



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : LEARNING AND LAESCYP MEETING

MONDAY, 10TH APRIL, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor L Mytton (**In the Chair**)

Councillors M Davies and S Slater

Cooptees:

Claire Brown, Rosemary Lazell and Anne Roberts

Officers:

Dorothy Haines (Chief Officer (Learning) - Chief Education Officer)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Officer) and Mair Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
989	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Jones, Councillor G Lewis and Councillor S Williams.
990	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
991	Self Evaluation of Promoting Social Inclusion and Wellbeing	The Chair welcomed Dorothy Haines to the Meeting. Dorothy Haines led the Committee through the 'Self Evaluation of Promoting Social Inclusion and Wellbeing' report and responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee on attendance:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with Head Teachers – Best Practice • What is the biggest cause of absence • Recent Court Case on attendance – Welsh Assembly Guidance • Publication of Prosecutions taken and the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued • Is Welsh Assembly Guidance being conveyed to Head Teachers • Has updated Guidance been provided to Schools to reflect the Supreme Court judgement <p>The Chair then thanked Dorothy Haines for the update to the Committee.</p>
992	Self Evaluation of Support for Additional Learning Needs	<p>Dorothy Haines referred the Committee to the ‘Self Evaluation of support for Additional Learning Needs’ report and responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of early intervention in Additional Learning Needs – Are there children coming into school who are not identified as having Additional Learning Needs • What links are there with other agencies and play groups • Is information being shared with pre-school groups and schools • Explanation requested in relation to LRB’s increased capacity • Is good practice being shared amongst schools • How well does the Authority work with parents – Correspondence and cross over with parents and staff <p>The Chair then thanked Dorothy Haines for the update to the Committee.</p>
993	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair updated the Committee following the recent visit to Troedyrhiw Primary School.
994	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been discussed at the Meeting.
995	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair then extended her thanks to the Committee Members and the Officers for their support.