



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

**Annual monitoring inspection report on
Options Kinsale School**

Date of inspection: September 2016

by

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

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Context

Kinsale School offers an integrated residential education and care package for pupils aged between 8 and 19 years who have an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and complex needs. The school currently educates 16 pupils from Year 6 to post-16. Pupils come predominantly from English authorities and a few pupils are placed by authorities in Wales. All pupils have a statement of special educational needs (SEN) or education, health and care plan (EHC) and nearly all pupils have looked-after-child (LAC) status. Nearly all current pupils have residential placements.

Over the past two years, there have been several changes in the leadership team. A senior teacher at the school took on the role of interim headteacher in July 2016.

Main findings

Strengths

The interim head has significant relevant experience, and has a clear understanding of what needs to be done to improve the school.

The head of service provides valuable support for the interim headteacher.

There is a wide range of appropriate resources of good quality.

All pupils make progress against their learning and behaviour targets in line with their needs and abilities.

Education, care and clinical staff work well together to support the needs of individual pupils.

The school has effective processes for monitoring and analysing the type and frequency of incidents and physical intervention.

Areas for development

The school does not currently have a permanent headteacher.

Although the interim headteacher and head of service have recently produced a detailed school information and self-evaluation form and school development plan, processes for self-evaluation and development planning are not fully embedded.

Processes for assuring the quality of teaching and learning are at an early stage. Although the school has introduced a programme of lesson observations, these do not focus well enough on learning.

Recommendations

R1 Appoint a permanent headteacher

R2 Further develop self-evaluation and planning processes to ensure continuous improvement at a strategic level

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

Recommendation 3: Comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The school has addressed all the compliance issues identified in the previous visit. 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.

Recommendation 4: Revise the child protection policy to ensure that the responsibilities and procedures for staff working in the school are clear; ensure that the policy includes the actions the school should take if an allegation is made against a designated person or senior member of staff

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The amended child protection policy sets out clearly the roles and responsibilities of staff working at the school, and the procedures they should follow in the case of a disclosure or allegation. This includes actions that school staff should take if an allegation is made against the designated person or headteacher.

Recommendation 5: Improve baseline assessment and systems to monitor pupils' performance as they move through the school

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

The school has introduced appropriate procedures and systems for assessing pupils and monitoring their progress. Education, care and clinical staff contribute appropriately to formal baseline assessments in relation to pupils' learning and behaviour. Targets in individual education plans are matched well to pupils' needs.

Teachers, supported by their colleagues from the care and clinical teams, monitor pupils' ongoing progress effectively against their individual targets. They use a comprehensive range of data to set new targets.

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 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:

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

School	Options Kinsale School
School number	6646004
Purpose of visit	Annual monitoring inspection
Date of visit	20/09/2016
Proprietor	Options
Staff	1 interim headteacher, 4 teachers, 4 tutors, 4 teaching assistants
Number of pupils	17
Provision	Residential and Day
Type of special educational need (SEN) catered for by the school	Autism and Complex Needs
Last Section 163 inspection	01/03/2012
Last annual monitoring inspection	01/06/2015
Last CSSIW inspection	01/03/2016

Team information

Mrs Caroline Rees	Reporting Inspector
Mrs Sw Roberts	Team Inspector