



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

**Annual monitoring inspection report on  
Woodlands Children's Development Centre**

**Date of inspection: April 2016**

**by**

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

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Publication Section

Estyn

Anchor Court

Keen Road

Cardiff

CF24 5JW or by email to [publications@estyn.gov.wales](mailto:publications@estyn.gov.wales)

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## Context

Woodlands Children's Development Centre provides highly specialised residential care, education and therapy for boys aged between 11 and 18 who have significant and complex social, emotional and behavioural needs. The school is located within the town of Wrexham close to local amenities and leisure facilities.

There are 14 pupils, between 13 and 18 years of age on roll at the school. Seven of the pupils have statements of special educational needs. All pupils are resident at the Woodlands Children's homes in the local area.

The school has detailed plans in place for an extension to the education premises.

## Main findings

### Strengths

The school provides a very welcoming environment where pupils feel safe and secure. This makes a positive contribution to pupil attendance and outcomes.

The school liaises well with providers of further education and training. As a result, older pupils have access to learning pathways appropriate to their needs and interests.

Care and teaching staff work very closely together to provide a consistent approach to managing pupils' behaviour and supporting their progress.

Pupils value the encouragement and high level of support they receive from their teachers.

Pupils behave very well. They remain motivated and interested and take an active part in their lessons.

The school promotes Welsh language and culture well. Pupils who speak Welsh as their first language work with a specialist Welsh language teacher and have the relevant opportunity to take their Welsh language GCSE.

### Areas for development

Relevant policies do not currently reference the Prevent duty guidance. However, the school has well developed plans in place for staff training in this area.

A few teachers provide pupils with useful opportunities to assess the quality of their own work and the work of others. However, this practice is not consistent across all classes.

The school has an up-to-date self-evaluation report. However, in a few sections, this does not refer consistently to pupils' standards and their outcomes.

## Recommendations

- R1 Revise relevant policies to include reference to the Prevent duty guidance
- R2 Make sure there is a consistent approach to planning opportunities for pupils to assess the quality of their own work and the work of their peers
- R3 Make sure that the self-evaluation report refers and relates to pupils and their outcomes

## 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 fully addressed.

The school now has a policy on first aid and implements it successfully.

### **Recommendation 2: Collate a definitive, current set of school policies, which can be accessed easily by all parties**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The school has collated all policies in hard copy format and these are easily accessible to all staff. All school policies are available on-line.

### **Recommendation 3: Involve pupils more closely in setting and monitoring their individual education plan targets**

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

Pupils now take an active part in setting and reviewing their individual education plan (IEP) targets. Lesson plans are linked well to the pupils' targets and teachers provide many opportunities for pupils to meet them.

## Compliance with the standards for registration

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

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

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 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

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 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 this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 7.

**Recommendation regarding registration**

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

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003.

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

## School information

<b>School</b>	Woodlands Children's Development Centre
<b>School number</b>	6656042
<b>Purpose of visit</b>	Annual monitoring inspection
<b>Date of visit</b>	27/04/2016
<b>Proprietor</b>	Woodlands Ltd
<b>Staff</b>	8 Teachers 1 Cover Supervisor 2 Behaviour Support 2 Outdoor Education Tutors
<b>Number of pupils</b>	14
<b>Provision</b>	50 week provision/52 weeks residential
<b>Type of special educational need (SEN) catered for by the school</b>	Social emotional and behavioural difficulties, autistic spectrum, disorders, moderate learning difficulties.
<b>Last Section 163 inspection</b>	01/07/2013
<b>Last annual monitoring inspection</b>	29/04/2015
<b>Last CSSIW inspection</b>	28/10/2015

## Team information

Mrs Gill Sims	Reporting Inspector
Mrs Claire Yardley	Team Inspector