



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

**Annual monitoring inspection report on  
Greenfields**

**Date of inspection: October 2015**

**by**

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

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**Publication date: 03/12/2015**

## Context

Greenfields is an independent special school located in a suburb of Newport. It provides education for pupils aged 11 to 18 who have social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD) and who reside in the company's children's homes. All learners are looked after, and most have a statement of special educational needs (SEN).

The current headteacher started at the school in November 2014. The organisation has recently appointed a head of education to provide support and challenge to the school.

## Main findings

### Strengths

#### The school's strengths are that:

- Staff work well together to create a calm, positive and purposeful ethos, which has led to improved behaviour in lessons and around the school
- All key stage 4 leavers in 2015 achieved two GCSEs and progressed into further education
- Pupils take care to produce well-presented work
- Staff involve pupils well in decision-making through the school council; recent decisions include changes to the reward system and rules about smoking
- The buildings are spacious; the organisation is working to develop indoor and outdoor areas further to make the most of the facilities available
- The classrooms provide a suitable learning environment; attractive wall displays celebrate pupils' achievements
- The organisation has recently appointed a head of education, to provide support and challenge to the school, although it is too early to see the impact

### Areas for development

#### The school's areas for development are that:

- The safeguarding policy does not set out clearly enough what the designated safeguarding person needs to do in the case of a disclosure by pupil
- Not all pupils arrive at school in the morning on time
- The school is currently reviewing its policy on sanctions, and has agreed a staged approach to sanctions with the school council, which is being trialled this half-term; the school plans to update the behaviour policy to reflect these changes
- Although the organisation keeps a central record of pre-employment checks, this does not include the date on which the checks were carried out, as recommended in the Welsh Government guidance Keeping Learners Safe

158/2015

- Although staff complete a range of training, including safeguarding training, this information is not recorded in one place; as a result, it is hard for managers to keep track of what courses have been undertaken

### **Recommendations**

#### **The school should:**

- R1 Ensure compliance with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003
- R2 Ensure that all pupils arrive at school on time
- R3 Carry out a regular programme of lesson observations that has a clear focus on teaching and learning
- R4 Ensure that the single central record of pre-employment checks includes the dates on which the checks were carried out
- R5 Keep a record of staff training

**Progress in addressing recommendations from previous note of visit or inspection report**

**Recommendation 1: Ensure compliance with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003**

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

The school has addressed all the compliance issues identified in the previous annual monitoring visit. However, the safeguarding policy does not set out clearly enough what the designated safeguarding person needs to do in the case of a disclosure by a pupil.

**Recommendation 2: Review all policies on an annual basis**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

Since starting at the school, the current headteacher has amended or rewritten many of the school policies. She has developed a detailed database of all the existing school policies and the dates on which they were amended. There is a timetable in place for reviewing all policies on an annual basis.

**Recommendation 3: Make sure that the safeguarding policy links to other relevant policies**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The safeguarding policy now includes a list of other relevant policies, including policies relating to anti-bullying; behaviour; missing children; e-safety; restraint; and safer recruitment.

**Recommendation 4: Make sure that the safeguarding policy has details of actions to be taken if there is an allegation against the headteacher or the child protection officer**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The safeguarding policy now outlines the actions that are to be taken if there is an allegation against the headteacher, who is the designated person for safeguarding.

**Recommendation 5: Make sure that there are accurate times recorded when learners leave and return to a classroom and clear records of the destination and supervisor when learners do not return to lessons**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The school keeps detailed records of when learners leave and return to lessons. Teaching and care staff work together well to make sure that they know where learners are at all times.

**Recommendation 6: Improve lesson observations to focus on learning, learner progress and standards and learner outcomes**

This recommendation has not been addressed.

Since the last visit, the school has not carried out lesson observations. However, the headteacher has developed a programme of lesson observations for the coming year.

**Recommendation 7: Improve learner attendance**

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

Most pupils attend school regularly or take part in educational activities within the home. However, a very few do not engage in education.

Not all pupils arrive in school on time.

**Recommendation 8: Make sure that all relevant rooms have viewing panels**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

All rooms used by pupils have viewing panels.

**Compliance with the standards for registration**

**Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 1.

**Standard 2: The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 2.

**Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- Prepare and implement written policies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the school in compliance with Welsh Assembly Government Guidance 158/2015 Keeping Learners Safe [3(2)(b)]

**Standard 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff**

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

### **Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 5.

### **Standard 6: The provision of information**

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

### **Standard 7: The manner in which complaints are to be handled**

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

### **Recommendation regarding registration**

When considering this school's registration the National Assembly for Wales may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

The school does not currently meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003. To comply fully with these requirements, the school should address the issues identified above for each standard.

Inspectors' judgements on this annual monitoring inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

### **School information**

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|---|---|
| <b>School</b>   | Greenfields   |
| <b>School number</b>  | 6806005   |
| <b>Purpose of visit</b>   | Annual monitoring inspection  |
| <b>Date of visit</b>  | 01/10/2015  |
| <b>Proprietor</b>   | CareTech UK   |
| <b>Staff</b>  | 1 headteacher<br>1 deputy headteacher<br>1 SENCO/teacher<br>2 teachers<br>1 higher level teaching assistant<br>1 careers advisor<br>1 administrative assistant/receptionist |
| <b>Number of pupils</b>   | 9   |
| <b>Provision</b>  | Day provision for pupils in the company's children's homes  |
| <b>Type of special educational need (SEN) catered for by the school</b> | Social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD)   |
| <b>Last Section 163 inspection</b>                                      | 10/05/2011  |

Annual monitoring inspection report on Greenfields  
October 2015

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| <b>Last annual monitoring inspection</b> | 03/11/2014 |
| <b>Last CSSIW inspection</b>             |            |

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| <b>Team information</b> |
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|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Mrs Caroline Rees | Reporting Inspector |
| Ms Jassa Scott    | Team Inspector      |