Cylch Meithrin (Ysgol Pen y Garth – Penarth)	13	12	1	92.31%
Cylch Meithrin (Llantwit Major)	22	21	1	95.45%
Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala (Flying Start – Barry)	39	31	8	79.49%
Cylch Meithrin Y Bont Faen (Cowbridge)	15	9	6	60%
Total	143	123	20	86%

Cylchoedd Meithrin	2022-23			
	No of children attending	No transferring to WM	No transferring to EM	% transferring to WM
Cylch Meithrin Bethel (Penarth)	Closed			
Cylch Meithrin Bethesda (Barry)	11	10	1	90.91%
Cylch Meithrin Dechrau Dysgu (Ysgol Gwaun y Nant - Barry)	23	22	1	95.65%
Cylch Meithrin (Ysgol Pen y Garth – Penarth)	22	19	3	86.36%
Cylch Meithrin (Llantwit Major)	29	29	0	100%
Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala (Flying Start – Barry)	42	28	14	66.67%
Cylch Meithrin Y Bont Faen (Cowbridge)	16	9	7	56.25%
Total	143	117	26	81.81%

OUTCOME SUMMARY

Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme 2022-25

The Council continues to be committed to work with colleagues and partners, internally and externally to support the progression of expanding Welsh medium childcare & early years provision.

As part of the Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme, there are currently two proposals to support the increase in Welsh language accessible places. There is a proposal to build an extension to the existing Cylch in Cowbridge which would have enabled the Cylch to expand their age range by providing up to 6 places for children aged 1-2 yrs. However, this was placed on hold due to exploring the potential for the Cylch to relocate to the new school for Ysgol Iolo Morganwg. Following a series of meetings with the Sustainable Communities for Learning (SCfL) team to investigate the viability of this, unfortunately this is no longer an option due to size restrictions to accommodate a childcare unit on site. Therefore, due to circumstances beyond our control, this business case is currently on hold due to the current premises being unsuitable with discussions ongoing to explore alternative options and identify a solution.

There has also been a delay with the plans for a new build for Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys on the Ysgol Pen y Garth site. The proposal was to relocate Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys (from Bethel Church in Dinas Powys) (12 places) and allow for the opportunity to increase childcare places – maximum of 30 places. Welsh Government have put this project on hold due to limited time to proceed.

Timeline – Welsh medium applications to Welsh Government (WG)

Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme 2022-25

		Business Case Submission	WG Programme Team to undertake pre scrutiny checks	Business Case Scrutiny Group meeting date	Programme Team to feedback to Council	Education Investment Panel meeting date
	Date	01 Nov 2023	14 Nov 2023	16 Nov 2023		14 Dec 2023
Cylch Meithrin Y Bont-Faen, (Cowbridge)	Update	Business case was submitted within the timeline of submission deadline.	<p>WG requested further information regarding the initial pre scrutiny checks with the business case.</p> <p>Vale comments were returned on 17 November 2023.</p> <p>Following these questions, a further request for additional information was made by WG in readiness for them to submit to Scrutiny panel on 13 December 2023.</p> <p>Vale comments were returned on 11 December 2023.</p>		Vale colleagues fed back to WG regarding the current situation and a potential relocation to the school is no longer viable.	Not progressed

		Business Case Submission	WG Programme Team to undertake pre scrutiny checks	Business Case Scrutiny Group meeting date	Programme Team to feedback to Council	Education Investment Panel meeting date
	Date	22 Feb 2024	05 Mar 2024	14 Mar 24		18 Apr 2024
Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys (on Pen y Garth school site)	Update	Business case submitted to WG	WG raised concerns regarding the completion date for the project. Meetings with WG took place to discuss further. Further meeting in May 24, to update on business case.	Not progressed	WG responded that this project will be put on hold.	Not progressed

The Council doesn't envisage any alterations to the existing business case for Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys and it is therefore disappointing that Welsh Government will not be able to progress this within the 2022–2025 programme. However, there will be slight changes to the Cylch Meithrin Y Bontfaen business case due to the requirement to explore different options for this setting. Whilst Welsh Government have not confirmed Capital funding beyond 2025, Local Authorities have been requested to submit expressions of interest for future capital projects which is positive.

Consultations aimed at childcare providers, parents, and schools had been disseminated to investigate the appetite for the development of Welsh medium childcare within certain geographical areas within the Vale. Responses have been very positive, and results are fed into Early Years & Childcare Capital project business cases where appropriate.

In partnership with members of the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYD&CP), specifically Flying Start and Mudiad Meithrin, dialogue continues to take place to support Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) targets to increase the number of Welsh language accessible places by 20% by 2026. This in turn supports specific areas for development and/or expansion in relation to a number of Welsh Government childcare initiatives including Flying Start and the Childcare Offer.

The Family Information Service (FIS) record the language used in childcare settings and in April 2024 there were 6 Welsh speaking childminders, offering 47 registered childcare places; 3-day nurseries offering both English and Welsh medium childcare and a total of 337 places; 6 Cylchoedd Meithrin and 133 places. There are also 6 unregistered Welsh medium after school clubs taking place in our Welsh medium schools.

Partnership working - Welsh medium childcare & early years provision.

Firm partnership arrangements are in place between the Cwlwm partner organisations. The relationship continues to be developed between internal Council teams and external partners including Mudiad Meithrin, schools and the childcare sector. Discussions are regularly scheduled through meetings and forums so that the views of those with an interest in strengthening and expanding Welsh medium childcare can be incorporated.

Information on the availability of Welsh medium education, childcare and early years provision

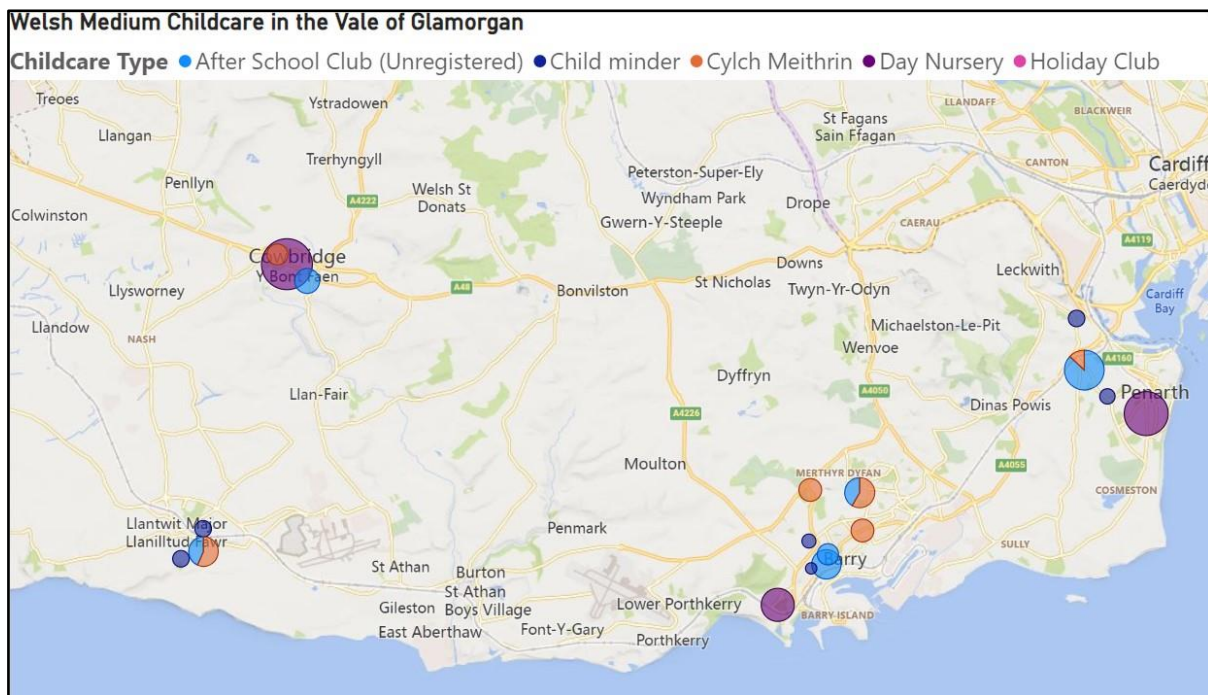
Information on Welsh medium education is available to all parents and carers in the [parental guide to school admissions](#) and on the Council's website where information on [school admission arrangements](#) and schools is available. The parental guide is reviewed and updated annually. Any parent contacting the Vale of Glamorgan is provided with information as to the availability and type of Welsh medium education available to them and directed to the appropriate section of the website for further information. The parental guide is available in hard copy or can be downloaded from the Council website at the school admissions section.

The Family Information Service (FIS) manage and update the childcare database held on the Dewis Cymru website Information is recorded as to the language used in the setting and this information feeds through to the Childcare Information Wales website. Parents and carers can then access this information and search

specifically for Welsh medium childcare. FIS has information about choosing Welsh medium childcare and education on their web pages and they contribute to the web page 'Your Bilingual Journey'. When FIS receive enquiries from parents looking for childcare and nursery education, it always promotes Welsh medium opportunities and shares information from Mudiad Meithrin and Cymraeg i Blant.

FIS also publish information on the range of Welsh medium childcare available in the Vale of Glamorgan including the number of settings and places:

Childcare Type	Sept 2021		April 2024			Vacancies
	Number of settings	Number of places	Number of settings	Number of places	Number of Welsh speaking children	
Cylchoedd Meithrin	7	142	6	133	unknown	3 providers
Day Nurseries (Bilingual setting)	2	277	3	337	unknown	3 providers
Childminders	8	50	6	47	28	4 providers
Holiday Care Scheme	1	45	0	0	unknown	
After school club (unregistered)	3	unknown	6	unknown	unknown	3 providers
Total	18	514	21	517		



*The 3-day nurseries are all part of the same company – St Aubins and say they are English and Welsh medium. The size of the dots represents the number of childcare places. Hence the day nurseries are large as they have places for English and Welsh speaking children, but they don't categorise their numbers.

FIS has contacted all settings who state they are Welsh medium or bilingual to check information such as how many children cared for, number of vacancies and children that speak Welsh. The information will inform steps to further engage with the settings to promote Welsh medium education as an option and opportunity in the Vale. The information will be reviewed annually and updated on the Dewis Cymru and [Childcare Information Wales website](#). Parents can select a type of childcare from one of the tiles and they can filter on 'language' and select those who provide provision in Welsh.

The Family Information Service (FIS) regularly share Cymraeg i Blant activities and groups via their social media pages. Leaflets including 'Being Bilingual' leaflet are distributed at community events and parent & toddler groups. The FIS organised a Christmas party for families and over 700 people attended. Partner

agencies attended to engage with families, including Menter Bro Morgannwg, Mudiad Meithrin and Learn Welsh.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it's working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

The financial climate both nationally, within the Council and schools continues to present challenges. The Council continues to explore and identify appropriate funding streams for projects and to develop provision.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council continues to work with its partners to discuss funding and opportunities to support its commitment to Welsh medium Early Years and Childcare provision.

FORWARD LOOK

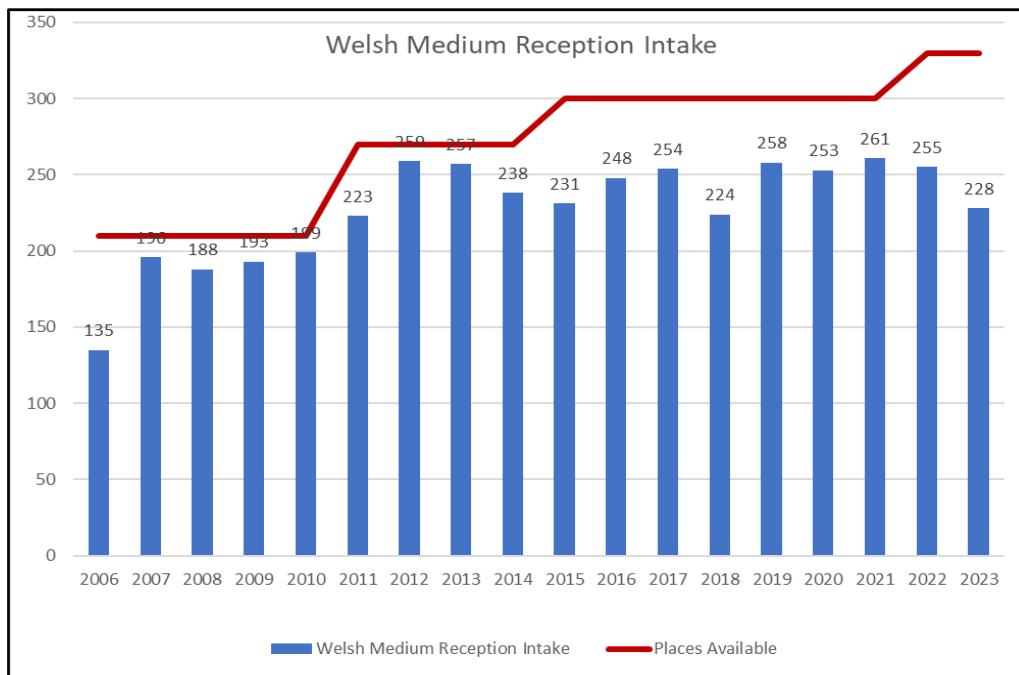
1. Discussions have taken place to implement a WESP Task and Finish Working Group in 2024-25 to target areas supported by Flying Start, including those areas eligible to access the 2-year-old childcare offer. The aim is to increase engagement with families to promote Welsh medium early years and childcare provision and education. For instance, Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala (Flying Start – Barry) has low transfer figures into Welsh medium education. If improved, this could potentially help improve surplus numbers at Ysgol Pen y Garth.
2. Increased engagement with the full range of Childcare settings in the Vale as listed above by the Family Information Service (FIS) will be prioritised to identify level of Welsh language within each provision. Identify opportunities to raise the profile and promote the Welsh language and Welsh medium education in these settings.
3. The Early Years & Childcare team will continue to engage with stakeholders to look for solutions for the two Welsh medium projects which were part of the Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme 2022-25. The projects to support the increase in Welsh language accessible places were at Cylch Meithrin Y Bont Faen and Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys on the Ysgol Pen y Garth site.
4. The Early Years & Childcare team and partners will explore options with the aim of identifying a solution in relation to a building for Cylch Meithrin Bethesda (Barry).

Outcome 2

More reception class children/ five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Welsh medium Reception places since 2006



The number and percentage of learners in each age group who are taught through the medium of Welsh in nursery class, up to year 13

PLASC 2023			
Year Grp	Welsh medium	Overall Cohort English & Welsh medium	% Welsh Medium
N1	61	387	15.8%
N2	219	1329	16.5%
R	255	1590	16.0%
1	254	1609	15.8%
2	255	1643	15.5%
3	243	1662	14.6%
4	205	1594	12.9%
5	220	1663	13.2%
6	227	1697	13.4%
7	204	1731	11.8%
8	204	1746	11.7%
9	209	1715	12.2%
10	205	1720	11.9%
11	177	1659	10.7%

PLASC 2024			
Year Grp	Welsh medium	Overall Cohort English & Welsh medium	% Welsh Medium
N1	72↑	408	17.6%
N2	233↑	1293	18.0%
R	228↓	1439	15.8%
1	257↑	1606	16.0%
2	253↓	1619	15.6%
3	250↑	1643	15.2%
4	241↑	1677	14.4%
5	209↓	1601	13.1%
6	218↓	1661	13.1%
7	215↑	1724	12.5%
8	201↓	1719	11.7%
9	200↓	1739	11.5%
10	209↑	1704	12.3%
11	203↑	1704	11.9%

12	89	788	11.3%	12	99↑	847	11.7%
13	79	731	10.8%	13	82↑	668	12.3%
14	0	24	0.0%	14	0↓	21	0.0%
Total	3106	23288	13.3%	Total	3170↑	23073	13.7%

Welsh medium school capacity (PLASC 2024)

Primary School	Capacity September 2023	NOR September 2023	Capacity unfilled 2023	Capacity unfilled % 2023	Over capacity 2023	Over capacity % 2023
Ysgol Pen y Garth	420	273	147	35.00%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant	270	195	75	27.78%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Sant Baruc*	270	237	33	12.22%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Sant Curig	420	372	48	11.43%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Dewi Sant	210	193	17	8.10%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	210	182	28	13.33%	0	0.00%
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg (Primary phase)	210	204	6	2.86%	0	0.00%
Total Primary Schools	2010	1656	354	17.61%	0	0.00%
Barry Schools Position	1170	1008	162	13.85%	0	0.00%

*Incremental increase in capacity of 30 places per year from September 2022 up to 420 places in September 2028

Secondary School	Capacity September 2023	NOR September 2023	Capacity unfilled 2023	Capacity unfilled % 2023	Over Capacity 2023	Over capacity % 2023
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg (Secondary phase)	1450	1209	241	16.62%	0	0.00%
Total Secondary Schools	1450	1209	241	16.62%	0	0.00%

The number and percentage of Black, Asian and minority ethnic background learners who are taught through the medium of Welsh using PLASC Data

Welsh medium school	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background (%)
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	4.5%
Ysgol Dewi Sant	4.5%
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	7.2%
Ysgol Pen y Garth	5.3%
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	2.0%
Ysgol Sant Baruc	8.3%
Ysgol Sant Curig	9.4%

Type of School	Overall cohort	Black, Asian and Minority ethnic background	%
English medium	19901	2911	14.6%
Welsh medium	3170	180	5.7%
Total	23071	3091	13.4%

Summary

Welsh Medium figures in Local Authority Maintained Schools in the Reception class fell between September 2022 and September 2023 from 255 to 228 due to a dip in birth rates. The overall Reception class cohort (English and Welsh medium) also fell from 1590 to 1439. The Vale of Glamorgan has seen a decline in birth rates since 2018 which is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors at primary level.

For September 2024, reception numbers in the Welsh medium sector have increased to 240, a 5% increase from September 2023. The main reason for this was an increase in Reception numbers in Ysgol Sant Baruc increasing from 39 pupils in September 2023 to 60 pupils in September 2024. Birth rates in the Vale of Glamorgan start to increase from 2025 and we are optimistic that Reception numbers will continue to increase.

There are 354 (17.61%) surplus places in the primary sector at PLASC 2024 and 241 (16.62%) in the secondary sector. In the Barry area there is an overall surplus of 162 (13.85%) primary school places and 147 (35%) in the Penarth area. A decline in birth rates is impacting upon pupil numbers at primary schools with a corresponding effect on surplus capacity. Areas of concern are at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant and Ysgol Pen y Garth who are operating with significant surplus capacity of more than 25%. Surplus capacity will start to decrease as birth rates increase from 2025.

According to PLASC, in January 2023, there were 3106 (13.3%) pupils in total in Welsh Medium Schools, in January 2024, this has risen to 3170 (13.7%).

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The Sustainable Communities for Learning (SCfL) team submitted their rolling programme in March 2024, outlining the potential Welsh medium projects. The priorities outlined in the Vale of Glamorgan's rolling programme are also reflective of the Council's commitments in the WESP and aims to ensure that demand for Welsh medium education can be met in the long-term, in line with Welsh Government's ambitious target of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. Several initiatives outlined within the SOP not only increase capacity within the Welsh medium primary sector but increase availability of 21st century learning environments and resources available, as part of the Council's WESP and Cymraeg 2050 commitments.

The Council are currently looking at potential sites within the Western Vale for a Welsh Medium secondary school project. From September 2027, the projected intake into year 7 at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg will start to exceed the school admission number although the school will still be under capacity overall due to smaller cohorts in older year groups. The school is projected to be at capacity overall by 2030 when a new Welsh medium secondary school will be required to support the Welsh Government Cymraeg 2050 national strategy, and targets outlined in the Council's WESP. The proposal will increase Secondary sector capacity to meet the extra demand arising from increased places in the Primary sector.

Immersion Centre – Welsh Language Centre

From September 2023 to June 2024, 11 latecomers were welcomed at the Welsh Language Centre to receive full-time late immersion education. Three of the learners' parents had chosen to transfer from an English medium school within the Vale of Glamorgan, while the remaining learners' families had moved into the area. In June, only two of the latecomers remain at the Welsh Language Centre, while the others are thriving at their mainstream Welsh-medium school. This year's newcomers have been pupils from a range of schools across the Vale: Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Ysgol Sant Baruc, and Ysgol Sant Curig.

In addition to our immersion provision for latecomers, 9 pupils from Vale Welsh medium schools, aged between 5 and 10, have received daily immersion support at the Centre. These were identified by their teachers as individuals who could benefit from additional support, to increase their understanding and use of Welsh. Some children within the group were at risk of leaving Welsh medium education without intervention. Now, two of the learners have transitioned full-time back to their mainstream Welsh medium class, having developed the ability to communicate confidently and effectively in Welsh.

	Total number of learners 2022-23	Total number of learners 2023-24
Late Immersion education for learners new to the Welsh Language	3 learners	11 learners
Immersion support for learners currently attending Welsh-medium schools	65 learners	9 learners

Information on Welsh medium education is available to all parents and carers in the [parental guide to school admissions](#) and on the Council's website where information on [school admission arrangements](#) and schools is available. The parental guide is reviewed and updated annually. Any parent contacting the Vale of Glamorgan is provided with information as to the availability and type of Welsh medium education available to them and directed to the appropriate section of the website for further information.

Currently 16.0% of Year 1 children are taught through the medium of Welsh.

PLASC YEAR	WM year 1 pupils	Total year 1 pupils	% WM
2021	252	1626	15.5%
2022	252	1590	15.8%
2023	254	1609	15.8%
2024	257	1585	16.0%

The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase incrementally over the next five-year period following the expansion of Ysgol Sant Baruc into a 420-place school on the Barry Waterfront in April 2023 with an additional 30 places being available in the reception class each year feeding through to the year 1 age group. The relocation of Ysgol Sant Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within Barry. The reception class at Ysgol Sant Baruc of 60 places available will be full for September 2024.

The expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg is scheduled to be completed in September 2027 or earlier. Both of the above schemes will increase the number of places available by 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector. Feedback from stakeholders in relation to both projects has been very positive.

As part of the Ysgol Iolo Morganwg scheme, the Council has secured over £888k to support the development of an Immersion unit at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg which will provide additional support for pupils aged 7 and above transferring from English medium schools. It will also provide opportunities for adult community learning, encouraging more parents and adults to learn the Welsh Language.

The Council has increased and will be increasing the number of school places further in the primary sector to facilitate future Welsh medium growth and to meet WESP targets. The challenge again will be to persuade parents and communities of the benefits of bilingualism to facilitate the primary growth necessary to meet intended targets. The Vale of Glamorgan has seen a decline in birth rates since 2018 that is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors at primary level.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and its working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

An element of our Immersion provision depends on the continuity of Welsh Government grant funding. Without the continuation of this funding, extension of the provision of latecomer immersion services would be challenging.

The Vale of Glamorgan has seen a decline in birth rates since 2018 that is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors at primary level.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council recognises that Immersion services are vital to the success of our WESP ambitions for the Vale. It is important that the high quality provision in the [Welsh Language Centre](#) continues to be extended and developed.

FORWARD LOOK

1. The Council will continue to drive our rolling programme including the Welsh medium secondary school project to further assist our WESP targets, ensuring capacity for secondary education.
2. The Council will explore options and models to introduce Secondary school immersion provision in the Vale. The provision will include strengthening support for Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to reduce the risk of losing pupils from Welsh medium education and encourage latecomer applications.
3. The Council will establish a project in collaboration with local equality networks and partners to engage with Welsh medium schools about opportunities for parents/carers from Global Majority backgrounds to access Welsh medium early years and childcare and education.
4. The Council will continue to promote, encourage and support the choice of Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Outcome 3

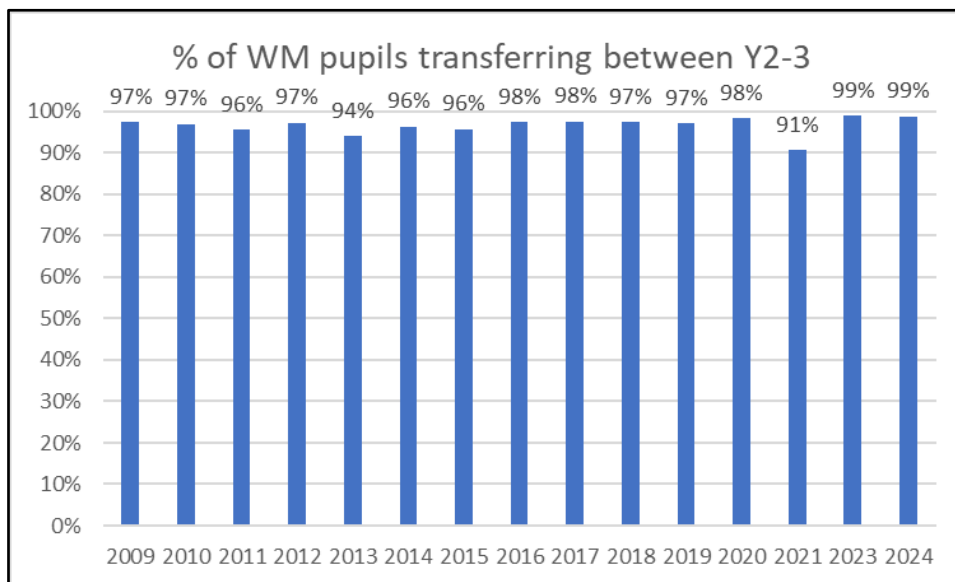
More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

KEY ANNUAL DATA

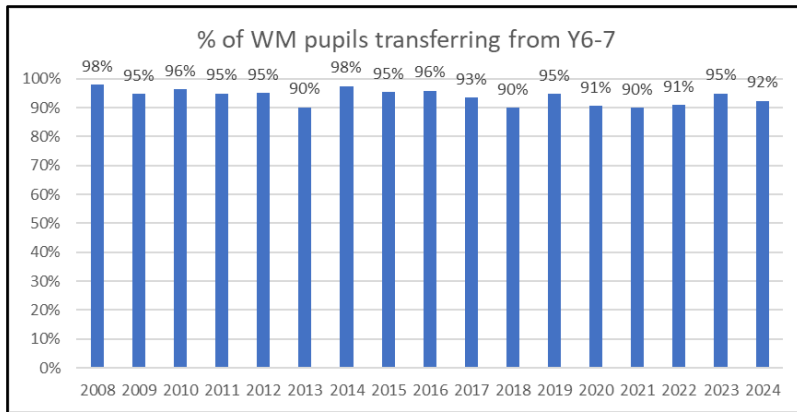
Pupil Transfer figures – September 2023

Data	2022-23	2023-24	
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Foundation Phase (Y2) and Key Stage 2 (Y3) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	99%	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant to Oakfield. 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to Cadoxton. 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to Oakfield.
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 2 (Yr. 6) and 3 (Yr. 7) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	95%	92%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 pupils moved from Ysgol Iolo to Cowbridge (out of total Y6 cohort of 21 pupils) 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Dewi Sant to Cowbridge Comp. 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Dewi Sant to Llantwit Major School. 4 pupils moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to Stanwell School. 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to St Cyres School.
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 3 (Yr. 9) and 4 (Yr. 10).	99%	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Y9 pupils remained in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg in Y10 when they transferred to Y10 in 2023/24

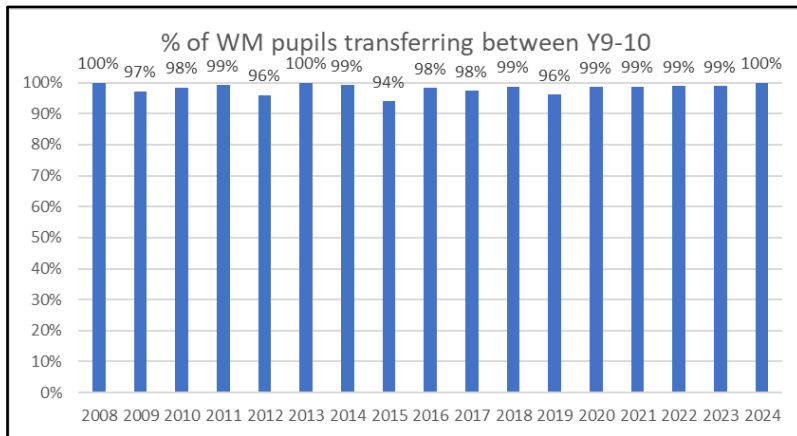
Welsh medium Pupils transferring between Year 2 and 3 since 2009 (%)



Welsh medium Pupils transferring between Year 6 and 7 since 2008 (%)



Welsh Medium Pupils transferring between Year 9 and 10 since 2008 (%)



Summary

Transition figures remain strong. The Council will continue to work with the relevant schools directly and through the WESP Working Groups to maintain and improve the above transfer figures.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

Transition and retention rates remain positive and continue to be monitored by the Council's admissions team, the Welsh Education Forum (WEF) and its Working Groups. The Council continues to further develop our understanding of, and initiatives for, the enhancement of transition and retention rates between each key stage.

We continue together with our schools to support all learners commencing with early years Welsh medium education to remain for the duration of their statutory and further education. We continue to work closely with our internal and external stakeholders and by supporting parents and the wider community to understand more about the advantages of Welsh medium education.

Promotion, retention and early intervention to respond to pupils at risk of leaving Welsh medium education

The Council has strengthened the relationship between its School Admissions Team, Welsh Education Officer and the Lead Teacher within its Immersion Centre.

Together they work to identify, support and engage with any families who have shown interest in Welsh medium education. Additionally, processes are in place if the Admissions Team receives a request from a family to transfer a pupil out of Welsh medium education. Each request is reviewed and subject to the circumstances, the Welsh Education Officer offers to discuss the reasons behind the request with a parent /

carer. The purpose of this approach is to explore if there are any additional measures, interventions or steps that could be introduced so the pupil could remain in Welsh medium education. It has been a very positive strategy with a range of pupils remaining in Welsh medium education who otherwise may have transferred to English medium education. Families and schools have appreciated the support as we work with the relevant school, various Council education teams and external partners like RhAG to propose solutions.

Big Fresh – Annual ‘Project Funding’ for Vale schools

Parents in the rural west areas of the Vale have regularly cited the location of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg in Barry as a reason why they have decided to switch to English medium for secondary education. Parents have reported they find it difficult to pick up their children from after school extra curriculum activities and that public transport is unreliable.

This academic year, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg applied for funding to provide transport for pupils to participate in after school extra curriculum activities who live in and out of the Barry area with no means of getting home after the afternoon school buses had left or whose parents had no access to collect their child(ren). Big Fresh, the Councils arm’s length Catering Company, provided funding of £23k to assist with transport costs for academic year 2023-24. This has been well received by both pupils and parents and continues to be successful in the numbers attending after school clubs.

Established in 2020, Big Fresh provides school meals for partner schools and operates a commercial catering service, a bar and café at Penarth Pier Pavilion. An innovative business model allows the company to operate independently at arm’s length from the Council, with all surpluses returned to schools or used to sustain the business itself. As well as funding the free school meal programme, money from the business has been used to support school and community projects.

Transition provision and support – Primary to Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg

A full time Transition/Progression Officer, funded through the Welsh Immersion Grant, has been employed since September 2023 based in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. The role supports Outcome 3 of the WESP to ensure more children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another. Between September 2023 and July 2024, 149 pupils were targeted for intensive language support in year 6, and 20 in year 5. In the secondary sector the Transition/Progression Officer is teaching a total of 24 pupils in years 7 and 8.

Primary Sector:

Targeted support is given to primary pupils to improve reading, writing and speaking skills and gain confidence in using specific language strategies before transferring from year 6 to year 7. This is done through weekly intensive language sessions with groups of learners and some whole class sessions. Some of the learners were at risk of leaving the Welsh medium sector.

Secondary Sector:

Two subjects (Welsh and Humanities) are taught in the secondary sector. The project supports pupils with difficulties in literacy with a focus on basic skills, and correct language patterns and grammar.

In addition, the Transition/Progression Officer has delivered teacher training sessions to two of the feeder primary schools, one of which was in conjunction with Central South Consortium.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it’s working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have

an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

Some parents / carers in Penarth, Cowbridge and west rural areas of the Vale continue to have a negative view of their child(ren) attending a secondary school (Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg) due to its location in Barry.

School	Issue / Challenge
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	Parents / carers potentially choosing or moving pupils to the new build Ysgol Sant Baruc as it continues to grow.
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	Parent / carers of Year 6 pupils choosing Cowbridge Comprehensive School over Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. However initial transfer figures for 2024/25 have shown improvement.
Ysgol Pen y Garth	Parent / carers of Year 6 pupils choosing Stanwell / St Cyres Schools over Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.

The role of the Transition/Progression Officer based in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg is funded via the Welsh Immersion Grant until April 2025. Funding to extend the role beyond needs to be identified.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council will work with Welsh Government and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to identify funding to extend the role of the Progression/Transition Officer beyond April 2025.

FORWARD LOOK

1. The Council will work with Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to strengthen the role of the Welsh Government funded Progression/Transition Officer in line with the terms and criteria of the grant.
2. The Council will continue to work with relevant Headteachers and stakeholders to address existing and emerging challenges with transition and retention.
3. The Council will continue to work closely with our internal and external stakeholders and by supporting parents and the wider community to understand more about the advantages of Welsh medium education.

Outcome 4

More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Language category of schools within the Vale of Glamorgan

School Type	Welsh medium school type		Total
	English Medium	Welsh Medium	
Primary	38	6	44
Middle	1	1	2
Secondary	6	0	6
Special	1	0	1
Total	46	7	53

KS4 and KS5 exam registrations

Year	2021		2022		2023	
KS4	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
Welsh First Language GCSE	157	10.2%	161	10.5%	175	10.7%
Welsh Second Language GCSE	1067	69.2%	1138	74.4%	1205	73.5%
Welsh Second Language Entry Level	24	1.6%	38	2.5%	24	1.5%
Total	1542	100.0%	1529	100.0%	1639	100.0%

KS5	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
Welsh First Language A Level	3	0.4%	13	1.7%	3	0.4%
Welsh First Language AS Level	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Welsh Second Language A Level	12	1.6%	9	1.2%	3	0.4%
Welsh Second Language AS Level	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	2	0.3%
Not Sat Welsh Language Exams	717	98.0%	724	96.9%	717	98.8%
Total	732	100.0%	747	100.0%	726	100.0%

177 Year 11 and 78 Year 13 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg will have studied KS4 and KS5 through the medium of Welsh in 2023. 175 (10.7%) pupils sat Welsh 1st language GCSE exams.

1205 (73.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language GCSE exams. 24 (1.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language entry level exams. 14.3% of pupils did not sit any Welsh language exam.

In 2023, 3 (0.4%) pupils sat Welsh 1st Language A Level exams. 3 (0.4%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language A Level exams (2 from Stanwell, 1 from St Cyres).

Welsh KS4 2nd Language exams broken down by Secondary school

School	Cohort	No of Pupils Who Sat Welsh KS4 2nd Language Exams 2023	% of Pupils Who Sat Welsh KS4 2nd Language Exams 2023
Cowbridge Comprehensive School	238	217	91%
Llantwit Major High School	171	161	94%
Pencoedtre High School	173	111	64%
St Cyres Comprehensive School	202	191	95%
St Richard Gwyn RC High School	166	155	93%
Stanwell School	300	292	97%
Whitmore High School	172	102	59%

OUTCOME SUMMARY

CSC has regularly shared resources via all communication platforms to support both Welsh and English medium secondary schools to [promote studying Welsh as a subject](#) and benefits of choosing [A Level Welsh](#). A new [CSC Continuum of Welsh Language Patterns](#) has been developed by CSC for English medium schools along with an [audio version](#).

The CSC Continuum of Welsh Language Patterns has been developed in accordance with CfW guidance and offers schools a linguistic foundation for designing their school level curriculum for Welsh in English medium schools. This continuum is a series of progressive and developmental language patterns. It has been divided into Progression Steps 1 to 3 in line with the Curriculum for Wales. Language patterns develop within each progression step as well as from one step to the next.

The continuum was piloted with six schools across the region during 2022-23. Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary School participated in this pilot. Feedback on the continuum was very positive, for example:

“We found it so easy to use. The hyperlinks are genius, and the appendices are so useful for both staff and pupil knowledge. It’s going to make teaching & learning Welsh more accessible and improve teacher confidence. Diolch yn fawr”.

“Although we only used the document for a short period of time towards the end of the year, all staff in PS2 and PS3 were very positive about it and expressed relief, to see a layout and structure that worked for everyday classroom practise with more scaffold for not only children but staff too. A very positive initial response”.

Wick & Marcross Church in Wales Primary School presented their work as part of the Welsh Continuum to Curriculum pilot project in the CSC Primary Welsh leaders network meeting. They have also presented information about their engagement and impact with this pilot project to the Vale of Glamorgan Council’s Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee in March 2024.

From September 2023, the continuum was available to support all schools in the region and beyond. Network meetings for practitioners operate at a regional and cross regional level, designed in partnership with school-based lead practitioners where appropriate. In addition, CSC facilitates support for each local authority’s immersion centre through termly network meetings.

Funded regional collaboration projects enabled schools to engage with co-construction of PL, which in turn forms part of the asynchronous offer to all schools in the region. A range of schools from CSC including from the Vale, Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School, were involved in a project where schools collaborated to produce exemplified support and guidance for the teaching of Welsh in an English medium school. Participating schools indicated that they developed an improved understanding of effective curriculum design for pedagogy

and language learning. Schools also fed back that the project impacted positively on both standards and engagement, for example:

“The children have developed a much greater passion for learning Welsh, our culture and our country. The children use Welsh naturally around the school and enjoy listening to Welsh music artists. The whole school environment has become passionate about and promotes the development of the Welsh language”.

“Confidence of teachers has grown in using the games and any barriers to playing the yard games have been removed, opportunities to play the games are regularly provided. Noticeable enjoyment of children engaging with the Welsh language through games. Criw Cymraeg enjoyed giving responsibility for the project and then seeing the positive impact on their peers’ enjoyment and Welsh language skills”.

CSC provided the secondary Welsh medium partnership ‘Gyda’n Gilydd’ with £20,000 funding to work alongside WJEC to develop Welsh medium Level 3 vocational qualifications. Qualifications have now been created for business, tourism, public services and sports and are available to schools.

Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol – A Level Welsh provision support

Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol awarded grants to Vale schools to either help run A-Level Welsh provision or enrichment activities through the medium of Welsh.

Support for A Level Welsh Provision	
Stanwell School	£3000
St Cyres Comprehensive	£1800
Enrichment experiences	
Cowbridge Comprehensive	£800
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	£800

Dewisa Lefel A Cymraeg / Choose A Level Welsh

The Council and the CSC are promoting a campaign by Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to encourage more young learners to study Welsh A-Level. There are promotional assets to raise awareness around the endless benefits the language has on academic, cultural and working life.

The campaign includes content that can be used by teachers and schools to engage learners, parents and carers in the Welsh language and A-Level course by:

- Highlighting that Welsh A-Level opens doors to a wealth of university pathways
- Emphasising the variety of careers and industries where Welsh is a highly-valued skill
- Giving an insight into the breadth and variety of the Welsh A-Level curriculum
- Showcasing Welsh A-Level as a modern, creative and relevant subject
- Inviting learners to join a thriving community of Welsh speakers that are passionate about their culture, heritage and the Welsh language

e-sgol

All secondary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan have received presentations and regular updates on opportunities to work with e-sgol. All schools were also invited to the recent e-sgol conference held in July 2024 at the National Botanic Gardens of Wales and virtually. Currently there are no Vale schools involved in the e-sgol programme.

However late in the summer term, a productive meeting was held to explore the potential for Cowbridge Comprehensive to collaboratively work with two Secondary schools in Bridgend to deliver Welsh A level provision through the e-sgol programme. The meeting involved all three schools, e-sgol and the Principal

Improvement Partner from the CSC. Cowbridge Comprehensive are going to discuss the proposal with three pupils who could be interested in opting for Welsh at A Level.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it's working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

The Council works closely with the Central South Consortium (CSC) and Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC) to support pupils and schools. The CSC provides to the Council a school improvement service that challenges, monitors and supports schools to raise standards. The CSC Principal Improvement Partner for the Vale of Glamorgan is Welsh speaking and knows the Vale and its schools very well. The Consortium also has a Principal Improvement Partner for Welsh Policy, Standards & Improvement who attends the Vale's WESP Forum meetings and other relevant meetings. The Welsh Education Officer works closely and collaboratively with the CSC and CAVC.

RISKS

There remains a risk that Welsh 2nd language A Level examinations and additional subjects will be unable to be offered through the medium of Welsh due to the challenge of low numbers, funding and with recruiting appropriate staff.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council will continue to discuss collaborative opportunities with its partners such as the Central South Consortium (CSC), Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol and e-sgol to deliver provision in the Vale.

The financial climate both nationally, within the Council and schools continues to present challenges. The Council continues to explore and identify appropriate funding streams to support provision leading to qualifications.

FORWARD LOOK

1. The Council will continue to discuss collaborative opportunities with its partners such as the Central South Consortium (CSC), Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol and e-sgol to deliver provision in the Vale.
2. The Council together with the CSC will encourage Cowbridge Comprehensive School to commit to the e-sgol programme to deliver Welsh A Level provision collaboratively with two English medium Secondary schools from Bridgend.

Outcome 5

More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Siarter Iaith / Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus data (July 2024)

Number of schools	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award
Siarter Iaith Primary (Welsh Medium)	1	5	1
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Primary (English Medium)	25	7	2
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Secondary (English Medium)	0	3	1
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus - Special School / PRU	1	0	0

Gwobr / Award	Ysgol / School	Cyfanswm / Total
Siarter Iaith – Gwobr Efydd / Bronze Award	Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	1
Siarter Iaith – Gwobr Arian / Silver Award	Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg (Primary) Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig Ysgol Pen y Garth Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun Y Nant	5
Siarter Iaith – Gwobr Aur / Gold Award	Ysgol Dewi Sant	1
Siarter Iaith – Started.	Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg (Secondary)	1
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Gwobr Efydd / Bronze Award	Albert Primary School All Saints C/W Primary School Bute Cottage Nursery School Cogan Primary School Fairfield Primary School Gladstone Primary School Gwenfo C/W Primary School Llandough Primary Llanfair Primary School Llangan Primary School Llansannor C/W Primary School St Andrew's C/W Primary School St David's C/W Primary School St Helen's RC Primary School St. Joseph's RC Primary School St Nicholas C/W Primary School Holton Primary School St Illtyd Primary School Ysgol y Ddraig Romilly Primary School St Athan Primary School Victoria Primary School Palmerston Primary School Pendoylan C/W Primary School	26

	Peterston-Super-Ely Primary Ysgol Y Deri	
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Gwobr Arian / Silver Award	Colcot Primary School Dinas Powys Primary School Barry Island Primary School Llantwit Major School Y Bont Faen Primary School Sully Primary School Evenlode Primary School St Brides C W Primary School St Cyres Comprehensive School Whitmore High School	10
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Gwobr Aur / Gold Award	Cadoxton Primary School Oak Field Primary School Stanwell School	3
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Wedi dechrau / Started	Cowbridge Comprehensive High Street Primary School Jenner Park Primary School Llancarfan Primary School Pencoedtre High School Rhws Primary School St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School Wick And Marcross C/W Primary	8
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Heb ddechrau / Not yet started	-	0

Since September 2023, 9 English medium primary schools have received the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Bronze Award and 3 the silver award. One English medium secondary school has received the bronze and silver award, and one has received gold. One special school has received the bronze award.

All Welsh and English medium primary, secondary, and special schools are engaged with the Siarter Iaith or Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 46 schools (87%) have received an award to date. This is an increase of 11 schools (21%) since 2022/23. This progress is a result of strategic targeting of challenge and support by the Central South Consortium (CSC).

Since September 2023, 2 bespoke support requests for Siarter Iaith / Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus have been supported along with 34 support visits resulting from CSC's strategic targeting of schools. 37 practitioners from 22 schools from the Vale of Glamorgan have attended various Cymraeg network meetings.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The Central South Consortium (CSC) continues to provide professional learning, resources, networking opportunities and bespoke support for Siarter Iaith and Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 13 additional schools will have received an award by the end of the summer term and 9 schools have made progressive levels of progress within the framework since September 2023.

Schools from the Vale of Glamorgan are playing a key role in the development of resources and the sharing of practice in relation to the Siarter Iaith / Cymraeg Campus.

Stanwell School presented to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Welsh in Education Forum (WEF) in Spring 2024 on their journey to gaining their Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus gold award along with a presenting at the CSC Secondary Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus network meeting. Welsh Government visited Stanwell School to hear about their Siarter Iaith success and the school has been selected to take part in a Welsh Government video to promote the new national Siarter Iaith Framework.

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg and Whitmore High School took advantage of CSC collaboration funding to partake in the Cymraeg partnership project between Welsh and English medium schools. Both schools collaborated successfully to develop strategies to improve pupil's Welsh oracy skills and the schools have agreed to continue collaborating beyond the funded project. Llanfair Primary School collaborated with Ysgol Calon y Cymoedd in Bridgend with the project focussed on developing oracy in response to Llanfair's Estyn recommendation and supporting Calon y Cymoedd towards their Siarter Iaith gold award. Schools report a successful collaboration with Llanfair competing for the first time in the Eisteddfod. Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc and Barry Island Primary also collaborated on a project to develop pupils' oracy skills.

All CSC Cymraeg support for schools can be found [here](#).

The Leadership of Welsh Programme is designed to support Headteachers / senior leaders to develop the Welsh language and culture on a whole school strategic level. 4 senior leaders from the Vale attended the programme in 2023/24 and strong feedback was received.

Urdd Gobaith Cymru in the Vale - Youth and Community Department

As part of the Urdd's partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, a full time Youth Worker is employed who is responsible for offering Welsh speakers and learner's opportunities through the medium of Welsh in schools and in the community.

These opportunities have included:

- 1 x weekly Youth Club at the YMCA Barry with 15-20 young people attending weekly. This Club has been extended from a 1-hour club to a 2-hour club.
- Linking in with the 'Cymreictod' group at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg to support them with organising events in the school such as Gigs.
- Supporting the Youth Service with introducing more Welsh in their Clubs. This has included visiting their clubs and holding bilingual sessions.
- Welsh Language Clubs at English medium secondary schools. We have regular clubs at – Llanilltud Fawr, St Cyres, Richard Gwyn High and Pencoedtre High
- Holiday and weekend provision including:
 - Trip to Heatherton – 41 young people
 - Trip up Pen y Fan- 15 young people
 - Trip to Disney – 3 young people
 - Paddleboarding sessions – 20 young people
 - Trip to AirHop – 6 young people
 - Residential to Cardiff Bay - 22 young people
 - Residential to Glan-llyn – 24 young people
- Transition sessions at all the Welsh language primary schools.
- Supporting Welsh language events such as Gwyl Fach y Fro and Cowbridge PRIDE.
- Accrediting Young People – 83 Young people received an accreditation.
- Young volunteers – 8 young people from the Vale has gained a volunteering certificate.

Eisteddfod

Over 200 children and young people from the Vale competed in the Urdd Eisteddfod this year. This included stage competitions, cooking competitions and arts and crafts.

National Offer

All Urdd national and international activities are promoted to young people in the Vale – this have included weekends for young volunteers, Urdd Youth Theatre, Irish and Welsh music exchange.

Sport Clubs

6 school clubs - (Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Ysgol Gwaun y Nant, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Ysgol Dewi Sant, Ysgol Sant Baruc and Ysgol Pen y Garth).

1 Community Club (Football – Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg).

Apprenticeship department

The Urdd Apprenticeship department offer individuals opportunities to upskill and gain a qualification in sports, youth work, outdoor activities and childcare. These are also on offer to staff who work in schools.

Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg

Output	Number	
Number of activities for children	114	
Number of children attending	2,020	
Number of activities for young people (11-25 age)	5	
Number attending (11-25 age)	323	
Number of activities for families	86	
Number attending family events	Children 1,261	Adults 942
Number of activities for adults	32	
Number of adults attending	970	

Children and Families

Menter's work programme focused on developing opportunities for families relating to the Welsh language from as early an age as possible. The engagement programme with pre-school families included Story Time sessions in libraries across the Vale, focusing on Barry, Llantwit Major, Penarth and Cowbridge. The numbers in these groups are stable, with around 60-70 attending weekly. Approximately 760 children and 640 adults engaged with the sessions during this period. These sessions are a great opportunity for very young families and children to build Welsh social networks and for children to hear Welsh from a very young age, as many families are non-Welsh speakers.

In addition, the family activity program included the following:

- "Deffro'r Synhwyr" (Awakening the Senses) – Highly popular sessions at Penarth library. High attendance and excellent feedback.
- "Bygi Heini" – Fitness class in Barry.
- "Anturwyr Bach" – New play course at Cosmeston Park.
- Egg Hunt at Cosmeston Park, which attracted over 110 participants.
- Christmas Party targeting families with learner parents at Palmerston.
- Christmas Party at Theatr y Memo.

For primary school-age children, the Bwrlwm (Open play scheme) programme has been running during every school holiday period across the Vale in Ysgol Sant Baruc, Ysgol Pen y Garth, Ysgol Dewi Sant and Ysgol Gwaun y Nant. The attendance numbers for Bwrlwm sessions are excellent, with 1473 children participating over the year. The Bwrlwm sessions ensure progress in Welsh language use and provide a great opportunity for children to engage with Welsh during school holiday periods.

Menter continue to work closely with Cymraeg i Blant (Welsh for Children) to ensure that the work programme does not conflict and to ensure that as many people as possible can benefit from engagement activities. Additionally, during the school term, a variety of activities have been provided, including sports clubs for boys and girls, and a dance club running weekly. We also continue to fund football and netball clubs with the Urdd.

A series of workshops for primary school-age children were delivered in the run up to Gwyl Fach y Fro festival, including graffiti and dance. Once again, this provided an opportunity for children to use their Welsh in a social context and get to know children from other schools across the area.

Menter continue to collaborate with the Urdd on sports activities for primary school children within the Vale, jointly funding and promoting 6 clubs that have attracted over 1,300 participants in Quarter 3 and 4.

Young people (11-25)

Due to funding challenges, Menter was unable to schedule a comprehensive summer programme for young people. However, much work took place through collaboration with partners to run a variety of activities at the Barry Youth Club. This included artistic workshops feeding into Gwyl Fach y Fro, including workshops creating bunting and decorating deckchairs. Additionally, a range of graffiti workshops were held, and the fruits of this labour were seen at Gwyl Fach y Fro. The festival also provided a platform for Welsh youth bands in the Vale of Glamorgan area.

Gwyl Fach y Fro was used to host a series of workshops with young people from schools, including dance workshops with Qwerin. Menter also collaborated with Year 12/13 pupils by planning volunteering opportunities at Gwyl Fach y Fro. Furthermore, there were many employment opportunities for pupils within the festival, creating a social context for young people to use their language, whether working at the bar or food stalls.

At a regional level, successful collaboration across Menter Iaith's led to promoting a series of youth gigs at Clwb Ifor Bach. This was an opportunity for pupils from the Vale of Glamorgan to socialise with high school students from the Cardiff area.

Menter's Bwrlwm programme continues to be an important area in terms of employment for young people. Up to 6 Year 12/13 pupils continue to work on the scheme during every holiday period. 4 young people trained to become paddleboard tutors and a series of workshops were successfully run over the summer through the medium of Welsh for the first time.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it's working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

Some elements of provision for this Outcome rely on the continuity of Council and Welsh Government grant funding. Without the continuation of funding some aspects currently delivered for this outcome may come under pressure.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The financial climate nationally, within the Council, schools and for our Welsh language partners continues to present significant challenges. The Council continues to explore and identify appropriate funding streams for projects and provision to support this Outcome.

FORWARD LOOK

1. The Council will continue to work closely with the Central South Consortium (CSC) as it continues to provide professional learning, resources, networking opportunities and bespoke support for Siarter Iaith and Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus.

2. The Council will encourage the Vale schools (Cadoxton Primary School, Oak Field Primary School and Stanwell School) who have been awarded Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Gold Award to promote the benefits of the award with other Vale schools. Initial discussions have taken place with Stanwell about potentially hosting an event promoting the award, developing partnership working and celebrating the success of the scheme.
3. The Council will continue to work to develop and strengthen its relationship with our partners at Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg and the Urdd Gobaith Cymru in the Vale - Youth and Community Department.

Outcome 6

An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018

KEY ANNUAL DATA

ALN Incidence in the Vale 2024 compared to 2023

Primary

Cynradd / Primary 2024	Ysgolion Cymraeg / Welsh Schools	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (except Special Schools)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (including Special Schools)
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr / Learners on roll	1961	12754	12946
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN / ALN	119	1188	1380
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	56	354	354
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	17	151	151
Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0	16	103
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	42	610	616
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	4	57	156
% y disgyblion ag AAA / ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	6.1%	9.3%	10.7%
%Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%
% Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	0.9%	1.2%	1.2%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0.0%	0.1%	0.8%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	2.1%	4.8%	4.8%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0.2%	0.4%	1.2%

Cynradd / Primary 2023	Ysgolion Cymraeg / Welsh Schools	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (except Special Schools)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (including Special Schools)
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr / Learners on roll	1939	13004	13174
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN / ALN	107	1260	1430
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	49	476	477
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	44	388	390
Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	1	38	143
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	13	331	331
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0	27	89
% y disgyblion ag AAA / ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	5.5%	9.7%	10.9%
%Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	2.5%	3.7%	3.6%
% Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	2.3%	3.0%	3.0%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0.1%	0.3%	1.1%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	0.7%	2.5%	2.5%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0.0%	0.2%	0.7%

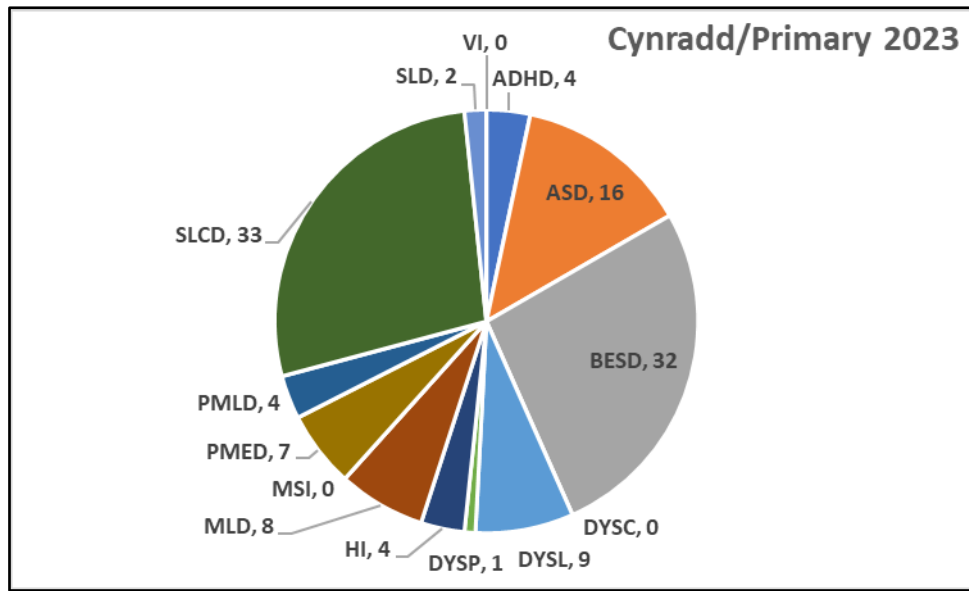
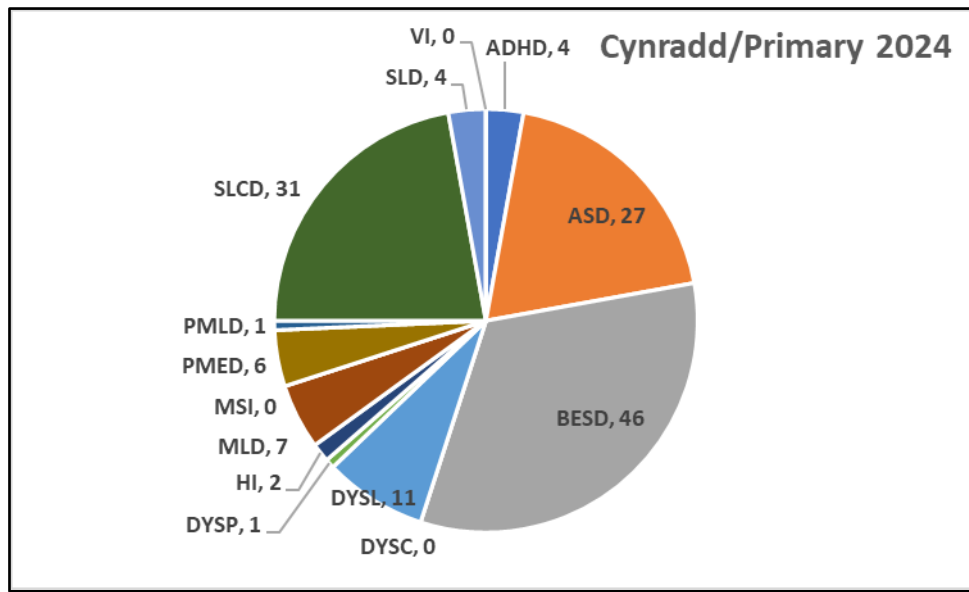
ALN Incidence in the Vale 2024 compared to 2023

Secondary

Uwchradd / Secondary 2024	Ysgolion Cymraeg / Welsh Schools	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (except Special Schools)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (including Special Schools)
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr / Learners on roll	1209	9816	10125
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN / ALN	66	883	1192
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	11	274	276
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	17	142	177
Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0	27	181
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	37	391	405
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	1	49	153
% y disgyblion ag AAA / ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	5.5%	9.0%	11.8%
%Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	0.9%	2.8%	2.7%
% Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	1.4%	1.4%	1.7%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0.0%	0.3%	1.8%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	3.1%	4.0%	4.0%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0.1%	0.5%	1.5%

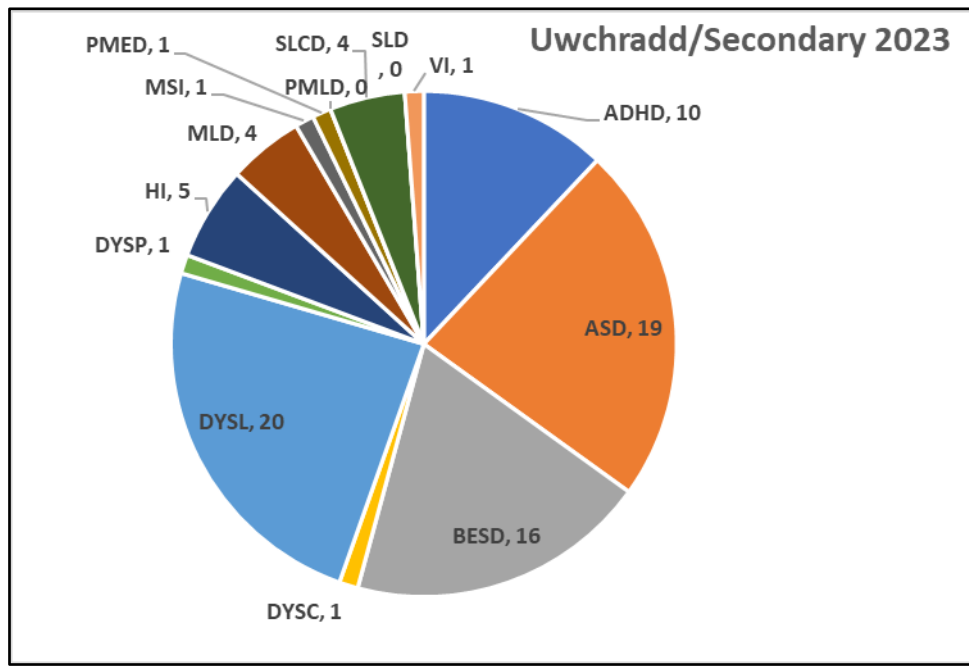
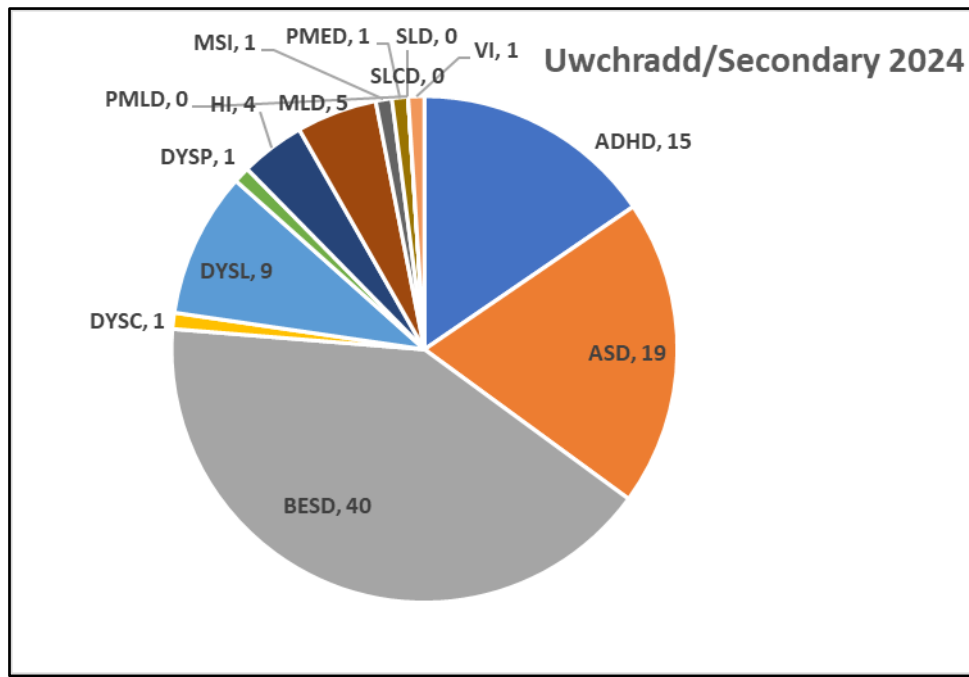
Uwchradd / Secondary 2023	Ysgolion Cymraeg / Welsh Schools	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (except Special Schools)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig) / All Schools (including Special Schools)
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr / Learners on roll	1167	9832	10114
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN / ALN	57	1137	1419
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	26	425	425
Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	13	145	190
Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0	51	262
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	18	494	501
Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0	22	41
% y disgyblion ag AAA / ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	4.9%	11.6%	14.0%
%Gweithredu gan yr ysgol / School Action	2.2%	4.3%	4.2%
% Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy / School Action +	1.1%	1.5%	1.9%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad / Learners with statements	0.0%	0.5%	2.6%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol / School Maintained Individual Development Plan	1.5%	5.0%	5.0%
% Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol / Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%

Range of needs in the Vale – Primary 2024 compared to 2023.



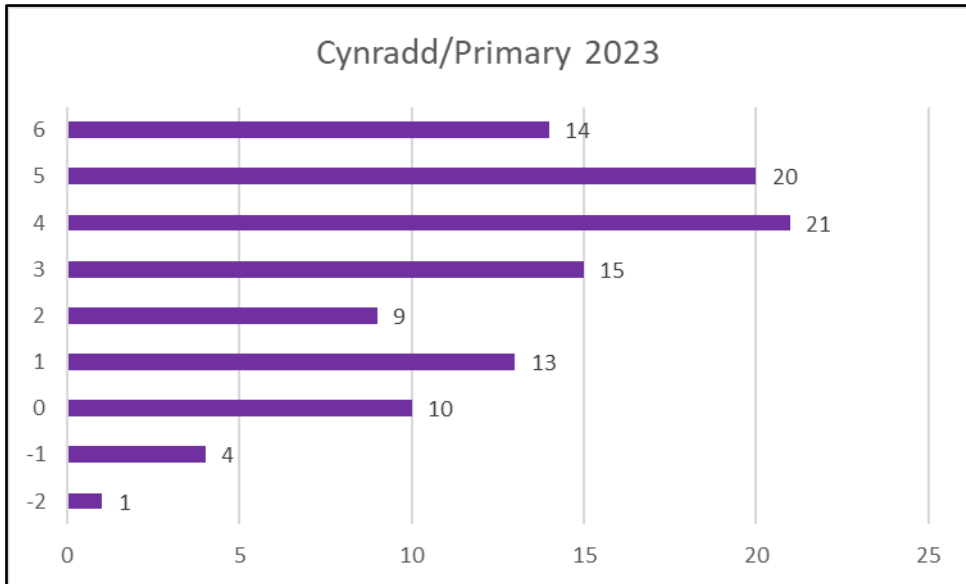
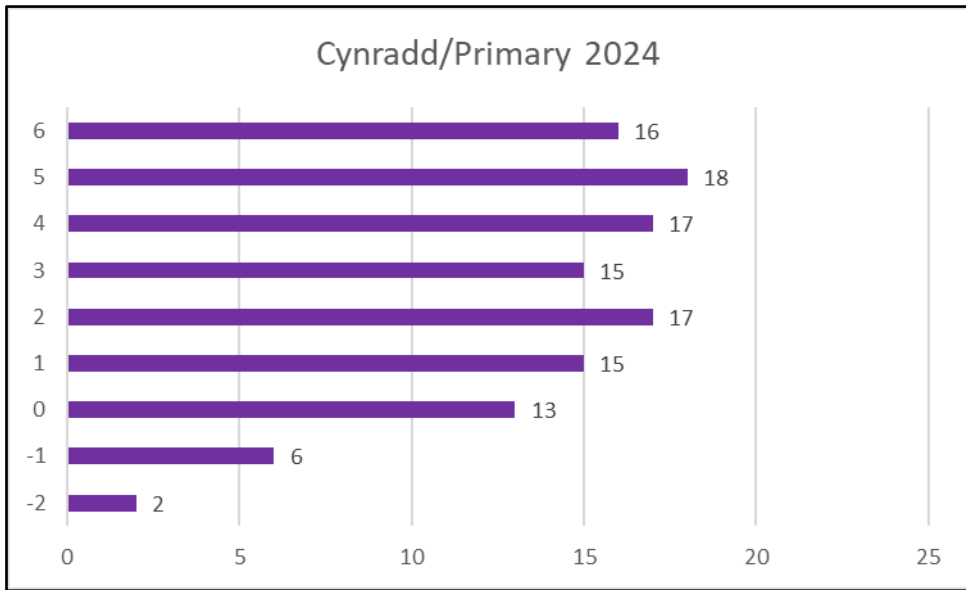
Key:	
ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulties
ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder	MSI - Multi-Sensory Impairment
BESD - Behaviour Emotional and Social Development	PMED - Physical and Medical Difficulties
DYSC - Dyscalculia	PMLD - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties
DYSL - Dyslexia	SLCD - Speech Language and Communication Difficulties
GLD - General Learning Difficulties	VI - Visual Impairment
HI - Hearing Impairment	

Range of needs in the Vale – Secondary 2024 compared to 2023

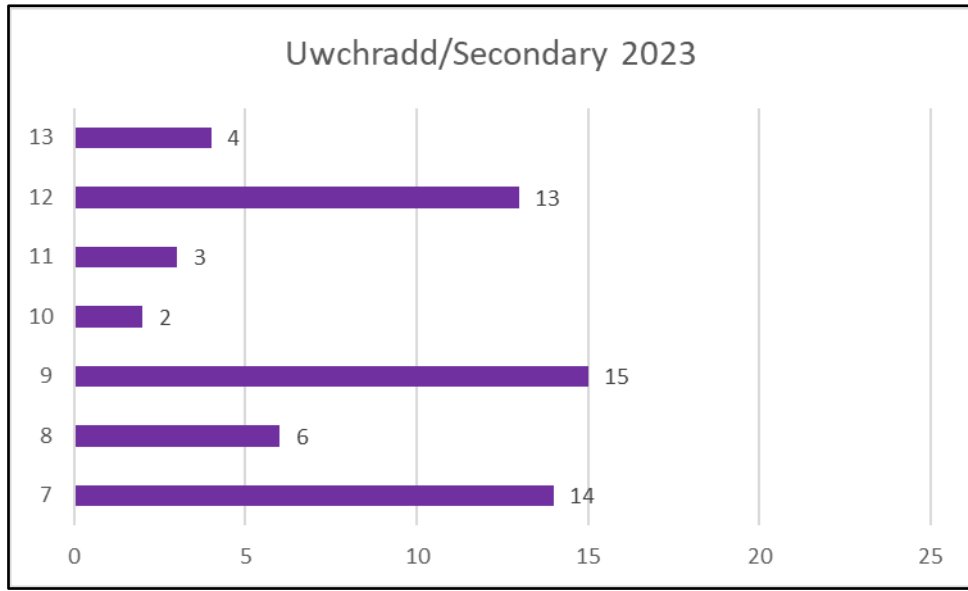
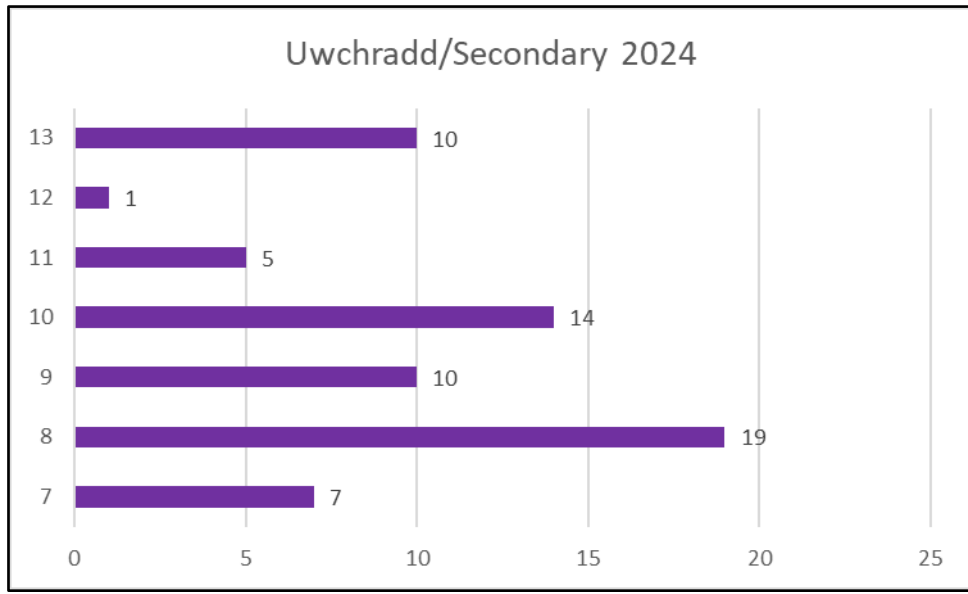


Key:	
ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulties
ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder	MSI - Multi-Sensory Impairment
BESD - Behaviour Emotional and Social Development	PMED - Physical and Medical Difficulties
DYSC - Dyscalculia	PMLD - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties
DYSL - Dyslexia	SLCD - Speech Language and Communication Difficulties
GLD - General Learning Difficulties	VI - Visual Impairment
HI - Hearing Impairment	

ALN age range in the Vale – Primary 2024 compared to 2023.



ALN age range in the Vale– Secondary 2024 compared to 2023.



Summary

All Schools (including Special School)

The percentage of learners in All Vale Schools (including Ysgol y Deri) identified as having SEN/ALN is 11.1% (2572 pupils) in 2024 compared to 12.2% in 2023 (2849), which continues a downward historical trend.

All Primary Schools (excluding Special School)

The percentage of learners in All Vale primary Schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2024 is 9.3% (1188 pupils) compared to 9.7% in 2023 (1260 pupils), which indicates a fall.

Welsh Medium Primary Schools

The percentage of learners in Welsh medium Vale primary Schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2024 is 6.1% (119 pupils) compared to 5.5% in 2023 (107 pupils). This indicates a small rise compared to 2023.

All Secondary Schools (excluding Special School)

The percentage of learners in All Secondary Schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2024 is 9.0% (883 pupils) compared to 11.6% in 2023 (1137 pupils), which indicates a fall.

Welsh Medium Secondary School

Whilst the percentage of learners in Welsh medium Secondary School identified as having SEN/ALN in 2024 is 5.5% (66 pupils) compared to 4.9% in 2023 (57 pupils). This indicates a small rise compared to 2023.

Of those pupils identified as having SEN/ALN, pupils identified with more complex difficulties are significantly lower in Welsh medium schools compared to English medium schools, therefore smaller numbers of these pupils require more specialist placements.

Data also indicates a rise in neuro diverse pupils with conditions such as autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, there is also evidence of a clear increase in children and young people being identified as having issues relating to their behavioural, emotional and social development.

There are also a high level of pupils in primary schools identified as having speech, language and communication difficulties. These trends seen in Welsh medium schools is reflected across all schools post pandemic.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

Good early gains have been secured by the Council in reviewing the arrangements made for ALN provision. This includes consideration of the sufficiency and quality of additional learning provision (ALP) through the medium of Welsh. Strong processes enable the service to gather timely data and information in a structured way from schools, specialist officers, educational psychologists, health professionals and families.

Effective analysis of need has enabled the Council to focus on building specialist workforce capacity. A proactive recruitment campaign has enabled the service to secure specialist teachers in the following areas: visual impairment (including a QTVI and in the process of advertising for a Welsh-medium Brailist), hearing impairment (QTHI), speech and language advisory teacher which complements the existing educational psychology and neurodiversity support already available through the medium of Welsh.

In response to a growing need, a specialist resource base was set up as a pilot during this academic year at Gwaun y Nant catering for learners who have difficulties because of their neurodiversity, social communication or high levels of anxiety. This has the capacity to offer 16 part time-placements and one teacher and two LSAs have been successfully recruited. The emphasis is on early intervention with a particular focus on parallel skill development of the home school with an expectation that most learners will return to and expect to have their Needs met at their local mainstream school. The resource base, although in its infancy, has proved a success and the Council is in the process of ending the pilot phase and confirming its status as a permanent resource base. This enables the service to ensure progression for those learners who require specialist resources, with the primary addition complementing the satellite provision (with 10 spaces) that already exist at secondary level at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.

The emphasis of the educational reforms articulate the need to create strong and inclusive schools that are committed to excellence and well-being where every learner matters and matters equally. Very good progress has been made in the Council in developing leadership for ALN in mainstream schools, including Welsh medium schools, with a working party providing clarity and guidance in relation to minimum standards and expectations. This is predicated on robust self-evaluation and refining internal accountability to support the creation of a fully inclusive education system where all learners are given the opportunity to succeed and have access to an education that meets their needs and enables them to participate in, benefit from, and enjoy learning.

Although good progress has been secured in many aspects of ALN leadership and provision, creating an equitable bilingual system is a significant challenge for the Council. Despite increasing Welsh medium specialist teacher capacity and opening a new resource base, compared to the English-medium sector, there remains a disparity in

terms of breadth and depth that is likely to remain an issue and maintaining any gain is highly vulnerable to staff turnover.

Further challenges remain with the availability of assessment, diagnostic or screening resources available in Welsh. In the region we have made excellent progress in a joint endeavour between all five local authorities, Central South Consortium, Cardiff University and Cadwyn Cymraeg to commission the development of a standardised, fit-for-purpose Welsh medium reading test, which is now available to all schools. We are currently in the process of developing a spelling test. Whilst such innovative practice is to be commended, it nevertheless falls very short of matching the availability of the plethora of resources available to English medium Schools.

Mid-year transfers are analysed to identify whether the reason for moves from Welsh medium to English medium or EHE are as a result of parental perception that the ALN Needs of their child cannot be met. At present, there is a significant increase in the Vale of Glamorgan of parents withdrawing their children from mainstream settings to electively home educate citing lack of ALN provision. However, this seems to be a general trend and not specific to Welsh medium schools.

The Council has arrangements with Cardiff to secure sufficiency of provision and resources specifically in relation to utilising spaces at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, where it is felt that the ALN needs of learners are complex and cannot be met in-house. There are also joint arrangements in place to support sensory impairment.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it's working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

The continuation of specialist ALN provision through the medium of Welsh is vulnerable to staff turnover. Although good progress has been secured in appointing Welsh speakers to date, we are mindful that there is not strength in depth should any of our employees decide to move on.

Despite increasing Welsh medium specialist teacher capacity and opening a new resource base, compared to the English medium sector, provision remains inequitable in terms of breadth and depth which is likely to remain an issue.

Further challenges remain with the availability of assessment, diagnostic or screening resources available in Welsh meaning that English-medium schools have a wider range of resources to draw on for early identification of need.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council:

- continues to actively promote appointments of bilingual staff for central specialist teams to strengthen resilience to staff turn over.
- continues to track and monitor needs to ensure that the capacity in specialist resource bases are able to meet the needs of our learners.

- works at a regional level to continue to develop standardised fit-for-purpose assessment tools. In addition, we are working with the newly appointed national ALN Welsh medium lead to develop resources for schools.

FORWARD LOOK

The specialist resource base at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant will become permanent this year. We will continue to monitor capacity to ensure that demand does not exceed supply and that all Welsh-medium learners can have their needs met within the locality.

Outcome 7

Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh

KEY ANNUAL DATA

The table below shows Qualified Teachers in Vale schools between **2022 and 2023** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

QTS		2023						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2022	W1	283	19					
	W2	7	377	4	7	1		
	W3		11	120	4			
	W4	1	6	2	168	5	2	
	W5			1	1	45	16	
	W6	1			1	1	202	
	W7		1					2

Note:

Numbers in green show the teachers that have moved up the competency framework and are therefore progressing in terms of their Welsh ability, showing where they are in 2023 against where they were in 2022. Those in yellow are the ones who have stayed the same year on year and those in peach have moved down. The high numbers in yellow can possibly be explained by the fact that not all schools are reassessing their teachers' Welsh Language ability year on year.

The table below shows Qualified Teachers in Vale schools between **2020 and 2023** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

QTS		2023						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2020	W1	234	31	1	1			
	W2	5	275	11	14	2	1	
	W3		16	94	5			
	W4		14	7	136	7	2	
	W5		1	1	2	32	27	
	W6	1			4		153	
	W7		2					2

The table below shows Teaching Assistants in Vale schools between **2022 and 2023** moving along the Welsh language competency framework

HL/TA		2023						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2022	W1	143	6					
	W2	1	213	4				
	W3	1	7	36				
	W4		1		22	1	1	
	W5					15	1	
	W6				3	5	57	
	W7	2	2					

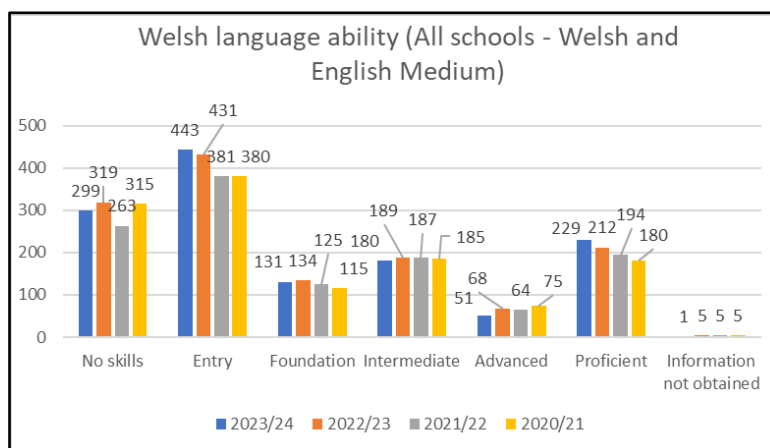
The table below shows Teaching Assistants in Vale schools between **2020 and 2023** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

HL/TA		2023						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2020	W1	89	12		1			
	W2	4	153	9				
	W3	1	5	24				
	W4		2	1	16			
	W5					10	2	
	W6				3	4	39	
	W7	2	1					

The School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC) is an annual statutory data collection of information about the workforce in maintained schools in Wales and is returned to Welsh Government in November each year.

Welsh language ability of teachers in the Vale of Glamorgan

	Totals (All schools – Welsh and English medium)								Total
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	
2023/24	299	443	131	180	51	229	1		1334
2022/23	319	431	134	189	68	212	5		1358
2021/22	263	381	125	187	64	194	5		1219
2020/21	315	380	115	185	75	180	5		1255



Welsh language ability of teachers in the Vale of Glamorgan

Totals (Primary – Welsh and English medium)									Total
No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown		
2023/24	11	226	105	144	38	101	0		625
2022/23	14	227	113	148	53	84	0		639
2021/22	8	212	98	153	51	80	2		604
2020/21	10	205	95	150	65	70	*		595

Totals (Secondary – Welsh and English medium)									Total
No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown		
2023/24	200	158	7	26	10	28	1		430
2022/23	238	185	21	35	15	35	5		534
2021/22	255	169	27	34	13	35	3		536
2020/21	255	160	20	30	15	30	*		510

Totals (Middle – Welsh and English medium)*									Total
No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown		
2023/24	18	43	18	4	3	96	0		182
2022/23						87			87
2021/22						79			79

2020/21	-	-	-	-	-	75			75
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*Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg is classed as a middle school for the purpose of the SWAC

Welsh language ability of teachers in the Vale of Glamorgan

Totals (Welsh medium schools only – Primary and Secondary)									
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	Total
2023/24					10	160			170
2022/23					26	142			168
2021/22	0	0	0	1	27	134			161
2020/21	-	-	-	-	40	115			155

*The 10 teachers captured as 'Advanced' in 2023/24 were all from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant. This was all of the teachers in the school. All other Welsh medium schools put all their teachers down as Proficient. Ysgol Gwaun y Nant should have registered their teachers as Proficient.

Teaching / working through the medium of Welsh in the Vale of Glamorgan

Totals						
	Teaching/working in Welsh in current post	Able to teach/work in Welsh but not doing so in current post	Unable to teach/work in Welsh	Teaching Welsh as a subject only	Unknown	Total
2023/24	189	71	623	451		1334
2022/23	192	72	636	458		1358
2021/22	188	65	619	435		1307
2020/21	185	65	575	435		1260

Welsh language ability of Support Staff in the Vale of Glamorgan

Totals (All schools – Welsh and English medium)									
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	Total
2023/24	768	505↑	94↑	65↑	36↑	152↑	0		1620
2022/23	719	434	80	41	23	117	5		1419
2021/22	711	382	55	37	24	103	9		1321
2020/21	680	380	75	40	30	90	10		1305

Welsh language ability of Support Staff in the Vale of Glamorgan

	Totals (Welsh medium schools only)								Total
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	
2023/24	12	1	2	10	21↑	117↑			163
2022/23	12	2	1	11	13	89	0		128
2021/22	11	2	2	9	12	75	0		111
2020/21	10	*	*	5	20	70			105

OUTCOME SUMMARY

CSC has revised and promoted a [playlist focussed on supporting schools to strategically plan Welsh language professional learning](#) for practitioners, linked to the Welsh Language competency Framework. CSC and Canolfan Cymraeg Cenedlaethol professional learning is aligned to the framework. The resource have also been signposted in all SWAC SIMS documentation going to schools, emphasising the importance of regular staff assessment and data updates to improve data accuracy and quality. CSC presented to all Vale Headteachers regarding strategically planning Welsh language professional learning and SWAC in Autumn 2023.

CSC provides a wide variety of asynchronous, face to face and bespoke Welsh language professional learning for practitioners linked to the Welsh language competency framework. Since September 2023, 179 practitioners have engaged in Welsh language professional learning which is an increase of 16 practitioners from 2022/2. Nearly all practitioners state that the professional learning will improve their practice in the classroom and will make strong progress in changing their behaviours.

CSC continues to use social media platforms with the aim of attracting Welsh speaking teachers/leaders to consider working in the CSC region.

<https://www.cscjes.org.uk/work-in-the-region>

CSC initiated and has worked in collaboration with Cardiff Metropolitan University and Welsh Government to develop a new fast track route to achieving Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) in the Welsh medium sector. Unfortunately, this project did not receive accreditation from EWC in April 2024.

1 practitioner from the Vale of Glamorgan, out of 7 regional spaces, engaged with the Welsh Sabbatical Scheme at Cardiff University during 2023/24 and CSC is providing strong post-sabbatical support including networking and bespoke visits by CSC officers to aid strategic planning. 4 practitioners from the Vale of Glamorgan have been selected for the two-term foundation/intermediate sabbatical programme from September 2024. This is the highest take up to date from Vale schools.

CSC Welsh Language Skills assessment resources have been signposted in all SWAC SIMS documentation going to schools, emphasising the importance of regular staff assessment and data updates to improve data accuracy and quality.

During the 2023-24 academic year, one deputy head was successfully appointed to a Welsh medium primary school in the Vale of Glamorgan. There are currently no vacancies in terms of headteacher and deputy posts in Welsh medium schools across the local authority.

One deputy headteacher from a Welsh medium school has successfully obtained the NPQH qualification during the spring term 2024. As a result, two primary deputy headteachers have the NPQH qualification across all Welsh medium schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Three participants from three Welsh medium schools from the Vale of Glamorgan have engaged with the national middle leaders' development programme. One participant from another Welsh medium school has engaged with the national senior leaders' development programme.

Welsh-medium education workforce capacity building grant 2024/25

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg

The school has been awarded funding to support various workforce initiatives as part of the Welsh-medium education workforce capacity building grant 2024/25 / Cymraeg 2050 grant:

1. Grant awarded - £10,000

£5,000 - Training a teacher to be able to teach Smart Tech effectively to KS3.

£5,000 - Train a teacher to be able to provide Religion, Values and Ethics effectively to KS3.

Monitoring - Report at the end of the 2024/25 year.

2. Partneriaeth Gyda'n Gilydd - Grant awarded - £32,000

Project 1 - Joint Mathematics and Childcare Provision

Project 2 - Attract alumni

Project 3 - Expanding teachers who teach core subjects through professional learning

Schedule:

December 2024	March 2025	July 2025
Project 1 - £7,000	Project 1 - £7,000	Project 1 - £7,000
Project 2 - £3,000	Project 2 - £3,000	
Project 3 - £2,500	Project 3 - £2,500	

Monitoring - Report at the end of the 2024/25 year.

3. Partnership - Glantaf, Bro Eder, Plasmawr (Cardiff) and Bro Morgannwg (Vale) – Grant awarded - £60,000

Payment dates	Grant figure	Project	Monitoring
December 2024	£20,000	Continue with undergraduate student scheme.	Report at the end of the 2024/25 year.
March 2025	£20,000		
July 2025	£20,000		

Monitoring - Report at the end of the 2024/25 year.

National Centre for Learning Welsh

The Centre launched its national offer for the education workforce to learn and develop their Welsh language skills in May 2024. It has also presented its proposals to ADEW and the Council met with the National Centre to discuss opportunities how the Vale could respond to the national offer.

The challenge for schools is that staff supply cover costs are not included within the offer. However, the provision model can be built around the needs of the school, for example:

- Block learning over a specific period of time.

- During the day, and at a suitable time for the school.
- During INSET days or staff meetings.
- Self-study at any time – release time when convenient to the school e.g. 1 day per ½ term.

It should also be noted that the sabbatical scheme will be transferred, hosted and delivered by the National Centre from September 2025.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Welsh Education Forum (WEF) regularly meets during the academic year and is supported by a range of WESP working groups that have been established to support the work in the Vale on each of the WESP Outcomes.

A collaborative approach is taking with membership on the WEF and it's working groups. These include representation from teams and services across the Council, Headteachers, school staff and partners who have an interest supporting and developing Welsh medium education provision in the Vale. Actions plans to track and monitor progress of each working group have been developed, and collaboratively work continues to develop the aims and objectives of the Vale's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

RISKS

Despite frequent reminders, advice and guidance from the Council's Learning & Skills Data Team and the Central South Consortium (CSC), there remains continued concerns over the accuracy of completed SWAC data returns from schools.

The financial climate both nationally, within the Council and schools continues to present challenges for all stakeholders to engage with workforce capacity building and Professional Learning projects and initiatives.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

With the Welsh Government target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050; ensuring a trained, growing, Welsh-medium workforce to work across the sector is essential.

The financial climate both nationally, within the Council and schools continues to present challenges. The Council continues to explore and identify appropriate funding streams for workforce capacity building and Professional Learning projects and initiatives.

FORWARD LOOK

1. The Council will strengthen systems and processes to report on the number of vacancies in the Vale by school type and role e.g., primary, secondary, special, headteacher, deputy, teacher learning support.
2. The Council will continue to collaborate with its schools, the Central South Consortium and its partners such as the National Centre for Learning Welsh to help teachers and learning support workers in schools to improve their Welsh language skills.



WESP 2023-24 Annual review report feedback

Outcomes	Feedback	Actions for Local authorities
General	<p>We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work that has gone into the preparation of this annual review report. Your annual review report is used as an important information and evidence base to evaluate plans and programmes such as: Flying Start; Mudiad Meithrin's Cymraeg i Blant and Sefydlu a Symud (Set up and Succeed) programmes; E-sgol; the Anti-Racism Action Plan, Siarter Iaith/ Welsh Language Charter; the Sustainable Communities for Learning investment programme and the Welsh Language Education Workforce Plan (amongst others). The reports are also considered in relation to wider education policy and reforms e.g. duties under the Additional Learning Needs and Curriculum and Assessment Acts, the Welsh Language and Education bill, as well as a way to inform research to evaluate learners' linguistic outcomes and prioritisation of funding needs.</p> <p>It's clear that your decision to appoint a dedicated WESP lead within your local authority is having a positive impact with increased stakeholder and school engagement and progress across all outcomes.</p>	
Outcome 1	<p>A comprehensive account of the current situation in Welsh-medium childcare. The authority recognises the challenge of meeting the agreed targets but the development of Ysgol St Baruc shows that there will be an increase over the next few years in the percentage of</p>	



	<p>Nursery learners being taught through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>Unfortunately uncertainty due to a lack of space at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg has meant that a capital application for alternative provision has been delayed at this time. It will be interesting to see if this will have an impact on Mudiad Meithrin's annual progression data (of learners progressing from the Cylchoedd Meithrin to a Welsh-medium school) as the 2022-23 data is showing lower transfer percentages compared with the previous year.</p> <p>Information has been included on capital plans to increase childcare spaces as well as the work being undertaken with partners and through the FIS to promote childcare and Welsh language education. It would be useful to understand more about the ongoing discussions around the Early Years and Childcare Capital programmes, in particular provisions at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg and Dinas Powys.</p> <p>We note the consultations to investigate the appetite for Welsh medium Childcare within specific geographic areas within the Vale. Please could you confirm which geographic areas the consultation covered?</p> <p>The report contains information on Flying Start provision including the places that have been obtained and the progress that has been made since 2022-23. There is information about Cylch Meithrin which offers Dechrau'n Deg provision but nothing about any other provision.</p> <p>The report notes that the expansion for Phase 2 Flying Start Programme for 2024-25 was lower than expected. It would be useful to understand the reasons for this.</p>	<p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p>
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Outcome 2	<p>We're pleased to see the developments with Ysgol Sant Baruc and the positive impact this is already having.</p> <p>It's also good to see the impact that your immersion provision is having not only on learners attending the centre but also the support to learners in mainstream WM education.</p> <p>We note the higher number of surplus places in Ysgol Pen y Garth and Gwaun y Nant. A further discussion around specific plans to tackle these areas would be useful.</p> <p>Good alignment is demonstrated between your WESP commitments and the priorities within your rolling programme to grow Welsh medium education.</p> <p>You note in the report that the challenge will be to persuade parents/carers about the benefits of bilingualism to facilitate the growth of Welsh medium education. A further discussion about how you intend to tackle this specifically would be useful.</p> <p>A further discussion would be useful on what kind of support you need to engage with parents/carers about opportunities to access Welsh-medium education among families from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds.</p>	<p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government.</p>
Outcome 3	<p>All key data has been included.</p> <p>We note your assessment that whilst the transition rate from primary to secondary Welsh medium education remain positive, there has been a small decrease this year. We note the inclusion of more detailed information around how many have been lost from each primary school. A further discussion around your proposed actions to tackle this would be helpful.</p>	<p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p>



	<p>It's good to see innovative projects such as the Big Fresh project which allows for improved access to Welsh medium after school clubs by contributing to transport costs.</p>	
Outcome 4	<p>This outcome would be strengthened with the inclusion of information on Ysgol Bro Morgannwg's range of provision through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>It's good to see the collaboration with CSC to promote the Welsh A level campaign by Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol.</p>	<p>Submit further data to the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p>
Outcome 5	<p>Information on the number of schools that have received bronze, silver, gold Charter Language and Welsh Campus awards has been presented, and it is noted that there is a 21% increase in participation in the Language / Welsh Language Charter Campus compared to 2022/23. Regular visits are arranged to schools in the region including arranging networking meetings.</p> <p>A number of schools that have yet to receive their awards by the summer are mentioned, and the achievements of Stanwell Schools which won the Welsh Campus gold award are mainly mentioned. There is a reference to schools working together to share good practice and to increase learners' oratory skills in Welsh. The successes of the schools that have already received the gold will be prioritised for the next phase by promoting the importance of the programme to other schools.</p> <p>Information will be presented within the application on the activity of partners such as the Language Initiative and the Urdd.</p> <p>We encourage you to have discussions about using e-sgol to enable you to expand and offer more subjects through</p>	



	<p>the medium of Welsh in the future. We will communicate with e-sgol as a result of receiving the annual reports to identify authorities keen to discuss initiating the use of e-sgol.</p>	
Outcome 6	<p>A clear way to collect data and evaluate provision.</p> <p>There seems to be a proactive way of building WM Specialist staff capacity through an analysis of need.</p> <p>Development (pilot initially has happened) of WM Specialist Resource Base at primary level to compliment the provision that exists at Secondary level. The LA note that there continues to be a disparity in maintaining and developing the provision due to high staff turn over.</p> <p>It's good to see that work has been undertaken within schools to develop leadership for ALN as well as a collaboration with Ysgol Glantaf in Cardiff on very complex needs.</p>	
Outcome 7	<p>A comprehensive data analysis has been included.</p> <p>This outcome would be strengthened with the inclusion of information around your progress in identifying the number of additional headteachers, teachers and learning support workers you will need over the coming years to meet the growth outlined within your WESP.</p> <p>It's good to see the Vale of Glamorgan has been successful in utilising the Welsh-medium education Workforce capacity building grant for 24-25.</p> <p>We're looking to establish a national workforce group to share good practice from different Local authorities, discuss challenges and work together on</p>	<p>Discussions with the Welsh Government</p> <p>Discussion with the Welsh Government</p>



	interventions to address those challenges. It would be good to have your thoughts on this	
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