



Arolygiaeth Ei Fawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

A report on
Ieuenctid Casnewydd/Newport Youth

**Newport Youth,
Newport City Council,
Newport Youth and Play Service,
Floor 3,
Newport
NP20 4AX**

Date of inspection: September 2024

by

**Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

This report is also available in Welsh.

Context of provision

Newport is a fast-growing city. In the 2021 census, 17.4% of the population of 159,600 people were aged 10-24. In 2022, Newport had the highest level of 'most deprived' areas in Wales with nearly 23% of Newport's 95 areas in the top 10% of the most deprived areas in Wales. The proportion of residents who say they are Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh was 7.8% compared to 2.9% across Wales and 2.3% of the population are Black, Caribbean and African compared to 0.9% across Wales. The proportion of Welsh speakers was 9.3% compared to 17.8% across Wales.

This is the first inspection of youth work in Newport.

The aim of Newport youth and play service provision is 'Empowering children and young people in Newport to thrive within the city'. The youth and play service provision has been completely remodelled over the last two and a half years, rebuilding local youth clubs in four geographical areas of the city.. The service is a youth and play service within the local authority's Social Services directorate. The service seeks to build a transition between play work, junior youth clubs and clubs for older young people. The needs of older young people and targeted provision are currently provided through a mixture of shared funding, commissioned services and partnership working with wider providers of services for young people in Newport. For example, the more formal education element of youth work is provided under the Youth Engagement and Participation Framework partnership through the ASPIRE education projects with schools. In another example, detached youth work is carried out through Newport Live's Positive Futures project.

Inspectors take into account a wide range of information about young people when evaluating outcomes and the quality of youth work. They consider this alongside information about the national population. Some of the most useful information about young people in Newport is noted below:

- The number of young people not in education or training (NEET) in Newport is lower than the National average for Wales.
- According to Welsh Government statistics, in 2023 to 2024, there were 27,778 young people between the ages 11-25 living in Newport. The youth and play service and its commissioned partners worked with 1,778 of these young people. This 'reach' is amongst the six lowest reach figures for local authorities in Wales. Seven per cent of registered young people gain a recognised award through their youth and play service provision.
- The youth and play service provision is set against a background of relatively high knife crime, anti-social behaviour and county lines activity in the City area.

Overview

Newport youth and play service listens to young people when designing services. As a result, young people take part enthusiastically in youth work opportunities, enjoy themselves and develop their understanding of a range of appropriate issues. They are articulate and confident to express themselves, and mix well with one another in their local areas. They improve their confidence and self-esteem, for example through opportunities to confidently discuss topics such as body image or mental health. In the ASPIRE education-focused projects, young people in danger of dropping out of education improve their behaviour and attendance. Through other targeted activities, a few young people gain valuable outdoor skills, learn broadcasting skills and increase their ability to communicate through the medium of Welsh and English. However, opportunities for young people to take part in the expressive arts are limited. A few young people gain formal accreditation for their work or receive local certificates in recognition of their achievements.

Through the Newport City Youth Council, young people play an active role in local decision-making about issues that affect them. A few gain confidence by participating in local election procedures, but links between the youth council and the wider youth and play service are limited. Young refugees and asylum seekers participate well in a football project, with a very few of them volunteering in local youth clubs or progressing into higher education.

Senior leaders and the principal youth officer have ably redeveloped the youth and play service and increased its capacity from a very low base. Youth clubs in four geographical clusters ensure that young people can access open access provision locally. Good partnership working is increasingly meeting social challenges and the needs of a more diverse range of young people as well as strengthening the breadth and quality of provision. In general, the range of provision across partners meets the needs of young people across the city, providing both open access, targeted and school-based work.

Clubs are well staffed by qualified youth workers and offer a range of activities, with a few, offering stimulating project-based work. Youth workers ensure that the needs of young people are at the heart of what they do. They are dedicated and enthusiastic, forming meaningful relationships with young people. Youth workers signpost young people to partner provision and wider support, but young people are not always aware of where they can get specific help when they need it.

Contracted Urdd provision provides an opportunity for young people to use their Welsh language and celebrate Welsh culture. Youth clubs welcome young people with additional learning needs and a few youth workers are trained in neurodivergence.

Partners work well to explore ways to meet social challenges. Partnerships are strong, have shared values and put the needs of young people first. The council uses a wide range of funding streams to meet these needs. The youth and play service and the council as a whole listen to the voice of young people, but more needs to be done to provide for the challenges facing vulnerable young people in Newport.

Youth and play service managers have a strong and improving culture of evaluating the quality of services but the recording of the impact on young people is underdeveloped. The service has a strong ethos of professional learning and there are a good range of development opportunities for staff. However, their future priorities are not set out clearly in an annual service plan, with individual targets for staff.

Safeguarding policies and procedures are robust. Training is offered to partner organisations, where procedures are quality assured by a service manager from the Social Service department in the council. There are robust systems for planning safety procedures for trips and visits. However, workers have not yet received training in Prevent or child exploitation issues.

Open access provision appropriately takes place in shared community buildings where young people are welcome in their communities. The service has recently moved to an excellent redeveloped facility in the centre of Newport. This will shortly open to provide a wider range of services, particularly to older young people. These services are easily accessible by public transport and will include showers, a health clinic and an impartial information shop.

Newport youth and play service is well run and managed and is developing new provision. There is core youth and play service provision and services provided by partner organisations.

What you can expect from Newport youth and play service:

- Local open access youth clubs where the youth workers provide activities chosen by you. Play clubs for children are also available.
- Clubs that welcome all young people even if you need extra support.
- Well trained, dedicated youth workers who understand your needs and support you.
- Specialist provision such as support if you are struggling in school, help to use the Welsh language and opportunities to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh open award scheme.
- Newport City Youth Council where your views will be listened to and you will have the opportunity to influence local services. This will also give you experience in how democracy works.
- A new building about to open in the city centre where there will be more provision for older young people such as showers, homework club, a health clinic and access to impartial advice.

What you may not get (these opportunities may be offered by other youth work organisations in Newport):

- Youth workers who will meet and support you on the streets in all areas (detached youth work).
- Signposting to more specialist services on every occasion.
- A wide range of informal education opportunities.
- Access to artistic opportunities such as dance, art, music and drama.

Recommendations

We have made three recommendations to help the service continue to improve:

- R1 Set out a clear strategy for the youth and play service by mapping youth work provision across the local authority area and develop a plan to co-ordinate the services across both internal and external partners in Newport to ensure that young people's needs are met
- R2 Strengthen the youth and play service's self-evaluation process to aid improvement planning and more accurately measure and evaluate the impact of youth work on young people
- R3 Increase participation and publicise services more widely so that more young people regularly access youth work opportunities

What happens next

The provider will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.

Main evaluation

How does youth work help young people achieve their potential?

1.1 Educative

Much of the current youth work provision focuses on building relationships with young people and co-constructing the future youth work offer with them. As a result, young people access activities they enjoy and take part enthusiastically. In youth club sessions, young people develop their understanding of personal and sexual relationships and social issues through talking with youth workers whilst carrying out enjoyable art and craft activities or playing games. A few young people learn, more formally, about food safety, substance misuse, and mental health and well-being. Many young people are friendly, articulate, express their opinions well and are happy to talk to adults. They behave appropriately and mix well with one another in their own communities.

In ASPIRE, which is part of the youth engagement and progression framework project, young people follow a more formal education pathway away from the school site. The youth workers engage the young people in purposeful activities, often outdoors, during lunchtimes. These young people improve their behaviour and attendance, and this work is highly appreciated by the schools who take part.

Through taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh open award scheme, a few young people, who would not usually gain access to the programme, learn self-reliance and

valuable outdoor life skills. Through the Podcast project, young people express their views, learn digital skills and become familiar with technical equipment. In Urdd activities, young people use their Welsh outside of formal education settings, learn about Welsh culture and gain wider experience of the Welsh community by visiting the Eisteddfod.

Young people with additional learning needs in the supported youth club learn to socialise and mix well with other young people. They form positive relationships with youth workers who help them to develop and understand the world around them. The club is a vital and much valued provision where the young people grow and develop and learn to accept themselves as they are. Parents feel that attending the club has transformed the lives of the young people and made parents more confident to give their young people more independence. One mother commented, 'It feels like him being here has helped him to grow up.'

A few young women who took part in the International Women's Day project had opportunities meet young women from other parts of the UK and are beginning to understand issues relating to being a woman in current society.

A few young people take up accreditation opportunities, including qualifications such as first aid, food hygiene, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, or gain local recognition certificates for young people.

1.2 Expressive

Many young people across various settings respond positively to activities and express themselves well. For example, a group of female school pupils on a Families First programme submit relevant topic suggestions such as body image, sexuality, and talking to parents about mental health. These ideas inform a meaningful 12-week programme of learning during which young people talk about their feelings, unhelpful social media trends and peer pressure.

Young people taking part in a podcasting opportunity contribute with confidence and express themselves appropriately within the context of a video-gaming focussed podcast, a subject they are clearly knowledgeable about. They respond well to prompts and talk enthusiastically, using varied tone and intonation to ensure an engaging broadcasting style. They interact with one another well and are respectful in terms of turn-taking, showing interest, and responding to questions.

In a school-based lunchtime youth club, year 7 pupils share ideas on activities they would like to include in future sessions. They do this in a range of ways including through direct discussion with youth workers, by adding ideas to a flip chart, and voting via an online poll. They are enthusiastic about the potential activities available to them and readily share their areas of interest.

However, links with organisations in the area that provide artistic, dance and music opportunities are underdeveloped and therefore young people involved in youth and play service activities do not develop their artistic and expressive skills enough.

1.3 Participative

Most young people demonstrate strong levels of engagement in both structured and more informal sessions. They take part in sessions with enthusiasm. In a school-based session, a group of vulnerable young girls respond well when invited to make decisions on how they want to complete work, share ideas, and develop projects. For example, they choose a discussion activity over a written task and opt to work collaboratively to complete a whole group task on a class whiteboard.

Young people in an evening youth club describe how trips and activities have allowed them to experience new challenges such as rock-climbing, abseiling, and ice-skating. They emphasise that these experiences have been pivotal in boosting their confidence and self-esteem.

Newport City Youth Council is well established and plays an active role in representing young people's voice to decision makers. It has recently developed links with the youth and play service and plays an important role in sharing information about local communities and influencing activities. Although links between the youth and play service and the youth council are in the early stages, council representatives played a significant and valuable role in the recent recruitment process for a youth and play service participation engagement officer by setting interview questions and sitting on the interview panel.

1.4 Inclusive

The young refugees and asylum seekers who take part in the GAP football project overcome the barriers caused by the dangers they faced in their home countries and build positive relationships with youth workers. A minority of them join wider youth and play services such as youth clubs and the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. One young person has progressed to volunteer in a youth club and is aspiring to become a youth worker himself. Another is now studying law and criminology at university.

Spotlight: Working in partnership to support male asylum seekers and refugees

GAP is a charity that works with refugees and asylum seekers in Newport. The youth and play service provides GAP with monies from the youth support grant. This money funds the football project that runs once a week and is co-delivered by GAP, Newport Live, and the youth and play service. Around twenty young people regularly take part in the session, many of them coming straight across the road from the local further education college, where they are learning English for speakers of other languages (ESOL). The football is the main attraction and has allowed staff to build relationships with the young people who are cautious of strangers due to the dangers they faced in their home countries. The youth workers have made links both with the young people and the college staff who work with them. Information is shared well between the organisations to ensure that the young people are kept safe from the heightened risk of exploitation that they face. The youth workers are knowledgeable about the risks of criminal exploitation faced by different ethnic groups and the difficulties encountered in registering the young people, which is a barrier to them accessing support. The youth workers have

arranged to go into the college to continue to work with and support the young people. Youth workers have also arranged to speak to the female refugees accessing GAP to develop activities that they would like to take part in.

Young people are generally welcoming to one another in their local areas. A few have come together to celebrate other cultures, such as through attending an Eid party, but generally in the youth and play service, young people are not developing their inclusivity skills through activities that bring different communities and cultures together.

1.5 Empowering

The activities in youth clubs are young person-led. This empowers them to make choices about what they want to do with their leisure time. In particular, young people with learning difficulties, supported by youth workers, are empowered to choose what they want to do in a safe environment. This helps them to become more self-aware and self-confident, and to mature as young people.

In a few instances, young people take up volunteering and leadership roles. For example, young people taking part in an outreach football project volunteer to help in sessions, listen to other young people's concerns and become role models. Other young people have opportunities to access activities that allow them to try new experiences.

As a result of 'Democracy day', young people learn about the British and Welsh electoral systems. One young person has taken on the role of a polling clerk. Another is supported by the youth and play service to stand as a candidate for the Welsh Youth Parliament.

Spotlight: Young women broaden their horizons and develop their views focused on International Women's Day.

A group of vulnerable young women have been meeting for some time, with activities linked to International Women's Day. They have formed an alliance with young women in the north of England, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

On a recent trip to Scotland, they visited places of interest and learned about life outside their local community in Wales. They are beginning to discuss issues and challenges about being a young woman in contemporary society with the friends they have made across the UK. The group plan to host an event in Newport for the next International Woman's Day in 2025. The young women have attractive photo books to remind them of their experiences.

What young people can expect from youth work provision

Following the implementation of a new model for the youth and play service in 2022, the provision for young people across the city of Newport has improved significantly and is developing appropriately. Young people and their families have trust and respect in youth workers and testify to the positive impact that they have had in their lives.

Youth workers ensure that the needs of young people are at the heart of all that they do. They provide beneficial safe spaces for young people to meet with trusted adults and to socialise with their peers. Over time, young people are beginning to increase their participation in the provision on offer. However, participation rates, especially of those who are sixteen years or above, remain low when compared to other youth and play services across Wales with similar contexts.

Youth workers are dedicated to their roles which they undertake with enthusiasm and commitment. They communicate effectively with young people and develop meaningful relationships with them. This is a notable strength of the provision. They are aware of the needs and interests of young people and adapt provision accordingly. Through regular reflective practice, youth workers review and evaluate the provision and make changes to respond to young people's interests and suggestions. Across the city, there are a few examples of exceptional youth work, where youth workers have a highly positive impact on young people.

Positive partnership working is beginning to strengthen the youth work offer across the city and partner organisations report the benefits and value of this approach. There are good working relationships between youth and play services in Newport and their partners, for example, with schools and the youth justice service. This is beginning to strengthen the quality of provision for young people. These partnerships are beginning to enable the youth and play service to provide or facilitate youth work that generally meets the needs of many young people well across the city.

The structure supports the delivery of universal and targeted work including youth clubs, project work, and school-based sessions. Outreach youth work is supported by partnership working, for example with Newport Live and the youth justice service. However, opportunities to support young people through detached provision are currently limited.

The curriculum offer aligns with the Youth Work Curriculum Statement for Wales with a commitment to the offer being 'fully accessible and inclusive'. Following a recent consultation period, a curriculum plan has been developed and is in the early stages of implementation. Where youth work provision is available, it is generally effective in meeting the needs of young people.

Open access universal provision plays an important role in the work of the service. Youth clubs are staffed very well and offer a range of activities including sports, arts and crafts, gaming and board games. Many offer 'chill out' areas for young people to relax in a safe space. A few clubs offer stimulating activities such as taking part in podcasts and learning to DJ. Provision is generally timetabled in the evening and the service has recently established some lunchtime clubs following consultation with young people and schools. While the provision enables many young people to develop their social skills well, the range and quality does not always enable them to make progress by engaging in wider learning experiences.

The youth and play service is developing successful partnerships with schools across the city. Schools recognise and understand the value of youth work and actively promote youth and play service opportunities to pupils and parents. Through targeted interventions, youth workers provide young people with more specialist support in relation to mental health and well-being, healthy relationships, emotional health and

the development of social skills. A good example includes the targeted group work in schools helping young people to understand healthy and unhealthy relationships and to identify coercive control. Youth workers in the youth engagement and progression framework programme also provide targeted support for young people at risk of exclusion, through developing bespoke programmes addressing challenges that young people encounter that prevent them engaging and participating. Where this is most effective, this targeted work supports young people successfully to make informed decisions about their life choices.

Where appropriate, youth workers signpost young people to specialist support. However, as expressed in the Estyn survey to young people, about half who responded say that they do not always receive information about the specialist services available to them.

The youth and play service contracts its Welsh language provision to the Urdd to deliver Welsh language youth work on their behalf. The after-school club, run by the Urdd, in the English-medium Newport High School provides young people with opportunities to engage with youth workers who encourage and promote the use of the Welsh language. The Welsh language offer extends to other schools where after school clubs provide opportunities for young people to develop their Welsh language skills by encouraging and promoting the use of the language. Useful resources, produced by the Urdd, are shared across the service to engage with young people to promote and celebrate Welsh language, culture and traditions. Where these opportunities exist, young people engage usefully in Welsh language activities. However, access to Welsh-medium activities is not equally available to young people in all areas of the city. Opportunities for young people to learn about the cultural diversity of Wales are under-developed.

Youth workers empower young people to have their voices heard on issues that affect them through consultation and as a result, they can influence the provision. Through a developing range of activities and events the service supports young people's voice well through events such as the 'Caerleon Winter Warmer' where young people explored the benefits and risks within their community. With the support of youth workers, the youth council makes an important contribution to shaping the experiences of young people across the city. A good example is the 'Welcome to Your Vote' event, where youth council members enlisted the support of the electoral commission to simulate a real-life 'voting' experience for young people. Youth work, where it is delivered, is generally effective in encouraging young people to participate and is beginning to develop young people's citizenships skills.

The youth and play service has begun to strengthen its specialist support for young people with identified barriers to engagement and participation. For example, they work with the 'Cost of Living' project to provide food and drink during open access sessions, support young people with disabilities to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, and collaborate with Newport Live and GAP to run sports sessions for young people who are asylum seekers or refugees. These projects are beginning to have a very positive impact on developing a sense of belonging for young people who might be otherwise disengaged or excluded.

Youth clubs across the city are inclusive and welcoming for young people with ALN. A few youth workers have had training to understand neurodivergence. Staff at the

youth clubs liaise successfully with schools and parents and carers to understand the needs of young people with ALN, creating one-page profiles and 'passports to play'. This enables youth workers to adapt activities to remove any barriers that might otherwise prevent young people with ALN participating in the provision.

Spotlight: A space where young people with additional learning needs can make friends and develop independence

In collaboration with the Disabled Children's Team, the youth and play service has established a specialist club for young people with additional learning needs (ALN). The supported youth club in Rogerstone runs weekly sessions for children and young people with ALN who are aged between eleven and twenty-five years. The aim of the club is to build trusted relationships with the young people and provide them with opportunities to make friendships. The club supports these young people successfully to develop their confidence, self-esteem and independence, with a view to enabling them to engage in mainstream youth provisions. The young people play, socialise and learn new skills. For example, they participate in sporting activities, arts and crafts, and gaming activities. There are opportunities for them to develop important independent life skills such as decision making and money management. The young people and their parents and carers are very positive about the impact of this provision on those who attend. For example, they describe how the provision has enabled them to make sustainable friendships and improved their resilience when faced with new challenges. Young people say that the club gives the freedom to be themselves and to express themselves outside of more formal education settings. It enables them to make friends with other young people from across the city and to have a social life. This helps to prepare them for transitions into wider society.

Leading and improving

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers

Over the last two and a half years, Newport youth and play service has successfully re-established and restructured a service that had lost a good deal of capacity and expertise. The work, ably led by senior leaders and a highly committed and skilled principal youth officer, has developed a service, which from a very low base is making significant strides in its capacity to support the young people to develop and achieve.

The restructuring of the service into four geographical clusters is helping to ensure that many young people in Newport can attend an open access club in their vicinity. Alongside this, an expanding range of targeted provision, often through partnership working, is increasingly meeting the diverse needs of young people. The sufficiency and the reach of the youth offer is improving but there is still a way to go to reach levels that address the whole range of challenges facing vulnerable young people in Newport.

The youth and play service places an appropriate emphasis on listening to and acting upon the views and aspirations of young people. The youth council influences council policies that affect them, for example through involvement in recruitment, promoting and participating in city wide events, and learning about the democratic process.

The youth and play service works well with commissioned partners which enhances the breadth of provision across the local authority. These partners work closely with officers to explore new and emerging needs and share trends and information to help offer timely support to young people and reduce duplication. For example, the Youth Offending Service, the local authority, the Community Engagement Officer and 'Newport Live – positive futures' worked together to consider how to address aspects of knife crime and lock down procedures.

There is strong partnership working between the youth and play service and other council directorates, focused on the needs of young people. There is effective sharing of information about young people, underpinned by the council's oversight and management of information sharing arrangements. Partnerships benefit from a clear understanding and buy in to shared values, which supports effective working relationships that contribute to the quality and consistency of delivery. These partnerships enable the youth and play service to provide or facilitate youth work that generally meets the needs of many young people across the city. The service uses a wide range of funding streams to commission provision from partners, which is beginning to cultivate a wider range of resources and activities to support and benefit young people.

Overall, the youth and play service addresses national and local priorities for young people well. For example, youth workers are starting to engage in youth engagement and progression framework activities. The youth and play service also works closely with the homeless and well-being officer to identify young people at risk of being homeless. Youth work staff shadow housing officers to learn more about the challenges facing homeless and potentially homeless young people which helps them to tailor their youth work interventions.

The youth and play service managers regularly review the quality of the youth offer for its young people. For example, they consult young people and consider the location and timings of youth clubs to enable the provision to be as accessible as possible. There is a strong culture of evaluating and improving the service delivery. However, formal recording, reviewing and reporting as part of self-evaluation is underdeveloped and doesn't focus sufficiently on the impact of the provision on young people.

Leaders create a supportive ethos of professional learning with their staff, with a range of good development opportunities. They have appropriately identified core youth work skills as the main training need, and they have invested in upskilling staff to level 3 in youth work and ensured they are appropriately registered. Three young people aged 17 and 18 have been given the opportunity to train for a L2 qualification in youth work. Play work staff have received youth work training on top of their play work qualifications to aid in the seamless transition from play clubs to more youth work focused activity for those young people entering their teens in their clubs. In addition, Newport youth and play service offer youth work training to their commissioned partners to enable their youth workers to gain appropriate qualifications. The income raised from the delivery of this training is re-invested in providing post-graduate opportunities to youth work staff.

Staff undertake quarterly training days as a whole team although the evaluation of professional learning's impact on the quality of youth work and young people's

development is underdeveloped. Leaders recognise the areas that they need to develop, although these are not clearly articulated in the annual service plan. Over the last year, leaders have focused primarily on re-building the service and the youth work capacity within the team. Performance targets are not set for individual staff and the service recognises the need to develop this aspect of their work.

The youth and play service has appropriate and robust safeguarding policies and practices. There is a requirement that all youth workers complete appropriate safeguarding training commensurate to their roles. The local authority has developed the role of 'safeguarding champions' with the aim of ensuring that the basic principles of safeguarding remain a regular feature within their service areas' agendas. This means that safeguarding has become embedded into core business irrelevant of the service area, and all staff know who to talk to and what to do should they have a concern. The service also ensures that there is a designated safeguarding person on call for each youth work provision.

Individual staff are aware of the safeguarding procedures and who to contact when they have a concern. Mentors are also provided to support staff who have had to deal with difficult disclosures. The processes in partner agencies that are commissioned by the youth and play service are quality assured by a service manager in Social Services.

The youth and play service has been involved at the forefront of a contextual safeguarding pilot. There were growing anti-social behaviour issues in one local area which resulted in a multi-agency forum coming together involving a range of partners including the police and housing. Through this forum, the youth and play service was able to raise key issues in the area, which they identified through outreach sessions, a young person survey, and a neighbourhood assessment. The response from partners was positive and resulted in additional resources and funding being put into place to support direct youth work with young people. The pilot is being evaluated to inform approaches across Newport.

Newport youth and play service uses a recognised online system for the planning and management of trips and visits. This is a robust system that ensures detailed health and safety procedures are being followed. All staff trained to degree level and above have carried out higher level health safety training.

Wider safeguarding topics, for example Prevent, Child Sexual Exploitation, and Child Criminal Exploitation, have not yet been included in the training programme.

Newport youth and play service locates appropriately youth provision in shared community buildings across the city. The service has recently moved to a new building in the centre of the city. The building is operational as a base for the staff but is still being developed ready for youth provision. They have a shower and utility facilities that homeless young people can make use of. They plan on using this space to develop their 16+ provision, homework clubs, young parents' provision, a Welsh youth club, health clinic and general information shop. The purpose-built facilities are well-located with easy access via bus or train.

Evidence base of the report

Estyn inspectors visited the Newport youth and play service for four and a half days in September and October 2024. Three inspectors, one additional inspector and two peer inspectors visited 15 youth work sessions and activities in a variety of sessions across the city. An Estyn inspector also shadowed the work of the inspectors and accompanied them to visits.

Inspectors also attended 9 meetings with youth workers, local authority staff, elected members and a range of commissioned providers and partners both within the local authority and from external agencies. Inspectors also scrutinised reports, documents and data provided by Newport youth and play service.

Inspectors observed youth work taking place and talked to young people and youth workers. They also spoke with parents who wished to tell inspectors how well youth workers support their young people.

Appendix 1: Numbers – quantities and proportions

The report makes references to different quantities and proportions e.g. '*most pupils...*' or '*very few pupils...*'. We use these terms to describe quantities and proportions as outlined in the table below:

nearly all =	with very few exceptions
most =	90% or more
many =	70% or more
a majority =	over 60%
half =	50%
around half =	close to 50%
a minority =	below 40%
few =	below 20%
very few =	less than 10%

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/>)

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