

Meeting of:	Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Thursday, 08 February 2024
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 2022-23
Purpose of Report:	To update Scrutiny on the progress of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Annual Review Report 2022-23 and the feedback received from Welsh Government
Report Owner:	Lisa Lewis, Operational Manager, Strategy & Resources
Responsible Officer:	Paula Ham, Director of Learning and Skills
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Consultation is not applicable
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for noting by Scrutiny Committee
Executive Summary:	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>An Annual Review Report 2022-23 (attached at Appendix A) was required to be submitted to Welsh Government on the year one performance of our WESP. This was submitted on 28th July 2023 with Annual Review Report feedback (attached at Appendix B) received from Welsh Government on 14th November 2023. 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.</p>

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 2022-2023 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 2022-23 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. This equates to approximately 390 year one places being made available by 2031-32 based on current population projections.
- 2.6 Our WESP progress is currently considered to be categorised as “green” 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 an number of key achievements in year 1 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 2022-23 outlined challenges and progress against these outcomes. These are summarised below.

Key Achievements

2.11 Ysgol Sant Baruc

- The expansion of Ysgol St 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. The relocation of Ysgol St Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. 39 pupils were admitted to reception in September 2023.
- The opening of the new site was covered by Wales Online which has an estimated reach of 2.56million readers. It was also featured in the Western Mail and covered by the Barry and District News which has an estimated reach of 34.9K online. It was published in print by the Barry and District News and Glamorgan Star.

2.12 Ysgol Iolo Morganwg

- The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was successfully completed this academic year and is timetabled to open in September 2025. The Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and St Baruc schemes will increase the number of places available by 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector.
- The Council recently shared the news about the new school campus planned for Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg. It was also printed 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) at the time of submitting the annual report.

2.13 Welsh Language Centre

- Between September 2022 and July 2023, three more Year 2 learners were welcomed at the [Welsh Language Centre](#) to receive late immersion education. In addition, sixty five learners attended the Centre having been identified by their teachers as pupils who could benefit from additional support to increase understanding and use of vocabulary, practice common sentence structures, grow in confidence and enjoy taking part in weekly sessions. Some of the learners in this group were at risk of leaving Welsh-medium education.

	Total Number of learners between September 2022 and July 2023
Late Immersion education for learners new to the Welsh Language	Three learners
Immersion support for learners currently attending Welsh-medium schools	Sixty-five learners

- Eight additional latecomers started at the [Welsh Language Centre](#) in September 2023. Their progress will be reflected in next year's Annual Report.

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

- Welsh medium nursery figures have fallen considerably over the last 3 years across all of our schools (including Ysgol Sant Baruc). According to the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) in January 2020, there were 345 pupils in Welsh medium local authority nurseries, in January 2023, this had fallen to 280.
- The decline in birth rates since 2018 is currently impacting on both the Welsh and English medium sectors and highlights the challenge ahead of us.
- Promotion and engagements activities are a key aspect of our year two plans. Currently 17% 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. (See table on page 11 of our [WESP](#)) and actively promote Welsh medium education.

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

- Currently 15.8% 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%

- The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase following the expansion of Ysgol St Baruc into a 420 place school on the Waterfront 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 a new site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. The Council are considering options to develop a new Cylch Meithrin at Barry Waterfront to support the development of increased demand for Welsh medium education.
- The priorities outlined in the Vale of Glamorgan’s Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) 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 Governments ambitious target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. A number of 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 commitments. In addition the Council introduced its own Immersion services in February 2022 for the first time. Building on previous progress, between September 2022 and July 2023, three more learners were welcomed at the [Welsh Language Centre](#) to receive late immersion education with eight pupils registered in September 2023. Additional learners attended the Centre who had been identified by their teachers as pupils who could benefit from additional support to increase understanding and use of vocabulary, practice common sentence structures, grow in confidence and enjoy taking part in weekly sessions. Some of the learners in this group were at risk of leaving Welsh-medium education.

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 – 2022/23

Data	2022/23	
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Foundation Phase (Y2) and Key Stage 2 (Y3) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant to Oakfield. ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Sant Curig to Romilly.
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 2 (Yr. 6) and 3 (Yr. 7) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	95%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6 pupils moved from Ysgol Iolo to Cowbridge ○ 2 pupils moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to Stanwell ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to St Cyres ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Sant Baruc to St Richard Gwyn
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 3 (Yr. 9) and 4 (Yr. 10).	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg to St Richard Gwyn ○ 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg to Ysgol Y Deri

- 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 are positive and continue to be monitored throughout the WESP cycle by the Council’s admissions team, the WESP Forum and the WEF 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 will 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 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

Year	2020		2021		2022	
	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
KS4						
Welsh First Language GCSE	152	10.4%	157	10.2%	161	10.5%
Welsh Second Language GCSE	989	67.8%	1067	69.2%	1138	74.4%
Welsh Second Language Entry Level	24	1.6%	24	1.6%	38	2.5%
Not Sat Welsh Language Exams	293	20.1%	294	19.1%	192	12.6%
Total	1458	100.0%	1542	100.0%	1529	100.0%

	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
KS5						
Welsh First Language A Level	8	1.2%	3	0.4%	13	1.7%
Welsh Second Language A Level	5	0.8%	12	1.6%	9	1.2%

- 177 Year 11 and 79 Year 13 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg will have studied KS4 and KS5 through the medium of Welsh in 2023.
- In 2022 161 (10.5%) pupils sat Welsh 1st language GCSE exams. 1138 (74.4%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language GCSE exams. 38 (2.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language entry level exams. 12.6% of pupils did not sit any Welsh language exam.
- In 2022, 13 (1.8%) pupils sat Welsh 1st Language A Level exams, 9 (1.2%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language A Level exams.
- 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](#).
- The 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.

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

Siarter Iaith / Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus data (as of June 2023)

Number of schools	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award
Siarter Iaith Primary (Welsh Medium)	2	4	1
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Primary (English Medium)	19	3	2
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Secondary (English Medium)	2	1	

- Since September 2022, 12 English medium primary schools have received the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Bronze Award and 1 the silver award. One English medium

secondary school has received the silver, and at the time of submitting the report another secondary school and one Welsh medium primary school was due to be verified for silver. This has now been achieved.

- All Welsh and English medium primary, secondary and special schools are engaged with the Siarter Iaith or Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 34 schools (64%) had received an award at the time that the report was submitted.

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

- There is a risk that insufficient resources and capacity to deliver a fully bilingual service as set out in the Act, will create a lack of parity of provision across the service and a failure to meet both the requirements of the legislation and the needs of our learners. This is especially relevant in light of the additional growth pressures being seen within the sector, and specialist nature of the staff that is required in many cases.
- Because of the repercussions and on-going impact of the pandemic, across Wales there is a general trend of increasing numbers of learners presenting with significantly more complex needs
- The percentage of learners in Welsh mainstream primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2023 was 5.5% compared to 9.6% in all mainstream English and Welsh medium primary schools. In 2022 the percentage of learners in Welsh mainstream primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN was 4.5% compared to 9.3% in all mainstream primary schools. This indicates a growth in pupils identified as having SEN/ALN across all primary schools since 2022 however, there is a higher percentage increase in Welsh medium primary schools.
- In terms of the actual numbers of pupils, in 2023 there were 107 pupils in Welsh medium primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN which had risen from 88 in 2022. In all mainstream primary schools the number of pupils with SEN/ALN had risen from 1,227 in 2021 to 1,251 in 2023.
- 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 is 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 7: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh.

- The Welsh Government guidance - *'Guidance for using School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC) data to support implementation of Welsh in education strategic plans'* (June 2023) has been published and work has commenced to implement the guidance in 2023-24.

- The Council will take steps from this autumn with the aim to:
 - identify the number of vacancies in the Council by school type e.g. primary, secondary, special, and
 - determine how many additional teachers (primary and secondary) we will need over the next 5 years to meet our plans to increase the number of children in Welsh language education.
- A WEF Working Group has been established to include representation from Schools, Human Resources, Learning & Skills Data Team and the Central South Consortium (CSC) to develop systems and processes to track and monitor workforce data in Welsh medium education.
- The CSC published 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 are aligned to the framework. The resource was also signposted to schools, emphasising the importance of regular staff assessment and data updates to improve data accuracy and quality.
- The CSC provided a wide variety of asynchronous, face to face and bespoke Welsh language professional learning for practitioners linked to the Welsh language competency framework. A new refresher (Gloywi Iaith) course was launched in June 2023. Engagement of Vale schools since April 2022: Part 1 -66; Part 2 – 73, Part 3 – 24 which is 163 practitioners in total. A further 6 practitioners engaged in either face to face or blended Welsh language development professional learning. Most practitioners stated that the professional learning improved their practice in the classroom. The CSC funded a UK wide marketing drive aimed at attracting Welsh speaking teachers to consider working in the CSC region. This included online advertisements in national and local newspapers as well as a social media campaign:
- <https://www.cscies.org.uk/work-in-the-region>
- Gyda'n Gilydd (CSC Welsh Medium Secondary Headteachers' Association) in collaboration with CSC held an online event jobs fair aimed at attracting Welsh speaking practitioners to work in the region. Headteachers and CSC representative met prospective candidates virtually and personally encourage and share the benefits of teaching and leading through the medium of Welsh in the central south Wales region.
- The CSC initiated and 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. This gained Welsh Government approval and the project is making strong progress.

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 Not 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.

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.

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

(Academic year 2022/23)

Name of Local Authority

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Author:	Lisa Lewis / Jeremy Morgan
Approver:	
Date	31/07/23

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS / HIGHLIGHTS

Ysgol Sant Baruc

The expansion of Ysgol St 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. The relocation of Ysgol St Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. Admissions to the school for September 2023 are already at 39 pupils and this is likely to increase.

The opening of the new site was covered by Wales Online which has an estimated reach of 2.56million readers. It was also featured in the Western Mail and covered by the Barry and District News which has an estimated reach of 34.9K online. It was published in print by the Barry and District News and Glamorgan Star.

It was the Council's top performing twitter post in April/May with 16.8K impressions.



It also performed well on Facebook with 1,149 engagements (likes, comments, shares, media views and post clicks). This was one of the highest performing posts for the Council on Facebook in April / May 2023.

In June the ITV Wales programme, 'Sharp End' featured the Welsh language immersion unit at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant and the new Ysgol Sant Baruc:

<https://www.itv.com/walesprogrammes/articles/sharp-end-june-12th>

As well as being on the 'Sharp End,' the schools were also featured on the ITV evening news programme. On both programmes the Vale was the case study for a local authority having great success in attracting families from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds into Welsh medium education.

New School campus for Ysgol Iolo Morganwg given the green light

The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was successfully completed this academic year and is timetabled to open in September 2025. The Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and St Baruc schemes will increase the number of places available by 60 places in each year group in the Welsh medium primary sector.

The Council recently shared the news about the new school campus planned for Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg. It was also printed 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.

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 ultimate aim of increasing the number of applications for Welsh medium education.

Immersion Centre

Between September 2022 and July 2023, three more Year 2 learners were welcomed at the Welsh Language Centre to receive late immersion education. In addition, sixty five learners attended the Centre having been identified by their teachers as pupils who could benefit from additional support to increase understanding and use of vocabulary, practice common sentence structures, grow in confidence and enjoy taking part in weekly sessions. Some of the learners in this group were at risk of leaving Welsh-medium education.

	Total Number of learners between September 2022 and July 2023
Late Immersion education for learners new to the Welsh Language	3 learners
Immersion support for learners currently attending Welsh-medium schools	65 learners

Five additional latecomers are set to start at the Welsh Language Centre in September 2023.

Mudiad Meithrin Welsh Language Promotional Videos

Mudiad Meithrin has produced a number of videos promoting Welsh medium education. These include collaborations with schools and stakeholders in the Vale of Glamorgan. The videos include:

- o Welsh education in the Vale – a celebration from nursery to secondary education (short version):
<https://youtu.be/4bAGcqHWI8k>

- o Welsh education in the Vale – a celebration from nursery to secondary education (long version):
<https://youtu.be/kddSfAHDiYk>

The videos have been promoted and shared by the Vale’s Family Information Service and on the Council’s social media platforms.

OVERALL PLAN SUMMARY

The projects outlined above are considered to be green as they 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. 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.

FOREWARD LOOK MILESTONES

Currently 15.8% 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%

The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase through the expansion of Ysgol St Baruc into a 420 place school on the 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 St Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within the Barry Waterfront development community. Admissions to the school for September 2023 are already at 39 pupils and this is likely to increase. The Council are considering options to develop a new Cylch Meithrin at Barry Waterfront to support the development of increased demand for Welsh medium education although there is currently no funding identified for this potential project.

The consultation on the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg was successfully completed this academic year and is timetabled to open in its new site in September 2025. 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.

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 persuading parents to choose 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

Welsh medium nursery figures have fallen considerably over the last 3 years across all of our schools (including Ysgol Sant Baruc). According to PLASC, in January 2020, there were 345 pupils in Welsh medium local authority nurseries, in January 2023, this had fallen to 280. This is primarily as a result in the drop in birth rates which has impacted admissions in both English and Welsh medium schools and highlights the challenge ahead of us. The 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 year two plans. Currently 17% 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 persuading 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. (See table on page 11 of WESP) and actively promote Welsh medium education.

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment annual report and updated Action Plan was completed in June 2023. There are currently 6 Cylchoedd within the Vale of Glamorgan, 3 in Barry (1 specifically Flying Start run), 1 in Dinas Powys, 1 in Llantwit Major and 1 in Cowbridge.

The Council has introduced an additional 48 nursery places at Ysgol St Baruc from September 2022, together with its successful relocation to a new school building on the Barry Waterfront development in April 2023. Plans have progressed to introduce a further 30 nursery places at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 2025 following the proposed relocation to a new school building on the Darren Farm Development in Cowbridge.

Flying Start currently provides 44 Welsh-medium childcare places. However, with the roll out of the 2-year-old childcare offer this is likely to increase as we build capacity within our childcare sites as well as accessing established provision across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Number of children attending Welsh medium Nursery units in Primary schools 2018-2023

School	No of places available 2018/2019	NOR 2018/2019	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
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	30	30	30	30	66*	43	66	34	66	28
Ysgol Dewi Sant	52	48	56*	49	56	41	56	43	56	42
Ysgol Pen y Garth	76	64	76	70	76	65	76	59	76	55
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	82	54	82	53	82	42	82	42	82	31
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	56	53	56	56	56	56	56	53	56	52
Ysgol St Baruc	48	46	48	48	48	48	48	48	96*	58
Ysgol St Curig	114	85	114	107	114	111	114	95	114	82
Total	458	380	462	413	498	406	498	374	546	348

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

Cylch Meithrin Progression Data into Welsh Medium Education 2021/2022

Cylchoedd Meithrin	No of children attending	No transferring to WM	No transferring to EM	% transferring to WM
Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr	22	21	1	95.45%
Cylch Meithrin Dechrau Dysgu	21	18	3	85.71%
Cylch Meithrin Bethel	13	13	0	100%
Cylch Meithrin Bethesda	20	19	1	95%
Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys	13	12	1	92.31%
Cylch Meithrin Y Bontfaen	15	19	6	60%
Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala	39	31	8	79.49%

Data from the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

As part of the Early Years & Childcare Capital programme, there are currently 2 proposals to support the increase in Welsh language accessible places. An extension to the existing Cylch in Y Bont Faen, will enable the Cylch to expand their age range by providing up to 6 places for children aged 1 – 2 yrs. This will enable those parents wishing for their child to play, learn and grow through the medium of Welsh.

Discussions are currently underway regarding a new build Welsh language provision on the site of Ysgol Pen Y Garth, Penarth. This provision will look to accommodate the relocation of the existing Cylch Meithrin Dinas Powys (currently offering 12 places) and allow for the opportunity to increase childcare places – maximum of 30 places.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

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.

An additional 48 Welsh medium nursery places have been made available at Ysgol Sant Baruc from September 2022. The Council will be looking to introduce a further 30 nursery places at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg for 2025.

The Council will continue to work closely with Mudiad Meithrin to identify areas for growth. The Council will:

- o **Ensure ongoing dialog between the Early Years and Childcare Team and Mudiad Meithrin continues to be a high priority.**

Invitations to Mudiad Meithrin to engage in sustaining and developing Welsh medium provision continue to be offered under Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) meetings as well as individual relevant meetings.

Updates to the Childcare Sufficiency Action plan and Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme proposals have been shared with Mudiad Meithrin to initiate views / comments. The Council promotes discussions within different forums including the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership.

As part of the Early Years & Childcare Capital programme, there are currently 2 proposals to support the increase in Welsh language accessible places. This includes an extension to an existing Cylch in Y Bont Faen to expand the age range and initial discussions are being held with interested parties around the opportunity to develop a childcare unit on the site of Ysgol Pen Y Garth, Penarth.

To support Welsh Government's initiatives for the expansion of Flying Start, 2-year-old offer and expansion of the Childcare Offer, discussions have been taking place around the sufficiency of childcare places to meet increased demand through the Early Years & Childcare Capital Programme. An additional meeting including members from EYDCP took place in April 2023 to introduce proposals for 7 childcare capital projects. 2 of which will support increased Welsh medium childcare places. Members were positive about the initial plans presented.

- **Will collaborate with Mudiad Meithrin as part of its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and facilitate progress with the development of Welsh medium pre-school childcare within the Vale, providing options for future opportunities and planning. Feedback will assist with informing the Action Plan.**

The Action plan is discussed at each EYDCP meeting to initiate conversation around progression / delay against any actions. At the EYDCP meeting held in February 2023, discussions took place around the CSA Action Plan and the work that had currently taken place. EYDCP members were invited to update their progress within the Action Plan. The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment annual report and updated Action Plan is now complete and was submitted to Welsh Government on 30 June 2023.

- **Ensure that the benefits of bilingualism and multilingualism in relation to academic success and future careers are highlighted to parents of pre-nursery age children. The importance of providing relevant information that enables parents to make considered decisions about the options available to them when considering Welsh-medium education for their children at different access points within their area is recognised and will be a clear action of this WESP cycle.**

The Family Information Service (FIS) Team continues to share information on their social media pages about 'Me and Baby sessions', 'Bay Groups' Clwb Cwtsh', Amser Stori sessions run by Cymraeg I Blant and Menter Bro Morgannwg. Their resources have been reviewed and republished on the Dewis Cymru website and Childcare Information Wales website.

FIS web pages link to '[Your Bilingual Journey](#)' web page to encourage parents to think about Welsh medium education.

All parents contacting FIS for information about childcare are sent information about raising a child bilingually, information on Cylchoedd Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi. FIS are holding a series of parent information events in libraries that coincide with the Cylch Ti a Fi sessions to engage with parents and Mudiad Meithrin have an information stand at the events.

Successful Parent Information events were held in Barry Library and Penarth library and ran alongside the Cylch Ti a Fi sessions, to encourage parents to attend. Mudiad Meithrin held an information stand. A further event is being arranged in St Athan.

- **Map the English and Welsh settings and identify settings that are suitable to become Welsh medium Cylchoedd Meithrin.**

With the roll out of the Flying Start expansion and 2-year-old childcare offer, Capital investment has been awarded to develop new Welsh Medium Childcare provision within the Vale. Whilst some enquires around developing Welsh Medium across sites have not progressed, we are confident of a potential new development that has been identified within Ysgol Pen y Garth.

- **Development of Ti a Fi service.**

As part of the Child Development Fund, overseen by Flying Start, the Council provided funding to Mudiad Meithrin for a Peripatetic Ti a Fi Officer in April 2022. Four new Ti a Fi groups have been established across the Vale in Penarth library, Barry library, St Athan and Rhoose. On-going support remains in place for existing Ti a Fi groups. Family Information Service (FIS) have worked with the Ti a Fi Officer to ensure information on new groups is up to date on Dewis Cymru and shared via social media. The FIS Outreach Officer has attended Ti a

Fi groups in the library to raise awareness with parents about FIS, help with childcare costs etc. FIS are holding a series of parent information sessions in libraries that coincide with the Cylch Ti a Fi sessions to engage with parents and Mudiad Meithrin have an information stand at the events.

Mudiad Meithrin Welsh Language Promotional Videos

Mudiad Meithrin has produced a number of videos promoting Welsh medium education. These include collaborations with schools and stakeholders in the Vale of Glamorgan. The videos include:

- Welsh education in the Vale – a celebration from nursery to secondary education (short version):
<https://youtu.be/4bAGcqHWI8k>
- Welsh education in the Vale – a celebration from nursery to secondary education (long version):
<https://youtu.be/kddSfAHDiYk>

The videos have been promoted and shared by the Vale's Family Information Service and on the Council's social media platforms.

Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg – Pre-school engagement in the Vale

Menter's provision for young families has included a wide variety of activities:

- Weekly Storytime sessions in 4 locations
- Messy Play sessions- Little Adventurers
- Circus Skills
- Halloween Party in Llantwit Major
- Christmas fun with Learn Welsh the Vale and Cymraeg i Blant in Palmerston
- Dance, Fun and Excitement sessions
- Awaken the senses - sensory classes
- Buggy Fit
- Spark Lab – Science sessions for young children

The Council's library service worked closely with Menter in organising Amser Stori sessions on a weekly basis, ensuring that sessions run across all areas of the county. These sessions were an opportunity to introduce a number of non-Welsh speaking parents to a Welsh atmosphere and hear the Welsh language regularly for the first time. There has been an effective working relationship with Welsh for Children and as a result we ensured that activities did not conflict. We have also succeeded in collaborating with Cymraeg i Blant on projects during the year and the number of attendees has increased significantly during the year as people return to living habits that are more in keeping to those that existed before the pandemic. All the family activities were an opportunity for young parents to meet other young parents and establish language habits very early on. Not all of the parents were fully committed to sending their children to a Welsh language education and involvement with other parents had influenced some in terms of their choice of language and school selection in the future.

Regional Champion Partnership for the Promotion of Welsh Medium Education

Opportunities to work closer with health visitors and midwives are being planned to help health staff colleagues ensure they are confident and comfortable with discussions with parents and carers in relation to Welsh medium childcare and education.

The Regional Welsh-medium Education Champion will lead on a project to produce an '*All About Welsh Medium Education Pack for health workers*'. The aim of the project is to create a training resource (short videos and a booklet) for health workers so that they:

- know the basics about Welsh-medium education;
- are able to refer the person to a friendly person for a discussion; and
- are welcoming and positive about Welsh-medium education.

Messages for health workers

- Whatever your experience of the Welsh language and the opportunities you have had, Welsh-medium education is now available to everyone locally and is popular
- You have an important role in creating 'A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language' (The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act)
- Midwives and health visitors can talk to people about the language spoken at home and language choices, confirming that speaking more than one language is normal and enriches our lives
- Health workers can be confident that speaking Welsh and other languages is a positive experience for all children
- That there is support for all bilingual and multilingual children in education and health.

The newly appointed Welsh Education Officer in the Vale of Glamorgan Council has been appointed to the Governance Board of the regional Champion Partnership for the Promotion of Welsh Medium Education.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) meetings now meet three times a year (1 per term). The meetings provide a platform for discussion around existing initiatives and new initiatives and also provides local authority officers and partners the opportunity to update members on matters relating to their organisation and to address any concerns or worrying trends showing. i.e., shortage of qualified staff available.

Vale of Glamorgan Council Education Officers regularly discuss proposals and actions relating to Welsh medium childcare and early years provision in various Directorate meetings. These support the aims and objectives of the Vale's WESP.

A WESP Workforce Planning Group formed as a subgroup of the Vale WESP Forum has been established with a particular focus on the childcare and early years sector to specifically consider how best to support forecasted increased Welsh medium childcare and early years provision in the Vale of Glamorgan. Relevant stakeholders such as Mudiad Meithrin, Menter Bro Morgannwg and RhAG are invited together with key relevant Council officers.

A WESP Marketing and Promotion Group has also been established to develop a strategy to promote, encourage and support the choice of Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan. RhAG will help the Council as a result of its experience in this area working with other local authorities in South Wales.

We will be looking to further strengthen the role of our WESP working groups from this Autumn 2023.

The progress for this Outcome is also considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.

OUTCOME LEVEL RISKS

Whilst Welsh Government have made funds available to support Capital works to develop / expand provision to support the infrastructure of Childcare settings, it still remains the fact that the sector is facing challenges with the recruitment and retention of its staff. Some settings report that whilst they have childcare spaces available within their set up, they are unable to fill them due to recruitment difficulties. The Council is making strides in promoting childcare as a career and upskilling the existing staffing workforce, but this is not a quick solution.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council continues to work with its partners to discuss funding structure to support Welsh Government commitments to Welsh medium provision. However, with existing staff already stretched to capacity, recruiting to the post of a project co-ordinator to take this work forward has, so far, been unsuccessful.

Outcome 2

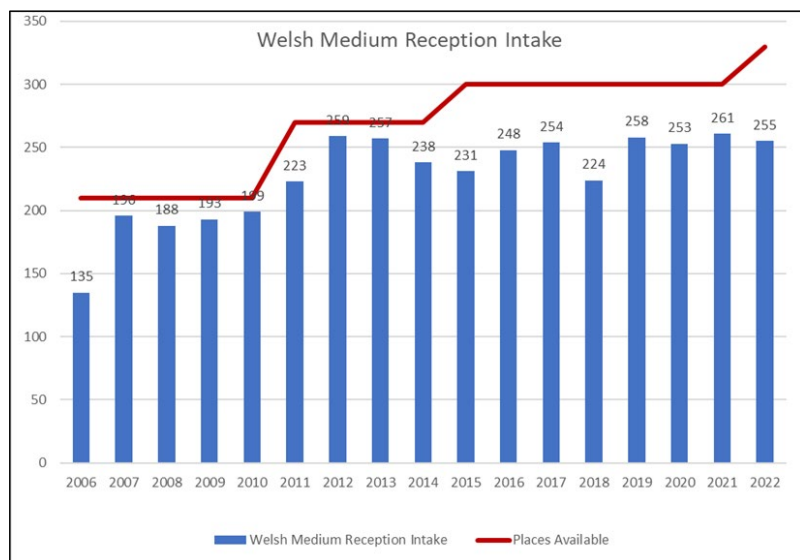
More reception class children/ five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

KEY ANNUAL DATA

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

Year Grp	PLASC 2020			PLASC 2023		
	Welsh Medium	Overall Cohort	% Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Overall Cohort	% Welsh Medium
N1	94	412	22.8%	61	387	15.8%
N2	251	1462	17.2%	219	1329	16.5%
R	258	1628	15.8%	255	1590	16.0%
1	221	1565	14.1%	254	1609	15.8%
2	248	1659	14.9%	255	1643	15.5%
3	242	1654	14.6%	243	1662	14.6%
4	220	1693	13.0%	205	1594	12.9%
5	228	1722	13.2%	220	1663	13.2%
6	232	1659	14.0%	227	1697	13.4%
7	215	1727	12.4%	204	1731	11.8%
8	185	1655	11.2%	204	1746	11.7%
9	161	1557	10.3%	209	1715	12.2%
10	157	1544	10.2%	205	1720	11.9%
11	153	1460	10.5%	177	1659	10.7%
12	88	799	11.0%	89	788	11.3%
13	56	666	8.4%	79	731	10.8%
14	0	10	0.0%	0	24	0.0%
Total	3009	22872	13.2%	3106	23288	13.3%

Welsh Medium Reception



Summary

Welsh Medium figures in LA Maintained Schools have remained broadly the same over the last 3 years. According to PLASC, in January 2020, there were 258 pupils in Reception Classes, in January 2023, this has fallen marginally to 255.

According to PLASC, in January 2020, there were 3009 (13.1%) pupils in total in Welsh Medium Schools, in January 2023, this has risen to 3106 (13.3%).

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The priorities outlined in the Vale of Glamorgan's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) 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 Governments ambitious target of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. A number of 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 commitments. In addition the Council introduced its own Immersion services in February 2022 for the first time. Building on previous progress, between September 2022 and July 2023, three more learners were welcomed at the [Welsh Language Centre](#) to receive late immersion education with five pupils scheduled to attend in September. Additional learners attended the Centre who had been identified by their teachers as pupils who could benefit from additional support to increase understanding and use of vocabulary, practice common sentence structures, grow in confidence and enjoy taking part in weekly sessions. Some of the learners in this group were at risk of leaving Welsh-medium education.

	Total Number of learners between September 2022 and July 2023
Late Immersion education for learners new to the Welsh Language	3 learners
Immersion support for learners currently attending Welsh-medium schools	65 learners

The Centre has also contributed towards Cymraeg 2050's goals by encouraging the learners' families to take part in events that promote and celebrate the Welsh language and culture and use Welsh socially. On the 20th of May 2023, learners and former learners attended Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg's *Gŵyl Fach y Fro* in Barry with their families.

Development of immersion services for older pupils is currently being planned for September 2023 including support for pupils at risk of moving to English medium at entry to Key stage 3. This will be further developed during year 3 of the Welsh Government Immersion grant.

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 detailing [school admission arrangements](#) and advice on schooling available. Any parent contacting the Vale of Glamorgan is provided with information as to the availability and type of Welsh medium education available to them.

Currently 15.8% of Year 1 children are taught through the medium of Welsh. This will need to be improved upon.

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

The percentage of children taught through the medium of Welsh is expected to increase incrementally over the next five-year period through the expansion of Ysgol St Baruc into a 420 place school on the 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 St Baruc to the Barry Waterfront site is expected to facilitate Welsh medium growth within Barry.

The expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg is scheduled to be completed in September 2025. 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.

Further funding has been sought from the Welsh Medium Capital grant reserves this term. If we secure 100% funding through the grant, this will provide the Council with the following benefits:

- Allow the Council to make savings to focus on other Welsh medium projects.
- Further support the delivery of WESP targets and allow for the use the additional funding to focus on other WESP targets.

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

Vale of Glamorgan Education Officers regularly discuss proposals, actions and figures relating to School Organisation strategy, Welsh medium admissions and early years provision in various Directorate meetings. These support the aims and objectives of the Vale's WESP.

A WESP Workforce Planning Group formed as a subgroup of the Vale WESP Forum has been established with a particular focus on the early years sector to specifically consider how best to support forecasted increased Welsh medium early years provision in the Vale of Glamorgan.

A WESP Pupil Numbers Focus Group has already been established to work directly with Headteachers of Welsh medium schools to identify any reasons and measures or actions to help increase pupil numbers and retain pupils in their schools. The group will also support to try to ensure that pupils are not lost in transition between Key Stages and in particular between the Primary and Secondary phase.

A WESP Marketing and Promotion Group has also been established to develop a strategy to promote, encourage and support the choice of Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan. RhAG will help the Council as a result of its experience in this area working with other local authorities in South Wales.

We will be looking to further strengthen the role of our WESP working groups from this Autumn 2023.

The progress for this Outcome is also considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.

OUTCOME LEVEL 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.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

The Council recognises that Immersion services are vital to the success of our WESP ambitions for the Vale and has secured permanent funding for our early years immersion provision at the [Welsh Language Centre](#).

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

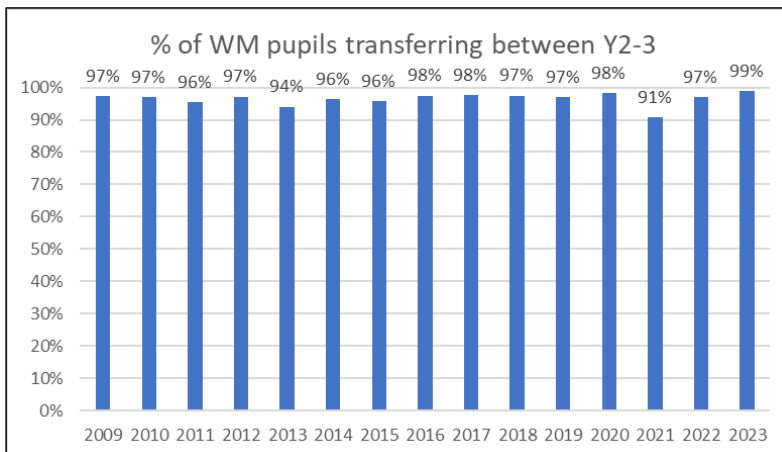
Pupil Transfer figures – 2022/23

Data	2022/23	
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Foundation Phase (Y2) and Key Stage 2 (Y3) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant to Oakfield. 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Sant Curig to Romilly.
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 2 (Yr. 6) and 3 (Yr. 7) in the Vale of Glamorgan.	95%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 pupils moved from Ysgol Iolo to Cowbridge 2 pupils moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to Stanwell 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Pen y Garth to St Cyres 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Sant Baruc to St Richard Gwyn
% of pupils transferring from Welsh Medium School Key Stages 3 (Yr. 9) and 4 (Yr. 10).	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg to St Richard Gwyn 1 pupil moved from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg to Ysgol Y Deri

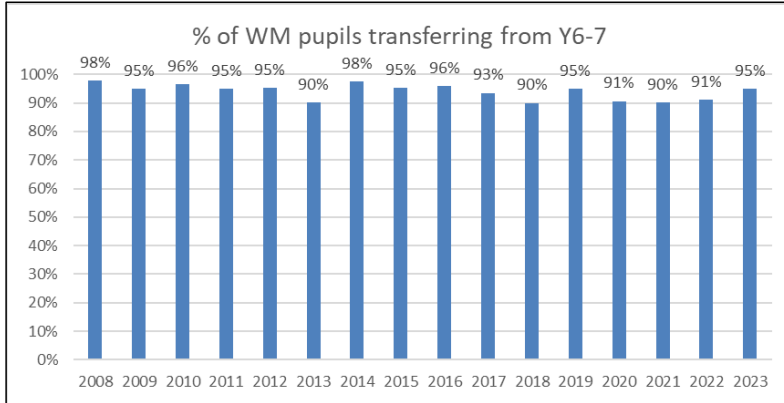
Summary

The local authority will continue to work with the relevant schools directly and through the WESP Pupil Numbers Focus Group to continue to improve the above transfer figures. In particular the Group will further consider more innovative ways to engage with families when they are considering switching their child(ren) from Yr 6 (Primary) Welsh medium education to Yr 7 (Secondary) English medium education.

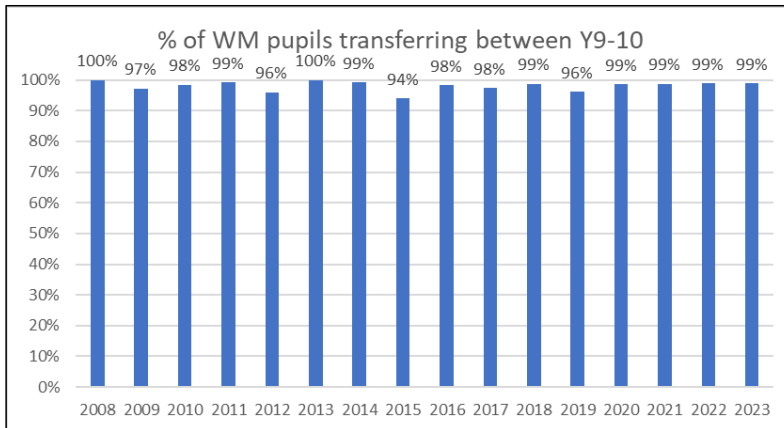
Welsh Medium Pupils transferring between Year 2 and 3 since 2009 (%)



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



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



OUTCOME SUMMARY

Transition and retention rates are positive and continue to be monitored throughout the WESP cycle by the Council's admissions team, the WESP Forum and the WESP Pupil Numbers Focus Group. The Council continues to further develop our understanding of, and initiatives for, the enhancement of transition and retention rates between each key stage.

We will 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 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.

Our Welsh medium primary schools continue to encourage parents to choose Welsh-medium secondary education, ensuring that there is marketing material that uses all the platforms available to market the benefits of Welsh Medium Education to parents and learners. Individual school support has been provided to schools where transition numbers remain a challenge.

A new post providing specialist support to pupils on transition and retention to Welsh medium secondary education is due to commence in September 2023 working out of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg. The newly appointed Welsh Education Officer will work closely and collaboratively with this person to identify any further support required from the local authority to help strengthen Welsh medium pupil transition in the Vale.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

A WESP Pupil Numbers Focus Group has been established to work directly with Headteachers of Welsh medium schools to identify any reasons and measures or actions to help increase pupil numbers and retain pupils in their schools. The group will also support to try to ensure that pupils are not lost in transition between Key Stages and in particular between the Primary and Secondary phase.

We will be looking to further strengthen the role of this WESP working group from this Autumn 2023.

The progress for this Outcome is also considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.

OUTCOME LEVEL RISKS

The WESP Pupil Numbers Focus Group will continue to work with relevant Headteachers and stakeholders to address existing and emerging challenges with transition and retention:

School	Issue / Challenge
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	Parents / carers potentially choosing or moving pupils to new build school at Ysgol Sant Baruc.
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	Parent / carers of Year 6 pupils choosing Cowbridge Comprehensive School over Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.
Ysgol Pen y Garth	Parent / carers of Year 6 pupils choosing Stanwell / St Cyres Schools over Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. Attracting and retaining pupils. There is evidence and optimism that with the work of the new Headteacher and support of the Council, figures will improve.

Evidence continues to be presented that some parents / carers in Penarth and Cowbridge have a negative view of their child(ren) attending a secondary school (Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg) purely due to its location in Barry.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

A new post providing specialist support to pupils on transition and retention to Welsh medium secondary education is due to commence in September 2023 based at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg. The newly appointed Welsh Education Officer will work closely and collaboratively with the new appointee to identify any further support required from the Council to help strengthen Welsh medium pupil transition and retention in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Outcome 4

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

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Year	2020		2021		2022	
	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	No of Pupils	% of Pupils
KS4						
Welsh First Language GCSE	152	10.4%	157	10.2%	161	10.5%
Welsh Second Language GCSE	989	67.8%	1067	69.2%	1138	74.4%
Welsh Second Language Entry Level	24	1.6%	24	1.6%	38	2.5%
Not Sat Welsh Language Exams	293	20.1%	294	19.1%	192	12.6%
Total	1458	100.0%	1542	100.0%	1529	100.0%
KS5						
Welsh First Language A Level	8	1.2%	3	0.4%	13	1.7%
Welsh Second Language A Level	5	0.8%	12	1.6%	9	1.2%

177 Year 11 and 79 Year 13 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg will have studied KS4 and KS5 through the medium of Welsh in 2023.

In 2022 161 (10.5%) pupils sat Welsh 1st language GCSE exams. 1138 (74.4%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language GCSE exams. 38 (2.5%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language entry level exams. 12.6% of pupils did not sit any Welsh language exam.

In 2022, 13 (1.8%) pupils sat Welsh 1st Language A Level exams, 9 (1.2%) pupils sat Welsh 2nd language A Level exams.

e-sgol

All secondary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan received a presentation on e-sgol in February 2023 as part of the spring Headteacher's termly meeting. All schools were also invited to the recent e-sgol conference held in July 2023 at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd and virtually. Currently there are no Vale schools involved in the e-sgol programme. There are initial discussions ongoing between Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg with e-sgol regarding online provision for one A level course.

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](#).

CSC has promoted [e-sgol](#) through various headteacher groups, online communities, communications to schools and via social media. CSC has ensured that all schools are aware of the provision and has invited all secondary schools to attend the e-sgol annual conference being held in the region in July 2023. In addition, there was a presentation from e-sgol at the termly Vale secondary headteacher meeting in February 2023. There are initial discussions ongoing between Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg with e-sgol regarding online provision for one A level course.

CSC has 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 are currently being created for business, tourism, public services and sports and strong progress is being made.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

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 newly appointed Welsh Education Officer already works closely and collaboratively with the CSC and CAVC and opportunities for this are set to be extended in the 2023/24 academic year.

The progress for this Outcome is also considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.

OUTCOME LEVEL RISKS

There remains a risk that additional subjects will be unable to be offered through the medium of Welsh due to the inability to recruit appropriate staff.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

A Regional Welsh-Language Champion was appointed in March/April 2023 who will be working on behalf of all South-East Wales local authorities to promote Welsh medium education in our region. As part of the Champion's work, a range of promotional materials and videos are being created which we will be able to use to help promote Welsh medium education. It is also planned that there will be support materials for staff to have these conversations. Welsh courses have been available free-of-charge to staff from September 2022 at all levels. In addition, our Work Welsh Coordinator is willing to look into service-specific basic Welsh sessions to help staff provide this service in Welsh.

Outcome 5

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

KEY ANNUAL DATA

Siarter Iaith / Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus data (June 2023)

Number of schools	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award
Siarter Iaith Primary (Welsh Medium)	2	4	1
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Primary (English Medium)	19	3	2
Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Secondary (English Medium)	2	1	

Since September 2022, 12 English medium primary schools have received the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Bronze Award and 1 the silver award. One English medium secondary school has received the silver, and another is due to be verified for silver in July 2023. One Welsh medium school is due to be verified for the silver award in July 2023. One special school is working towards the bronze award.

All Welsh and English medium primary, secondary and special schools are engaged with the Siarter Iaith or Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 34 schools (64%) have received an award to date.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

CSC continues to provide professional learning, resources, networking opportunities and bespoke support for Siarter Iaith and Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus. 18 schools have made progressive levels of progress within the framework since September 2022.

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. For example, staff from Oak Field Primary and Cadoxton Primary have been instrumental in developing resources to support schools with the process of gaining the silver Cymraeg Campus award. Llantwit Major High presented to the Vale of Glamorgan Learning and Culture scrutiny committee in December 2023 on their journey to gaining their Cymraeg Campus bronze award.

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. 8 senior leaders from the Vale attended the programme in 2022/23 and strong feedback was received.

Urdd Gobaith Cymru in the Vale

The Vale of Glamorgan Youth Service has a longstanding partnership arrangement with Urdd Gobaith Cymru to provide Welsh language youth work in the Vale. They provide a youth worker based at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, our Welsh language comprehensive school. The worker was part time however additional funding from Welsh Government this year has supported this to become a full-time position. This has allowed for the worker to map existing provision, increase delivery of Welsh language informal youth activity and make further links with schools in the area. It will also support a closer working relationship with the service supporting the delivery of a more collaborative approach.

The project has worked with 1448 young people this year through various Welsh language activities delivered in the community and in schools, which include a regular Welsh language youth club supported by a young volunteer and various holiday activities. The worker has supported a Youth forum with year 10-13 pupils at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg to discuss Welsh language activities in the school and supported young people to take part in Cowbridge Pride.

In addition, Urdd are working within secondary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan, Welsh and English medium, to develop Welsh Language clubs and activities to develop and enhance young people's Welsh Language skills and awareness. Weekly Welsh Learners clubs are currently running at Llantwit Major Comprehensive school, St Cyres school and Cowbridge Comprehensive school and work is ongoing to provide similar opportunities in the remaining schools. Gigs were also arranged for year 7 and 8 students at schools by the local rock band 'Ble?' and singer Mali Haf and wellbeing sessions with Elin Williams. Extra school-based sessions including with Casi Wyn discussing poetry and music and the value of those words in connection with the contemporary world and Wales; a ukulele session with Mei Gwynedd; and holiday sessions with a local graffiti project were also delivered.

50 young people from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg have been awarded a Food Hygiene certificate. The Urdd young volunteer in the Youth Club won the Young Volunteer award at the Vale Youth Service Celebration awards. Over 500 children and young people from the Vale took part in the Urdd Eisteddfod 2023.

Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg

Menter has continued to provide a wide range of activities to support the use of Welsh outside the school environment in the Vale of Glamorgan:

Menter continues to work in partnership with the Urdd to fund the provision of sports clubs including football and netball. Alongside these Menter have continued to run long term clubs including drama, dance and karate in the Penarth and Llantwit Major area. These clubs have been an opportunity for children to attend a social activity through the medium of Welsh that would not be available if it were not for the Initiative. One of the main provisions for children was the Bwrlwm service which runs in every holiday period. The open access play sessions were provided in 4 locations across the County, attracting over 1,400 children to play sessions during the year. This offered an opportunity for children to use their Welsh in social contexts outside the school term. building linguistic confidence. The provision is focused on some of the most underprivileged areas and over 85% of the children who attended were from non-Welsh speaking homes. In addition, the Bwrlwm open access play scheme groups have meant that there is an increase in the use of the language at a time when many children would not be involved in the Welsh language as it was the school holidays and this helped the children to establish social habits in the Welsh language as well as creating Welsh language employment for a number of young people.

In addition, there have been a variety of arts-based activities and workshops in the run up to Gwyl Fach y Fro including bunting creation, deckchair design and graffiti workshops.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Urdd Gobiath Cymru and Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg work collaboratively with a number of relevant teams and services within the Council such as the Youth service as well as various key officers including the Welsh Language Officer.

The Welsh Education Officer will establish a working group to support the aims and objectives of this WESP Outcome. Membership will include representation from the Urdd Gobiath Cymru, Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg, CSC, Youth Service, Regional Welsh medium Education Champion and the Welsh Education Officer.

The progress for this Outcome is considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.

OUTCOME LEVEL 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 delivered for this outcome may come under pressure.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

Regional Champion Partnership for the Promotion of Welsh Medium Education

A Regional Welsh-medium Education Champion has been appointed by Welsh Government and was appointed in Easter 2023. The Officer works across 10 local authorities in the south-east, including the Vale of Glamorgan. The Vale will look for the Officer to support the local authority on Outcome 5 to help engage, promote and communicate our Welsh-medium education offer and also help develop resources that meet our needs.

The newly appointed Welsh Education Officer in the Vale of Glamorgan Council has also been appointed to the Governance Board of the regional Champion Partnership for the Promotion of Welsh Medium Education and intends to work closely and collaboratively with the Champion in the 2023/24 academic year.

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 2023

Primary

Secondary

Cynraed/Primary	Ysgolion Cymraeg	Pob Ysgol (ac ethrio ysgolion arbennig)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig)	Uwchradd/Secondary	Welsh Schools	All Schools except Special Schools	All Schools including Special Schools
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1939	13004	13704	Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1167	9832	10114
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	107	1251	1430	Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	57	1173	1419
Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	38	143	Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	51	262
% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	5.5%	9.6%	10.4%	% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	4.9%	11.9%	14.0%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.0%	0.3%	1.0%	% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.0%	0.5%	2.6%

Cynraed/Primary	Ysgolion Cymraeg	Pob Ysgol (ac ethrio ysgolion arbennig)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig)	Uwchradd/Secondary	Welsh Schools	All Schools except Special Schools	All Schools including Special Schools
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1939	13004	13704	Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1167	9832	10114
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	107	1251	1430	Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	57	1173	1419
School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	5	476	477	School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	26	425	425
School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	9	388	390	School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	13	145	190
Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	38	143	Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	51	262
School Maintained Individual Development Plan	2	331	331	School Maintained Individual Development Plan	18	494	501
Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0	27	89	Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0	22	41
% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	5.5%	9.6%	10.4%	% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	4.9%	11.9%	14.0%
% School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	0.3%	3.7%	3.5%	% School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	2.2%	4.3%	4.2%
% School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	0.5%	3.0%	2.8%	% School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	1.1%	1.5%	1.9%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.0%	0.3%	1.0%	% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.0%	0.5%	2.6%
% School Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol	0.1%	2.5%	2.4%	% School Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol	1.5%	5.0%	5.0%
% Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	% Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%

**ALN Incidence in the Vale
2022**

Primary

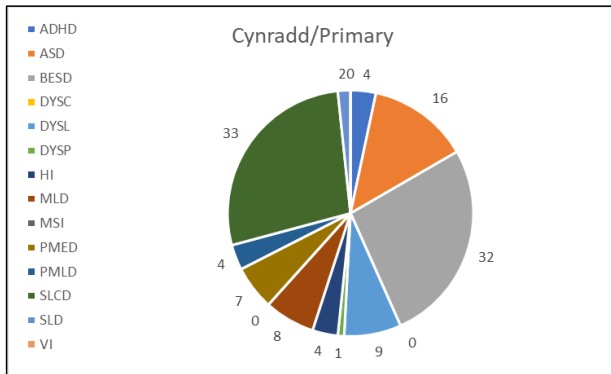
Secondary

Cynradd/Primary	Ysgolion Cymraeg	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig)	Uwchradd/Secondary	Welsh Schools	All Schools except Special Schools	All Schools including Special Schools
Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1953	13218	13371	Dysgwyr ar y gofrestr Learners on roll	1141	9753	10007
Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	88	1227	1378	Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	91	1167	1416
Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	51	167	Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	1	66	273
% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	4.5%	9.3%	10.3%	% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	8.0%	12.0%	14.2%
% y disgyblion â datganiad % pupils with statements	0.0%	0.4%	1.2%	% y disgyblion â datganiad % pupils with statements	0.1%	0.7%	2.7%

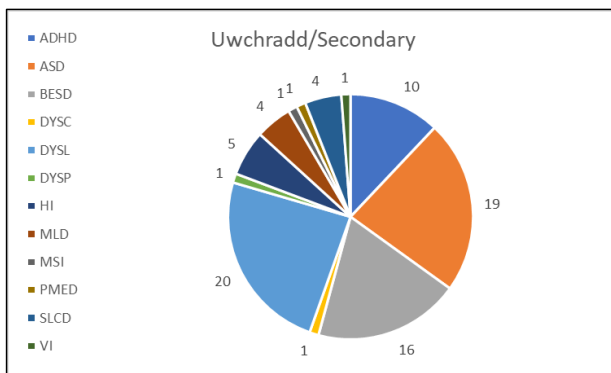
Cynradd/Primary	Ysgolion Cymraeg	Pob Ysgol (ac eithrio ysgolion arbennig)	Pob Ysgol (gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig)	Uwchradd/Secondary	Welsh Schools	All Schools except Special Schools	All Schools including Special Schools
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Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	88	1227	1378	Dysgwyr ag AAA/ADY Learners with SEN/ALN	91	1167	1416
School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	38	463	463	School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	46	602	605
School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	41	506	516	School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	29	269	305
Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0	51	167	Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	1	66	273
School Maintained Individual Development Plan	6	173	173	School Maintained Individual Development Plan	15	225	226
Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	3	34	59	Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan	0	5	7
% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	4.5%	9.3%	10.3%	% y disgyblion ag AAA/ADY % pupils with SEN/ALN	8.0%	12.0%	14.2%
% School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	1.9%	3.5%	3.5%	% School Action Gweithredu gan yr ysgol	4.0%	6.2%	6.0%
% School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	2.1%	3.8%	3.9%	% School Action + Gweithredu gan yr ysgol a Mwy	2.5%	2.8%	3.0%
% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.0%	0.4%	1.2%	% Dysgwyr â datganiad Learners with statements	0.1%	0.7%	2.7%
% School Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol	0.3%	1.3%	1.3%	% School Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Ysgol	1.3%	2.3%	2.3%
% Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	% Local Authority Maintained Individual Development Plan/Cynllun Datblygu Unigol a gynhelir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%

Range of needs in the Vale
2023

Primary



Secondary

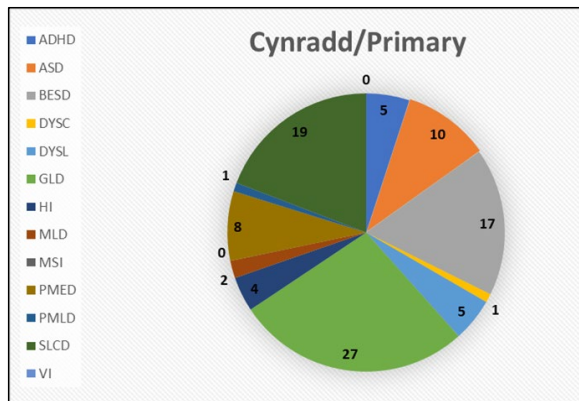


Key

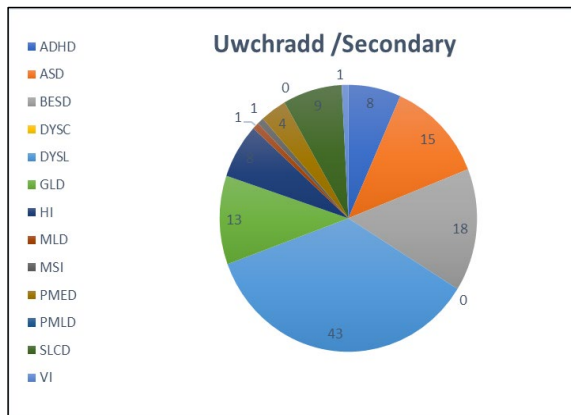
ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulties
ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder	MSI - Multi-Sensory Impairment
BESD - Behaviour Emotional and Social Development	PMED - Physical and Medical Difficulties
DYSC - Dyscalculia	PMLD - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties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

Range of needs in the Vale
2022

Primary



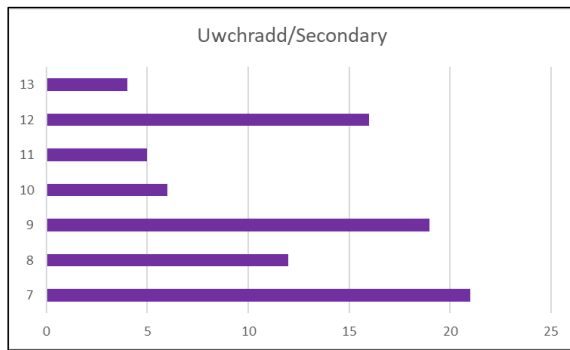
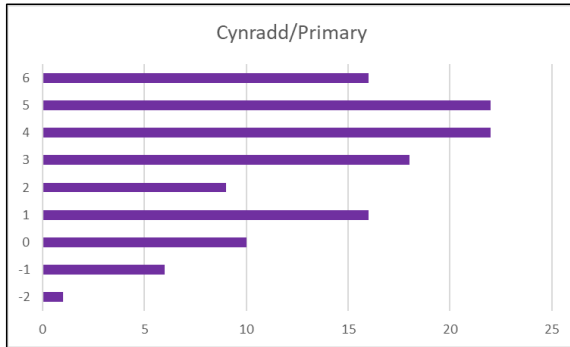
Secondary



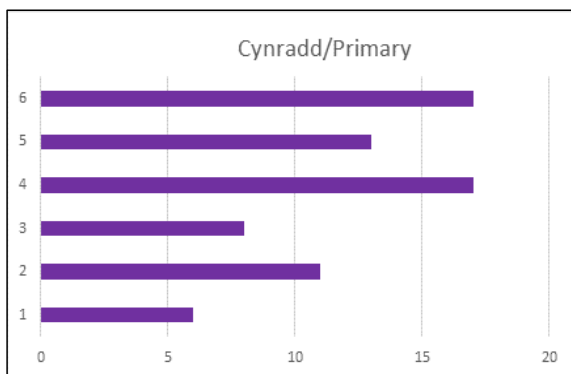
Key

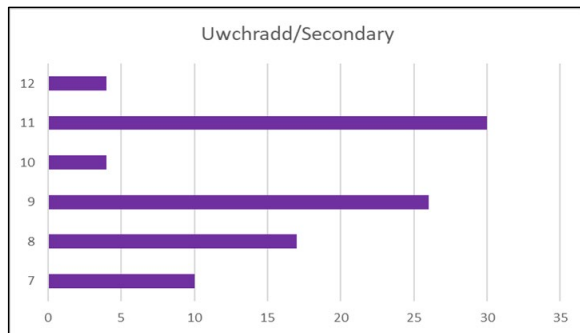
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DYSL - Dyslexia	SLCD - Speech Language and Communication Difficulties
GLD - General Learning Difficulties	VI - Visual Impairment
HI - Hearing Impairment	

ALN age range in the Vale
2023



ALN age range in the Vale
2022





Summary

Due to the national ALN reforms, there has been a general trend across Wales of a decrease in the percentage of learners being identified as having additional learning needs. This decrease largely took place prior to 2022 and current data would indicate that this decrease has now concluded and that numbers are now increasing slightly.

The percentage of learners in Welsh mainstream primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2023 is 5.5% compared to 9.6% in all mainstream primary schools. In 2022 the percentage of learners in Welsh mainstream primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN was 4.5% compared to 9.3% in all mainstream primary schools. This indicates a growth in pupils identified as having SEN/ALN across all primary schools since 2022 however, there is a higher percentage increase in Welsh medium primary schools.

In terms of the actual numbers of pupils, in 2023 there are 107 pupils in Welsh medium primary schools identified as having SEN/ALN which has risen from 88 in 2022. In all mainstream primary schools the number of pupils with SEN/ALN has risen from 1,227 in 2021 to 1,251 in 2023.

As can be seen from the data there are still significantly greater numbers of pupils with SEN/ALN in English medium primary schools compared to Welsh medium.

The percentage of learners in mainstream Welsh secondary schools identified as having SEN/ALN in 2023 is 4.9% compared to 11.9% in all mainstream secondary schools. In 2022 the percentage of learners in Welsh mainstream secondary schools identified as having SEN/ALN was 8% compared to 12% in all mainstream schools. This indicates a fall in pupils identified as having SEN/ALN across all secondary schools since 2022, this fall is more pronounced in Welsh medium secondary education.

In terms of the actual numbers of pupils, in 2023 there are 57 pupils in Welsh medium secondary schools identified as having SEN/ALN which has fallen from 91 in 2021. In all mainstream secondary schools the number of pupils with SEN/ALN has risen marginally from 1,167 in 2022 to 1,173 in 2023.

As can be seen from the data there are significantly greater numbers of pupils with SEN/ALN in English medium secondary schools compared to Welsh medium.

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

Identify the numbers of learners with ALN in Welsh medium educational settings.

PLASC Data is being utilised to identify numbers of CYP being identified with ALN. In addition, data from outreach teams is being utilised to provide more qualitative information on the type and complexity of need in the system. Head teachers in Welsh medium schools have also been consulted on their needs within schools.

Analyse outcomes of Welsh medium learners with ALN.

Trends in need are being analysed in order to inform future planning and to further develop provision in key areas such as autism.

Identify the complexity of need and the different types of ALN experienced by learners.

One key outcome from the analysis of need has been the creation of a secondary base for autism within Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. This has been extremely successful in supporting the needs of young people with autism attending the school. There are further plans to develop a similar provision for primary aged pupils this year.

Monitor the workforce requirements and the capacity to deliver support through the medium of Welsh.

This is an ongoing process and while progress has been made there is still a need to increase capacity. The new Head of ALN and Well-being is a fluent Welsh speaker, the capacity to deliver educational psychology to Welsh medium schools has been increased as has provision for autism.

Monitor the need and, if required, develop local specialist settings in Welsh medium schools for complex ALN.

As stated above, a secondary base for autism has been opened at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg. This has been extremely successful in supporting the needs of young people with autism attending the school. There are further plans to develop a similar provision for primary aged pupils this year. The funding for this base has now been identified and work will progress in order to move this forward with an anticipated opening date of January 2024.

Over the next 5 years the Council will ensure:

- **A new model for the delivery of Welsh medium specialist resource base provision will be developed in 2022-23 based on identified need.**
Significant progress has been made in this respect with the opening of the resource base at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg and the ongoing work to develop an equivalent provision for primary aged pupils.
- **The existing special school in the Vale of Glamorgan, Ysgol y Deri, will be expanded and consideration will be given to developing Welsh language provision as part of this expansion.**
The building of the new special school has been delayed, planning permission has now been approved and the build is due to start in the near future.
- **Access to Welsh speaking specialist professionals, either through direct recruitment or through collaboration with neighbouring authorities will be secured as per identified demand.**

As stated above, progress has been made and specialist support services are available through the medium of Welsh in the majority of areas of need. However, work is ongoing to further increase this provision.

- **In collaboration with regional partners the Welsh language training offer will be strengthened further so that school staff can use their language of choice on an individual basis.**
The regional offer for ALN training has not as yet been progressed and is in need of further development.
- **Work will be undertaken with WG leads on the development of more specialist resources and assessment tools to support the LA and schools.**
Welsh medium reading and spelling tests have been developed within the region which is a significant step forward. However, further work needs to be done at a national level to develop assessment, screening and diagnostic tools. The local authority will actively seek to engage with and support the work of Adnodd, the new company established by Welsh Government to ensure a more strategically coordinated approach to commissioning bilingual educational resources.
- **A Welsh Language ALN working group will be established. The working group will consist of a range of stakeholders and will oversee the consideration and development of Welsh language provision in the Vale of Glamorgan.**
This working group has not yet been established however, head teachers have been consulted on the areas of need which has informed the development of provision. The Educational Psychology Service will be working with the ALNCOs from Welsh medium schools to further develop provision and resources which is felt to be a better model for developing practice than the stand alone working party.

The Council will have effective processes in place to ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure sufficient ALN provision in Welsh as set out in the ALNET Act 2018. In practical terms the aim will be to achieve the following:

- **Welsh-medium advice, guidance and support is provided for Welsh-medium settings and Welsh-medium learners with ALN.**
See above.
- **Access to a full range of professionals who are able to work with schools to support inclusion through the medium of Welsh.**
See above.
- **An increase in the number of specialist assessment tools and interventions available in the Welsh Language.**
A steering group co-ordinated by Central South Consortium with representation from the five LAs, head teachers and school improvement advisers has worked in partnership with Cardiff University's School of Welsh and has successfully designed, piloted, and published a new standardised Welsh reading test for Years 1-11. All of the Welsh medium schools across the regions have access to the new reading test.

The regional steering group is in the process of developing a standardised Welsh spelling test.
- **A comprehensive professional learning offer available bilingually in all areas of ALN.**
See above.
- **Appropriate Welsh medium provision for children and young people with complex additional learning needs either in their mainstream schools or in specialist settings where required.**
See above.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING
<p>The progress for this Outcome is considered by the Vale WESP Forum which meets throughout the academic year.</p> <p>The new Head of ALN and Well-being is a fluent Welsh speaker and the newly appointed Welsh Education Officer will work closely and collaboratively with her and the service to progress the aim and objectives of the Outcome.</p>
OUTCOME LEVEL RISKS
<p>There is a risk that insufficient resources and capacity to deliver a fully bilingual service as set out in the Act, will create a lack of parity of provision across the service and a failure to meet both the requirements of the legislation and the needs of our learners.</p>
ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to evaluate the sufficiency of Welsh medium ALN provision and utilise findings to enhance provision as appropriate. 2. Continue to identify appropriate funding streams to develop provision. 3. Work with the Division's workforce and HR partners to develop the ability of staff to work through the medium of Welsh. 4. Work with regional partners to develop the range of provision and resources available to Welsh medium schools.

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 **2021 and 2022** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

		2022						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2021	W1	293	18	1	1			
	W2	4	350	10	8	1		
	W3		6	99	5	1		
	W4		7	3	175	1		
	W5			1	1	62	2	
	W6					3	191	
	W7		1					3

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 2022 against where they were in 2021. 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 2022** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

		2022						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2020	W1	270	20	2				
	W2	4	315	10	9	2		
	W3		10	102	2			
	W4		7	3	165	2		
	W5				1	56	14	
	W6					4	166	
	W7		1					3

The table below shows Teaching Assistants in Vale schools between **2021 and 2022** moving along the Welsh language competency framework

		2022						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2021	W1	123	2					
	W2	2	197	6	1			
	W3		2	26				
	W4			2	19			
	W5				1	13	1	
	W6					1	58	
	W7	2						6

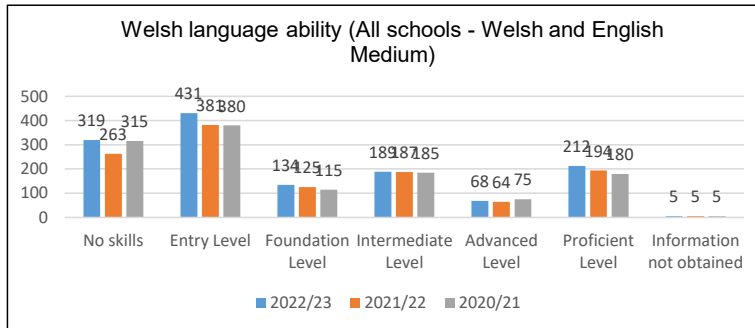
The table below shows Teaching Assistants in Vale schools between **2020 and 2022** moving along the Welsh language competency framework:

		2022						
		No Welsh	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	No Info
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
2020	W1	114	10		1			
	W2	2	191	6	1			
	W3		1	44				
	W4			2	19			
	W5					12	3	
	W6						53	
	W7	1						6

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)									
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	Total
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



Totals (Primary – Welsh and English medium)									
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	Total
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		
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

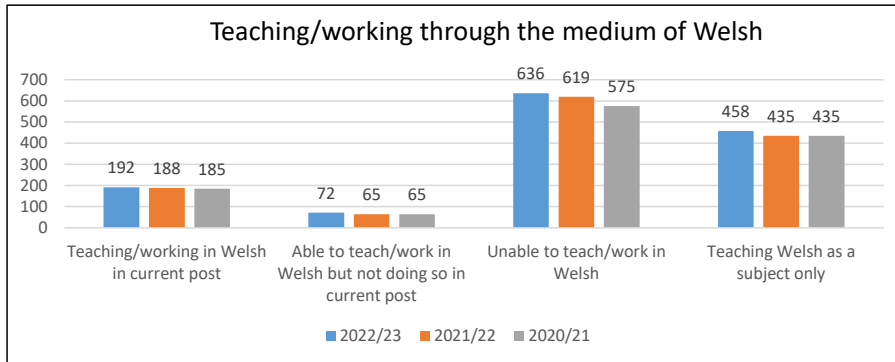
Totals (Middle – Welsh and English medium)*									Total
No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown		
2022/23						87			87
2021/22						79			79
2020/21	-	-	-	-	-	75			75

*Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg is classed as a middle school for the purpose of the SWAC

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

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

	Totals					Total
	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	
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
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

Totals (Welsh medium schools only)									
	No skills	Entry	Foundation	Intermediate	Advanced	Proficient	Information not obtained	Unknown	Total
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

The Council will consider the Welsh Government guidance - *'Guidance for using School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC) data to support implementation of Welsh in education strategic plans'* (June 2023) received on 18 July 2023. The Welsh Education Officer has commenced work with the Council's Learning & Skills Data Team to implement the guidance in 2023/24. The guidance was received too late to consider in time for the submission of the WESP Annual Review Report 2022/23.

The Council will take steps from this autumn with the aim to:

- o identify the number of vacancies in the Council by school type e.g. primary, secondary, special, and

- determine how many additional teachers (primary and secondary) we will need over the next 5 years to meet our plans to increase the number of children in Welsh language education.

The Welsh Education Officer has commenced plans to establish a working group to include representation from Schools, Human Resources, Learning & Skills Data Team and the Central South Consortium to develop systems and processes to track and monitor workforce data in Welsh medium education.

CSC has published 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 provides a wide variety of asynchronous, face to face and bespoke Welsh language professional learning for practitioners linked to the Welsh language competency framework. A new refresher (Gloywi Iaithe) course has been launched in June 2023. Engagement of Vale schools since April 2022: Part 1 -66; Part 2 – 73, Part 3 – 24 which is 163 practitioners in total. A further 6 practitioners have engaged in either face to face or blended Welsh language development professional learning. Most practitioners state that the professional learning will improve their practice in the classroom and will make strong progress in changing their behaviours.

CSC funded an UK wide marketing drive aimed at attracting Welsh speaking teachers to consider working in the CSC region. This included online advertisements in national and local newspapers as well as a social media campaign.

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

Gyda'n Gilydd (CSC Welsh Medium Secondary Headteachers' Association) in collaboration with CSC held an online event jobs fair aimed at attracting Welsh speaking practitioners to work in the region. Headteachers and CSC representative met prospective candidates virtually and personally encourage and share the benefits of teaching and leading through the medium of Welsh in the central south Wales 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. This has now gained Welsh Government approval and the project is making strong progress.

1 practitioner from the Vale of Glamorgan, out of 7 regional spaces, is currently engaged with the Welsh Sabbatical Scheme at Cardiff University and CSC will provide post-sabbatical support from September 2023. During 2022/23, CSC has provided strong post-sabbatical support for 2 practitioners engaged during 2021/22. 1 practitioner will attend a 12-week Welsh foundation course in summer 2024.

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.

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Gyda'n Gilydd (Welsh Medium Secondary Headteachers' Association) is organising an online event aimed at attracting Welsh speaking practitioners to work in the region. Heads will meet prospective candidates virtually and will personally encourage and share the benefits of teaching and leading through the medium of Welsh in south Wales.

Discussions are ongoing on a regional, cross regional and with Welsh Government regarding the review to the National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH). Regional data regarding NPQH is submitted to Welsh Government annually; this provides Central South Consortium and the Welsh Government with a clear picture of Welsh medium leaders holding NPQH.

Commented [PC1]: Chris – rhywbeth i'w ychwanegu?

In light of proposed changes to the NPQH process, Welsh medium acting headteachers are to be prioritised during the final interim assessment centre before the move to a new NPQH process in autumn 2024. The first pilot cohort in the new process will prioritise 'difficult to recruit' sectors such as Welsh medium.

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg has benefitted from additional funding from Welsh Government as part of the 2023/24 Increasing Capacity Fund for Welsh medium schools.

- £20,000 for four projects to provide allowances to increase the range of subjects.
- £20,000 to employ a science technician and to mentor to undertake a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in the long term.
- £74,000 jointly with Bro Edern, Glantaf and Plasmawr to recruit an undergraduate for shortage subjects.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Staff Training

- Training on how to discuss Welsh medium education options with parents and carers, as well as common questions and concerns for customer facing staff and Health colleagues.

A Regional Welsh-Language Champion was appointed in March/April 2023 who will be working on behalf of all South-East Wales local authorities to promote Welsh medium education in our region. As part of the Champion's work, a range of promotional materials and videos are being created which we will be able to use to help promote Welsh medium education. It is also planned that there will be support materials for staff to have these conversations. Welsh courses have been available free-of-charge to staff from September 2022 at all levels. In addition, our Work Welsh Coordinator is willing to look into service-specific basic Welsh sessions to help staff provide this service in Welsh.

The School Workforce Welsh Language Ability spreadsheet provided by Welsh Government will be used to identify teachers who have recently attained the sufficient level of Welsh needed and those who would benefit from further training to achieve this.

Circulating this data to schools will also highlight its importance in achieving this target and of regular assessment and update of their teachers' Welsh language skills.

OUTCOME LEVEL 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.

ASSURANCE / MITIGATION ACTION

Liaison has taken place between Council officers and Mudiad Meithrin's new Chief Cam wrth Gam Officer for South East Wales. This is a new role created by Mudiad Meithrin in order to co-ordinate the provision of Cam wrth Gam courses in the region. The courses, which cover Level 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, GCSE & A Level (links below), are all delivered through the medium of Welsh. Mudiad Meithrin already have representation at WESP Forum meetings but, given that this important work relates directly to Outcome 7, the new officer

has been added to the list of attendees for these meetings. The courses educate and train current and prospective early years workers.

[Cam wrth Gam - Meithrin](#)

[Cam wrth Gam Schools Scheme - Meithrin](#)

With the Welsh Government target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050; ensuring a trained, growing, Welsh-medium workforce to work in Cylchoedd Meithrin and Welsh Medium primary schools, is of utmost importance.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WESP annual review report feedback

Outcomes	Feedback	Action for LA
Outcome 1	<p>It's encouraging to see that transfer numbers from Cylchoedd Meithrin to Welsh-medium primary schools have increased in 4 of the authority's 7 Cylchoedd. Nevertheless, we know that there are concerns about the effect the drop in birthrates is having on the number of learners who will attend Welsh-medium schools over the next few years. We see this from the drop in Nursery class numbers from 374 in 2020 to 280 in 2022.</p> <p>Although additional places will be offered at Ysgol Sant Baruc (48) and Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg in due course (30) a specific campaign will be needed to fill those places, and others across the county. It would be good to be able to discuss any ideas you have to address this, e.g., your report refers to collaboration with the Regional Welsh-medium education promotion officer.</p> <p>We've received confirmation that we'll be able to share annual Mudiad Meithrin data for 2022/23 with you by the end of the week.</p>	Discussion with WG.
Outcome 2	<p>The opening of the new St Baruc School, the success of your late immersion provision and the recent consultation to extend Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg are important milestones achieved during 2022-23.</p>	Discussion with WG.

	<p>Although Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg's proposal has been on the reserve of the Welsh-medium capital grant, we are pleased to have recently been able to confirm financial support to support part of this exciting development.</p> <p>You have not seen losses in the number/% of year 1 learners since last year. We are pleased to see from your review report, though, that you recognise attention needs to be paid to increasing the numbers of Nursery age learners to make progress under this outcome in the future.</p> <p>We would like you to consider methods to engage with families from different ethnic backgrounds, and we encourage you to include learner data from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds in your report next year to give you a baseline. We are pleased to hear that you've appointed a permanent officer to drive your WESP forward and look forward to seeing the results of this investment over the coming year.</p>	
<p>Outcome 3</p>	<p>Your transfer rates from Foundation phase > KS2 have increased (from 97% - 99%), and between KS2 > KS3 (from 91% to 95%). This is to be celebrated although it is not a consistent picture across the county. Some schools, e.g., Iolo Morgannwg and Pen y Garth, are losing a higher proportion of learners to the English medium sector. Locating your late immersion provision at Ysgol Pen y Garth was a good move, although it would be good to delve deeper into the data to see if your actions in this area are preventing or slowing the number of learners leaving the Welsh-medium sector. We are also interested to learn more about the progression officer who has been appointed to work from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg.</p>	<p>Discussion with WG.</p>
<p>Outcome 4</p>	<p>You've seen an increase in the number of learners studying Welsh First Language A-levels – from 3 in 2021 to 13 in 2022. This is a significant and positive increase, and it would be interesting to know what has contributed to the progress made here. It would be good to have more information on other</p>	<p>Discussion with WG.</p>

	subjects taught through the medium of Welsh and/ or information on opportunities for learners to study 2nd language A levels as this has been raised in relation to one English medium school during the last reporting year.	
Outcome 5	It's great to hear that every school in the LA area is now involved with the Siarter Iaith/Cymraeg Campus. Revised guidance for the Siarter Iaith was published on 26 September. I would like to hear more about the Leadership and Welsh Language Programme attended by school leaders across the county. Was this a mix of leaders from the Welsh and English sector? It would be good to hear more about the feedback given and any follow-up activity.	Discussion with WG.
Outcome 6	It would be good to understand more about what causes headteachers the most concern in terms of their ability to support learners with ALN in Welsh, and whether this remains consistent with your commitments/actions in your WESP / Action plan. The joint work with the Consortia, the 5 LA within the region and Cardiff University to create and pilot a standard reading test is to be commended. What is the process of evaluating the reading test?	Discussion with WG.
Outcome 7	<p>Although you've included the SWAC data in your report, it would be good to be able to better understand how the data is being used (e.g., as part of workforce subgroup discussions) to identify the gaps and agree approaches in which they could be addressed.</p> <p>Your 5-year action plan didn't include specific actions for this outcome. With a full-time WESP officer now in post, increased focus in this area would be beneficial.</p> <p>Revised SWAC guidelines were introduced during the summer term to stimulate better use of the census by schools and local authorities as a tool for planning and analysing local education workforce needs. The SWAC reporting period will</p>	Discussion with WG.

	open soon and we are keen to hear about your experience using it (if used) and where it needs to be further strengthened.	
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