

National Categorisation

Reason for this report

1. The reason for this report is to:
 - Inform the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee of the outcomes of National Categorisation in January 2018

Primary overview

- 2.1 In the primary sector, the proportion of schools in the green and yellow categories is higher than the Wales figures (89.7% Cardiff, 85.3% Wales). There was no change to the number of primary schools categorised as red in January 2018, whilst the proportion of red primary schools across Wales increased by 0.4 percentage points. The proportion of amber schools decreased to eight schools in January 2018, compared to thirteen in January 2017.

Secondary overview

- 2.2 In the secondary sector, the proportion of schools in the green and yellow categories is higher than the Wales figures (88.8% Cardiff, 68.3% Wales). There is now only one secondary school categorised as red in January 2018, compared to three schools in January 2017 (NB two of the schools are now closed). The proportion of red schools in Wales increased by 2.9 percentage points. The proportion of amber schools decreased to one in January 2018, compared to five in January 2017.

Special overview

- 2.3 In the special sector, the proportion of schools in the green and yellow categories is 71.4%, compared to 57.1% in January 2017. No special schools are categorised as red in January 2018, one school was categorised as red in January 2017. No special schools in Wales are categorised as red in January 2018.

Inspection Outcomes of Cardiff Schools

- 2.2 In September 2017, new arrangements for inspecting all schools, independent specialist colleges, pupil referral units and work-based learning, providers came into effect. Schools are being judged in five inspection areas:
 - Standards
 - Wellbeing and attitudes to learning
 - Teaching and learning experiences
 - Care, support and guidance
 - Leadership and management
- 2.3 Outcomes from Estyn inspections are reported, using a four-point scale:

- 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.
- 2.4 During the 2016-17 academic year, Estyn inspected twelve primary schools. Ten were judged as good, or excellent, for current performance. The remaining two were judged as adequate. Nine schools were judged to be good or excellent for their prospects for improvement and, of the remaining three, two were judged to be adequate and one unsatisfactory. Two schools went into Estyn Monitoring and one went into Special Measures.
- 2.5 Four secondary schools were inspected. One secondary school was judged as excellent in both current performance and prospects for improvement. One school was judged as adequate for current performance and good for prospects for improvement. This school went into Estyn Monitoring. Two schools were judged as unsatisfactory for current performance and for prospects for improvement. Both these schools were placed in Special Measures, but were closed in August 2017.
- 2.6 No special schools were inspected. The Pupil Referral Unit was inspected and was judged as good for current performance and for prospects for improvement.
- 2.7 In November 2017, Eastern High School was removed from Special Measures. Estyn noted the trend of improving results at all key stages, with Mathematics and English improving significantly. The school moved into the new Eastern Learning Campus buildings in January 2018, in partnership with Cardiff and the Vale College.
- 2.8 At the time of writing this report, one secondary school remains in an Estyn follow-up category. In November 2016, seven secondary schools were in an Estyn follow up category. In 2016-17, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr was removed from Estyn Monitoring and Cantonian High School was removed from Significant Improvement. Cantonian High School was judged to have made strong progress in relation to raising standards, reducing exclusions and strengthening leadership. Whitchurch High School and Radyr Comprehensive School were also moved from Estyn Monitoring.
- 2.9 In the special sector, Riverbank School was removed from Estyn Monitoring in November 2017. Woodlands Special School was also removed from Special Measures, and federated with Ty Gwyn and Riverbank in January 2018.

Background

National Categorisation

3. In May 2014, the Minister for Education and Skills announced the development of a primary grading model and a review of the secondary banding model. The application of this model results in one of 4 levels of support for each school categorised as green, yellow, amber or red, with schools in green requiring the least amount of challenge and support and those in red the most.
4. The national categorisation system's main purpose is to identify which schools are in most need of support. The system ensures that, in partnership with local authorities and regional consortia, we direct our support and resources to improve our school system and as a result, raise standards and performance in Wales.
5. The system is about providing support and encouraging collaborative improvement by putting schools into a position that enables them to identify the factors that contribute to their progress and achievement, or what areas to focus on to achieve further development. It is not about labelling or creating league tables
6. The system is a three step model that is not purely data-driven but also takes into account the quality of leadership and teaching and learning in our schools. In 2017, Welsh Government did not operate Step 1. The process began at Step 2.
 - **Step one:** A broad range of performance information is provided by the Welsh Government to inform schools' self-evaluation of their capacity to improve in relation to teaching and learning. This year we have changed the process so that we will no longer calculate or publish a standards group for schools. Instead a broader set of information will be considered when evaluating how schools are doing, which will take into account their local circumstances. This will also form the starting point of discussions between schools and their regional consortium challenge advisor about their performance and areas for improvement. This change has been made as a result of our work to change accountability within our education system and make sure that schools, and their learners, are given the right support at the right time so they can fully achieve their potential.
 - **Step two:** Challenge advisers from regional consortia evaluate the school's capacity to improve, taking account of evidence about the standards achieved and the quality of leadership and learning and teaching. They will also use information from the Welsh Government to inform this evaluation and discussions with schools.
 - **Step three:** The outcomes from step two are used to decide on each school's final support category. The final categorisation is a colour code that shows the level of support a school needs and triggers a tailored programme of support, challenge and intervention. The support categories are green, yellow, amber or red (with the schools in the green category needing the least support and those in the red category needing the most intensive support).

7. The coloured support category for each primary, middle and secondary school is now available.
8. The system is co-constructed between regional consortia and Welsh Government.
9. As part of the agreed National Model for Regional Working, Welsh Government, local government, regional consortia and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) have worked together to ensure a national and consistent approach to the categorisation of schools.

Primary Schools

10. In the primary sector, the proportion of schools in the categories requiring the least support (green and yellow), is above the Wales figures with 88 out of 98 Cardiff schools in these two support categories. 52 Cardiff schools are in the green category, compared to 35 in January 2017, which means that we should have a greater proportion of schools with the capacity to support other schools and have a significant part to play in the developing school to school work.
11. Cardiff has two schools in the most intensive support category (red). These schools are visited regularly by the challenge adviser and the progress that these schools are making is evaluated on a half termly basis by the local authority jointly with the consortium.

Support Category	Cardiff January 2017	Cardiff January 2018	Consortium January 2018	Wales January 2018
Green	35.71% (35 out of 98 schools)	53.06% (52 out of 98 schools)	45.6%	36.5%
Yellow	48.98% (48 out of 98 schools)	36.7% (36 out of 98 schools)	44.6%	48.8%
Amber	13.26% (13 out of 98 schools)	8.16% (8 out of 98 schools)	8.2%	12.6%
Red	2.04% (2 out of 98 schools)	2.04% (2 out of 98 schools)	1.6%	2.1%

Secondary Schools

12. In the secondary sector, the proportion of schools in the categories requiring the least support (green and yellow), is above the Wales figures with 16 out of 18 Cardiff schools in these two support categories. 7 Cardiff schools are in the green category, compared to 5 in January 2017. January 2018 categorisation is based on 18 schools as one school was closed in July 2017.

13. Cardiff has one school in the most intensive support category (red), compared to three in January 2017. The number of schools in the amber category has also decreased, by 4 schools.

Support Category	Cardiff January 2017	Cardiff January 2018	Consortium January 2018	Wales January 2018
Green	26.32% (5 out of 19 schools)	38.89% (7 out of 18 schools)	32.1%	26.0%
Yellow	31.58% (6 out of 19 schools)	50.00% (9 out of 18 schools)	50.0%	42.3%
Amber	26.32% (5 out of 19 schools)	5.56% (1 out of 18 schools)	10.7%	19.2%
Red	15.79% (3 out of 19 schools)	5.56% (1 out of 18 schools)	7.1%	12.5%

Special Schools

14. In the special sector, there has been a slight increase in the proportion of schools in the categories requiring the least support (green and yellow). There has been a corresponding decrease in the number of schools requiring amber and red support. However, these figures are below the national averages.

Support Category	Cardiff January 2017	Cardiff January 2018	Consortium January 2018	Wales January 2018
Green	57.14% (4 out of 7 schools)	28.57% (2 out of 7 schools)	53.3%	45.0%
Yellow	0.00% (0 schools)	42.86% (3 out of 7 schools)	26.7%	30.0%
Amber	28.57% (2 out of 7 schools)	28.57% (2 out of 7 schools)	20.0%	25.0%
Red	14.29% (1 out of 7 schools)	0.00% (0 schools)	0.0%	0.0%

Appendix 1 – Outcomes from National Categorisation**Primary**

School name	Step Two: Improvement Capacity	Step Three: Support Category
Millbank Primary School	A	Green
Adamsdown Primary	B	Yellow
Albany Primary School	B	Yellow
Allensbank Primary School	C	Amber
Baden Powell Primary School	C	Amber
Birchgrove Primary School	A	Green
Trelai Primary School	C	Amber
Fairwater Primary School	B	Yellow
Gabalfa Primary	A	Green
Kitchener Primary School	A	Green
Lansdowne Primary School	A	Green
Moorland Primary	A	Green
Radnor Primary School	A	Green
Rhydypenau Primary School	A	Green
Roath Park Primary School	C	Amber
Greenway Primary School	A	Green/
Stacey Primary School	A	Green
Ton-yr-Ywen Primary School	B	Yellow
Peter Lea Primary School	B	Yellow
Bryn Hafod Primary School	A	Green
Pen-y-Bryn Primary School	B	Yellow
Coed Glas C P School	A	Green
Lakeside Primary School	A	Green
Pentrebane Primary School	B	Yellow
Mount Stuart Primary School	B	Yellow
Llanishen Fach Primary School	A	Green
Rhiwbeina Primary School	A	Green
Llanedeyrn Primary School	A	Green
Springwood Primary School	A	Yellow
Ninian Park Primary School	A	Green
Coryton Primary	B	Yellow
Bryn Celyn Primary School	B	Yellow
Y G G Gwaelod Y Garth	A	Green
Radyr Primary School	A	Green
Tongwynlais Primary School	A	Green
Llysfaen Primary School	A	Green
Bryn Deri Primary	A	Green
Oakfield Primary School	A	Green

Appendix C

Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd	A	Green
Ysgol Y Wern	A	Green
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed Y Gof	B	Yellow
Ysgol Bro Eirwg	B	Yellow
Ysgol Treganna	B	Green
Willowbrook Primary School	A	Green
Pentyrch Primary	D	Red
Thornhill Primary School	A	Green
Ysgol Pencae	A	Green
Meadowlane Primary School	A	Green
Ysgol Mynydd Bychan	A	Green
Creigiau Primary School	A	Green
Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch	B	Yellow
Ysgol Y Berllan Deg	B	Green
Gladstone Primary School	B	Yellow
Glan Yr Afon Primary School	C	Amber
Grangetown Primary School	B	Yellow
Herbert Thompson Primary	A	Green
Ysgol Glan Morfa	B	Yellow
Ysgol Pen Y Pil	B	Yellow
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Caerau	B	Yellow
Rumney Primary	A	Green
Windsor Clive Primary	A	Green
Severn Primary	A	Green
Hawthorn Primary	B	Yellow
Danescourt Primary	A	Green
Hywel Dda Primary School	A	Green
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pen-Y-Groes	B	Yellow
Trowbridge Primary	C	Amber
Ysgol Glan Ceubal	B	Yellow
Marlborough Primary	A	Green
Pencaerau Primary	A	Green
Glyncoed Primary	A	Green
Whitchurch Primary	A	Green
Pontprennau Primary	B	Yellow
Howardian Primary School	B	Yellow
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Hamadryad	B	Yellow
St. Mellons Church In Wales Primary	A	Green
St Alban's Rc Primary School	D	Red
St Cuthbert's Rc Primary	B	Yellow
St. Joseph's RC Primary School	B	Yellow
St. Mary's R.C. Primary School	B	Yellow
St Patrick's R C School	B	Yellow
St. Peter's Primary School	B	Yellow

St Cadoc's Catholic Primary	A	Green
St Monicas C/W Primary School	A	Green
St.Paul's C/W Primary School	B	Yellow
Tredegarville C/W Primary	A	Green
Llandaff City Primary School	C	Amber
Christ The King Primary School	A	Green
St John Lloyd	A	Green
Holy Family R.C. Primary	B	Yellow
St Mary The Virgin C/W Primary School	B	Yellow
All Saints C/W Primary	B	Yellow
St Fagans Church In Wales	C	Amber
St Bernadettes Primary School	B	Yellow
St David's C/W Primary School	B	Yellow
Bishop Childs C/W Primary	A	Green
St Philip Evans Primary School	A	Green
St. Francis R. C. Primary Sch.	A	Green

Secondary

School name	Step Two: Improvement Capacity	Step Three: Support Category
Cardiff High School	A	Green
Willows High School	B	Yellow
Fitzalan High School	A	Green
Cantonian High School	B	Yellow
Llanishen High School	B	Yellow
Cathays High School	A	Green
Radyr Comprehensive School	B	Yellow
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf	C	Amber
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr	B	Yellow
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Edern	A	Green
Cardiff West Community High School	C	Red
Eastern High School	B	Yellow
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	B	Yellow
Mary Immaculate High School	A	Green
Bishop Of Llandaff Church In Wales High School	A	Green
St Teilo's C-In-W High School	B	Yellow
Corpus Christi Catholic High School	A	Green
Whitchurch High School	B	Yellow

Special

School name	Step Two: Improvement Capacity	Step Three: Support Category
Greenhill Special School	A	Green
Meadowbank Special School	B	Yellow
Riverbank School	B	Yellow
The Court School	B	Amber
The Hollies School	B	Yellow
Ty Gwyn Special School	A	Green
Woodlands High School	C	Amber