



**To/
Councillor Jen Raynor
Cabinet Member for Children,
Education and Lifelong Learning**

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23 February 2018

BY EMAIL

Summary: This is a letter from the Schools Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning following the meeting of the Panel on 20 February 2019. It is about Morryston Primary School Performance and embedding of improvements.

Dear Councillor Raynor,

Schools Scrutiny Performance Panel – 20 February 2019

At our meeting on the 20 February 2019 we visited Morryston Primary School and met with the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and the Challenge Advisor to discuss how they are embedding the improvements that had been initiated at the time we met with them in February last year.

We previously spoke to this school because it had been highlighted as Amber on the support and categorisation matrix. We are pleased to hear they are now categorised as Yellow and that after a revisit by Estyn they have been removed from formal monitoring.

From the discussion with the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and the Challenge Advisor we concluded that the improvements put in place last year are now embedding and that there is a much improved picture from previously reported.

We felt that this is mainly due to:

- The school being in a much more secure staffing situation with the appointment of the Headteacher and more recently the Deputy Headteacher.
- The school having a supportive, engaged and knowledgeable governing body that has the necessary skills to help to drive improvement.
- The school's willingness to work and the support from the local authority and the Education Improvement Service.
- The school learning from and sharing their good practice with other schools.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU

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- The school having strong support from parents and the local community with the school working to raise the profile of the school.
- Improved communication mechanisms at the school, particularly for parents, including a new more accessible website, a regular newsletter and the ability to text message teachers directly.

We would like again to congratulate the Headteacher and school staff, the Challenge Advisor and the governing body at the school for their hard work and commitment to this improvement journey which is clearly starting to bear fruit.

We welcome your thoughts on any of the issues raised in our letter and do not, on this occasion, require a formal written response.

Yours sincerely,

COUNCILLOR MO SYKES

Convener, Schools Scrutiny Performance Panel

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