



CABINET – 30TH JULY 2013

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF ESTYN INSPECTION OUTCOMES UNDER THE NEW COMMON INSPECTION FRAMEWORK (CIF) – SEPT 2012 TO JULY 2013

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform members of the judgements made by Estyn inspection teams of Caerphilly schools for the academic year 2012-2013.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The schools included in this report were inspected during the Autumn and Spring Terms, 2012-13. Each of them was inspected under the arrangements for inspections that came into effect on 1st September, 2010.
- 2.2 The report identifies the schools and the dates on which the inspections took place and contains a brief analysis of the inspection findings for each school.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 This report links directly to the Children and Young People's Plan 2008-11 and its successor the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14 (DRAFT), the Education, Lifelong Learning and Leisure Directorate Plan 2010-12 and also the Learning, Education and Inclusion Service Improvement Plan.
- 3.1 These strategies link to the Welsh Assembly Government School Effectiveness Framework (SEF).

4. THE REPORT

Introduction

- 4.1 Since September 2010 all schools in Wales have been inspected under a new Common Inspection Framework (CIF).
- 4.2 The purposes of inspection are to:
- provide accountability to the users of services and other stakeholders through public reporting on providers;
 - promote improvement in education and training; and
 - inform the development of national policy by Welsh Assembly Government.

- 4.3 This new CIF judges schools under 3 Key Questions, comprising 10 Quality Indicators, as opposed to the 7 Key Questions of the previous framework. Direct comparison with previous inspection outcomes is not therefore possible.
- 4.4 The annual report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector for Education and Training and Wales is published annually in January for the previous academic year. This report has a summary of the national profile of grades awarded.

The New Common Inspection Framework (CIF)

- 4.5 The framework asks the reporting inspector leading a team to provide judgements on the following indicators:

Summary:

- overall judgement on the school's current performance
- overall judgement on the school's prospects for improvement

Main findings: (for the 3 Key Questions and 10 Quality Indicators):

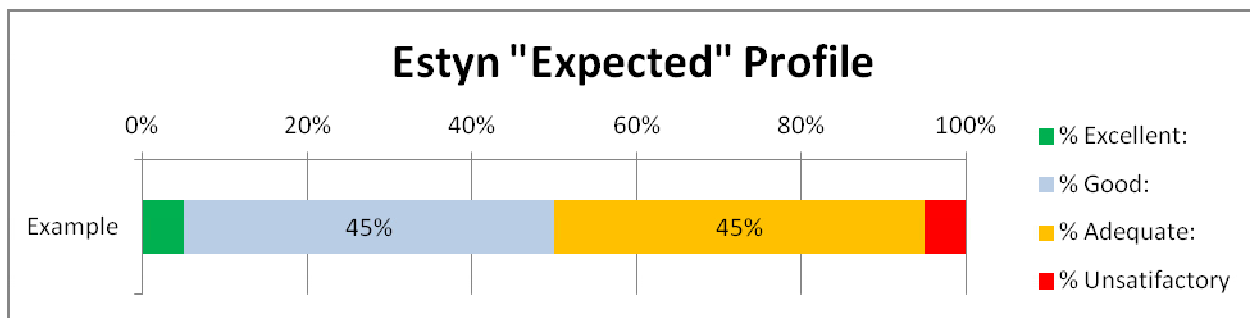
- **Key Question 1:** How good are outcomes?
 - standards
 - wellbeing
- **Key Question 2:** How good is provision?
 - learning experiences
 - teaching
 - care, support and guidance
 - learning environment
- **Key Question 3:** How good are leadership and management?
 - leadership
 - improving quality
 - partnership working
 - resource management

- 4.6 Each of the 2 overall summary judgements and the judgements for the 3 Key Questions and 10 Quality Indicators are based on the following 4 point scale:

- Excellent
- Good
- Adequate
- Unsatisfactory

- 4.7 In order for a school to be judged as "Excellent" for any indicator the schools must demonstrate 'Sector-leading Practice'. This means that the quality of the provision is at the forefront of the sector. 'Sector-leading' also means that the provider should use such practice as an exemplar to others. 'Sector-leading practice' is described by Estyn as innovative and cutting edge work that pushes at the boundaries.

- 4.8 Estyn have made it clear that they expected to see a different grade profile compared with the previous inspections framework. Whilst there is no quota of grades to be awarded they, they stated that they expected the following grade profile during the initial phases of inspection:



4.9 The Welsh Government target is that after September 2012, no school should be judged as less than "Adequate" currently and by 2015 no school should be judged less than "Good".

4.10 In addition to the judgements, made against the 3 key questions, the reports also include a number of recommendations for the school to address. These recommendations are school specific, and are not included in this summary report.

Follow up Activity

4.11 If a school receives any judgement which is "Unsatisfactory" or "Adequate" there are 4 categories of follow up activity. If a school is found to be "Unsatisfactory" then the follow up activity is led by Estyn. For "Adequate" judgements the follow up activity will be led by either Estyn or LA Officers.

4.12 The 4 follow up categories are:

- Local Authority follow up
- Estyn follow up
- Requiring significant improvement
- Requiring special measures

If schools do not make progress in the year before an Estyn Monitoring visit, then they are highly likely to be places in either 'significant improvement or 'special measures'.

Caerphilly Schools Inspections from September 2012 – August 2013

4.13 During this period 17 Caerphilly schools have been, or are scheduled to be, inspected. However of these schools, at the time of writing this report, only 10 inspection reports have been formally published.

4.14 The schools that have been inspected are:

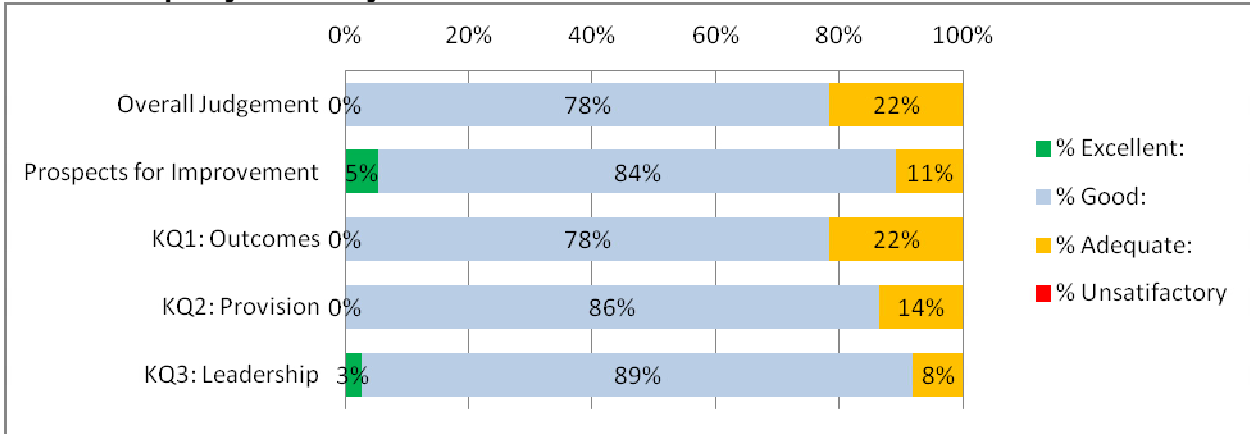
School Name	Date of Inspection	Overall Judgement	Prospects for Improvement	Follow Up Category
Trinity Fields School	01/11/2012	Good	Excellent	None
Pontllanfraith Comprehensive	01/11/2012	Good	Good	LA
Risca Primary	14/01/2013	Good	Good	None
St Cenydd Comprehensive	14/01/2013	Adequate	Good	Estyn
Ty Isaf Infants	07/02/2013	Good	Good	None
Fochriw Primary	14/02/2013	Adequate	Adequate	Estyn
Bryn Primary School	14/02/2013	Good	Good	None
Llancaeath Junior School	21/02/2013	Good	Good	None
YG Trelyn	14/03/2013	Good	Good	None
YG Cwm Gwyddon	21/03/2013	Good	Good	None
Llanfabon Infants	22/04/2013		To be published	
Bedwas High	22/04/2013		To be published	
Hendre Infants	07/05/2013		To be published	

Pengam Primary	07/05/2013	To be published
Greenhill Primary	10/06/2013	To be published
Trinant Primary	17/06/2013	To be published
Fleur-de-Lys Primary	24/06/2013	To be published

Evaluation of Judgements from September 2010 – July 2013

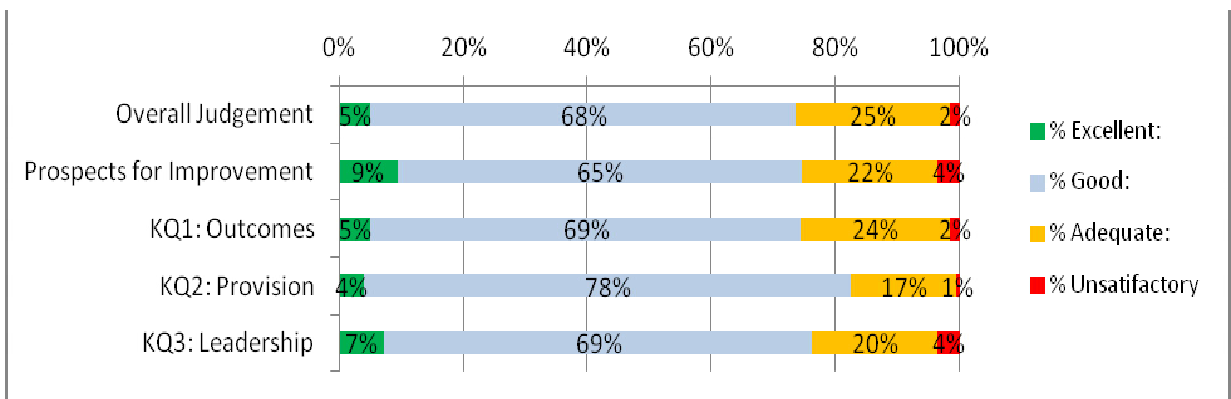
4.15 The table below describes the judgements made about the 36 Caerphilly schools inspected in the previous 3 years.

Caerphilly Summary:



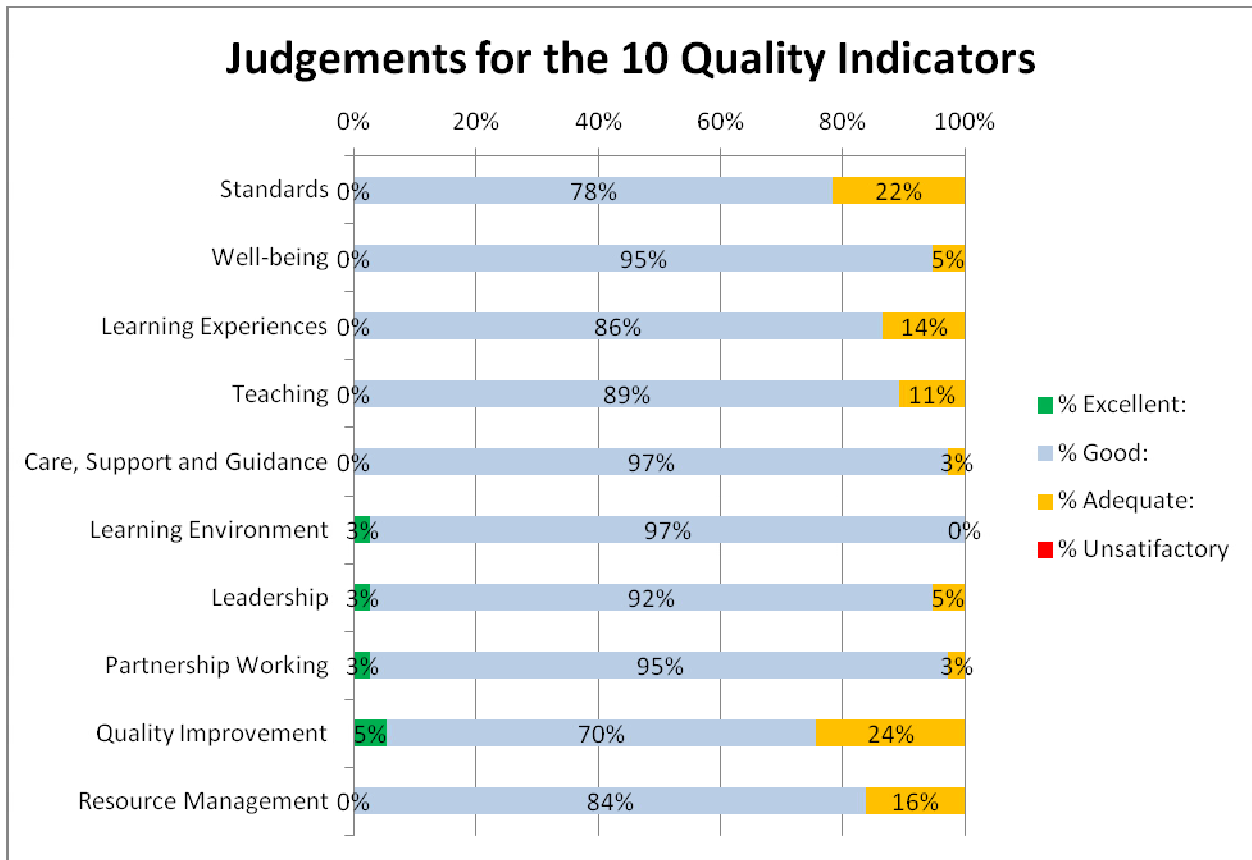
- 4.16 In total 78% of schools have been judged to be “Good” overall, with a further 22% judged to be “Adequate”.
- 4.17 Prospects for improvement are slightly better with 5% judged Excellent, 84% judged to have “Good” prospects with 11% of schools judged to have “Adequate” prospects.
- 4.18 For KQ1 78% of schools are judged to be “Good”, with a further 22% “Adequate”. For KQ2, 86% of schools were judged to be “Good”, with the remaining 14% “Adequate”. For KQ3 3% of schools were judged to be “Excellent”, 89% were “Good” and the remaining 8% “Adequate”.
- 4.19 No school was found to be unsatisfactory in any aspect, and a much smaller proportion of schools were found to be “Adequate” than Estyn’s initial national estimate. The LA will continue to support these schools as part of the established Monitoring, Challenge, Support and Intervention strategy.
- 4.20 The table below gives the overall national judgements that are available to date:

National Comparison:



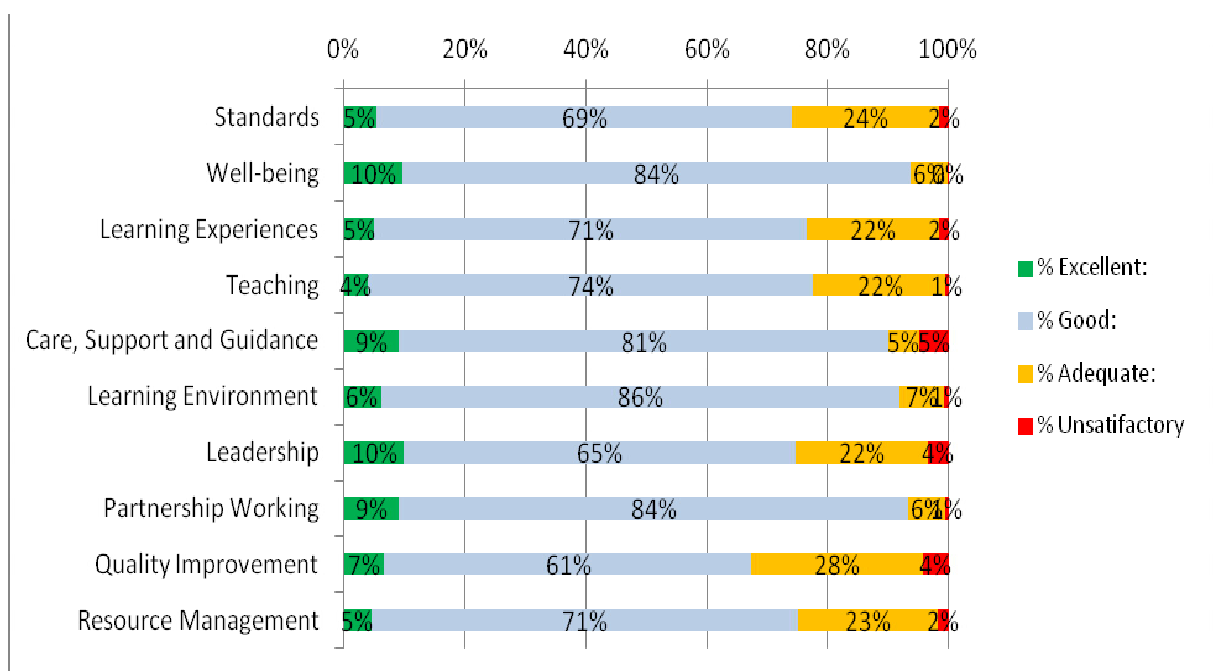
Caerphilly Judgements on the 10 Quality Indicators:

- 4.21 The table overleaf shows the judgements for the 10 Quality Indicators which contribute to the 3 Key Questions.
- 4.22 No Caerphilly school inspected to date was judged to be “Unsatisfactory” on any of the Quality Indicators.



- 4.23 The table below gives the same judgements across Wales as a whole, for those schools where inspections have been published.

National Judgements on the 10 Quality Indicators:



- 4.24 When comparisons are made between the % of Quality indicators judged to be “Good” or Better, Caerphilly schools perform better than schools in Wales as a whole on each of the 10 Quality Indictors.
- 4.25 Caerphilly schools, compared with 75% nationally.
- 4.26 A concern however remains the fact that whilst schools are judge to be “Good”, there *are a smaller percentage of Caerphilly schools whan Wales as a whole judged to be “Excellent”*.

Follow up activity – Heolddu Secondary School

- 4.27 Heolddu Comprehensive School was inspected in September, 2011, and judged by Estyn to be ‘Adequate’ with ‘Adequate’ prospects for improvement. Estyn subsequently undertook a monitoring visit in November 2012 as part of the standard ‘Follow Up’ activity. During this visit, Estyn judged that of the 5 recommendation Estyn judged that one was fully addressed, three partly addressed and one not addressed" As a result of this monitoring visit the school was placed in Special Measures.
- 4.28 The LA continues to both support and challenge the leadership of the school in securing significant progress against the recommendations, and to remove the school from this category.
- 4.29 A recent evaluation by the EAS (April 2013) of the progress being made by the school found that: attitudes within the school are very positive and all stakeholders are fully aware of the need for urgent improvement; there has been a very positive response towards intervention processes; and whilst there is still much to be done within the intervention plan, structures and systems are now in place to support moving forward.
- 4.30 When an Estyn team visited the school in early May 2013 for a progress evaluation they found that the pre-inspection evaluation submitted by the LA concurred with the their findings. The Estyn team noted that the school was making good progress towards the recommendations, however, it was too soon to see the impact of some of the initiatives.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The strategies listed in Section 3 all include Equalities and Welsh language considerations, having included relevant officers and groups in the development process. The Council’s Policy Unit works closely with the Directorate of Education to support schools and governing bodies in delivering their statutory Equalities duties, which in turn supports overall school performance and provides supplementary information during Estyn inspections.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific financial implications.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific personnel implications.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 As detailed below. All comments have been reflected in the report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are asked to note the content of the report.

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