

Inspection outcomes of education providers in Wales inspected during the 2018-2019 academic year

This Statistical First Release highlights that we have updated our website with summaries of outcomes of inspections conducted between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.

Publication date
18 September 2019

Next update
The Chief Inspector's Annual Report will provide further evaluation and commentary on the performance of education and training in Wales over a three-year period up to and including 2018-2019.

This will be published in February 2020.

Further information
Outcomes by provider, summaries for previous years by sector and location and a summary of responses to our pre-inspection learner and parent questionnaires can be found on our website:

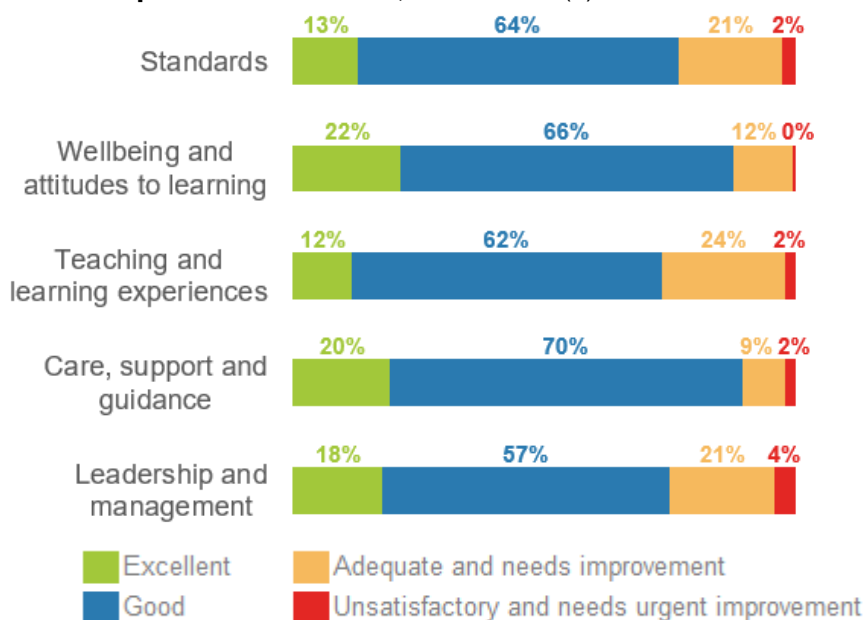
data.estyn.gov.wales
data.estyn.llyw.cymru

During 2018-2019 we inspected 246 providers under our new common inspection framework introduced in September 2017. A summary of the headline outcomes for these inspections can be seen in the chart below.

Between September and December 2018 we inspected 26 non-maintained nursery settings under the common inspection framework introduced in September 2010. From January 2019 we inspected a further 66 non-maintained nursery settings under new joint inspection arrangements with Care Inspectorate Wales. Summaries of the inspection outcomes for all non-maintained nursery settings inspected during 2018-2019 are available on our website.

We also carried out four inspections using our new guidance for inspecting local government education services. The individual inspection reports on our website provide details of the findings from these inspections.

Headline inspection outcomes for providers inspected under the new common inspection framework, 2018-2019 (a)



(a) Providers with very small numbers of learners are not awarded a judgement for standards or for wellbeing and attitudes to learning. This did not apply to any providers in 2018-2019.

Accessing our data

- This Statistical First Release has been pre-announced and published via the Estyn website and has been prepared according to the principles and protocols of the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).
- Summaries of our inspection outcomes and questionnaire responses can be accessed via our website.
- Users can apply filters to customise their data views and download the results. It includes data for inspections carried out between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2019.
- There are four different sections:
 - 'Outcomes by provider' displays a list of the inspection outcomes for individual providers and groups.
 - 'Outcomes by sector' summarises inspection outcomes for whole sectors.
 - 'Outcomes across local authorities' enables the user to view summaries of inspection outcomes for each local authority in Wales.
 - 'Learner and parent questionnaire' presents summaries of the responses to our questionnaires.
- The inspection reports for individual providers containing detailed evaluations and commentaries on the inspection findings are available from our website.
estyn.gov.wales/inspection/search

Further commentary on our data

- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's Annual Report is published annually, and provides an evaluation and commentary on the inspection outcomes and the performance of education and training providers in Wales during the previous academic year.
- The Annual Report evaluating the full range of findings from our inspections for 2018-2019 is due to be published in February 2020 and will be available on our website:
estyn.gov.wales/annual-report

About our 2018-2019 inspection outcomes

- All education and training providers in Wales are inspected at least once within a seven year period that began on the 1 September 2016.
- Non-maintained nurseries receive 10 working days' written notice of inspection, local government education services receive 10 weeks' notice and partnerships of initial teacher education receive 8 weeks' notice. All other sectors receive 15 working days' notice.
- Inspection reports are published on our website following the inspection, most within 45 working days from the start of the inspection, but this varies a little for some sectors.
- The Common Inspection Framework introduced from September 2017 for primary schools, secondary schools, all-age schools, maintained special schools, pupil referral units, independent schools, independent specialist colleges and work-based learning providers is organised as follows:
 1. Standards
 2. Wellbeing and attitudes to learning
 3. Teaching and learning experiences
 4. Care, support and guidance
 5. Leadership and management

From September 2018, this framework also applies to further education colleges, Welsh for adults and a pilot inspection in the adult learning sector.

- We use the following four point scale to show our inspection judgements:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Very strong, sustained performance and practice.
Good	Strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement.
Adequate and needs improvement	Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement.
Unsatisfactory and needs urgent improvement	Important weaknesses outweigh strengths.

- The Common Inspection Framework introduced from September 2010 under which non-maintained nursery settings were inspected between September and December 2018 can be viewed on our website:
estyn.gov.wales/document/common-inspection-framework-september-2010-0
- Information on the new joint inspection arrangements with Care Inspectorate Wales under which non-maintained nursery settings were inspected from January 2019 can also be viewed on our website:
estyn.gov.wales/new-inspection-framework-non-maintained-nursery-settings
- During an inspection, we consider whether the provider needs any follow-up activity. This activity can range from identifying effective practice and requesting case studies of examples to recommending special measures.
- All our inspection judgements are quality assured by another Her Majesty's Inspector of Education and Training (HMI). The HMI undertaking this role will check the judgements made in an inspection report against the evidence gathered on the inspection, to make sure that there is a match, and they will also check that the team has followed our published guidance for inspectors. Quality assurance arrangements are assured by independent auditors.

- When analysing inspection outcomes data, it is important to note that there can be difficulties in comparing trends in outcomes between years due to variances in the sample of providers inspected.
- For further detail on our inspection process please refer to our website:
estyn.gov.wales/inspection/inspection-explained

About our pre-inspection questionnaires

- The views of learners, parents and carers, teachers and support staff, governors and work based learning employers are gathered before we inspect their education provider. We also open a citizens survey prior to inspections of local government education services to gather the views of all stakeholders.
- We only publish summaries of learner, and parent and carer questionnaires. This is due to an insufficient volume of responses to the other questionnaires.
- Our questionnaires are tailored for each sector, but gather information on similar themes.
- Subjects are encouraged to complete these questionnaires electronically for efficiency, although hard copies may be requested.
- For further detail on our questionnaires please refer to our website
estyn.gov.wales/inspection/questionnaires

Comparability of this data

- Differing education and inspection systems makes comparing these outcomes with inspection outcomes for other countries difficult.
- For further information on the inspection systems and outcomes in other UK countries please see their individual websites:

England	Ofsted	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted
Northern Ireland	Education Training Inspectorate	www.etini.gov.uk/
Scotland	Education Scotland	https://education.gov.scot/

Relevance of this data

- These statistics are used both within and outside Estyn to monitor educational trends. Some of the key users are:
 - Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales
 - The Welsh Government
 - The research community
 - Education and training providers
 - Regional education consortia, local authorities and education providers
 - Students, academics and universities
 - Learners, parents and guardians
 - Individual citizens, private companies and the media