

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) September 2022 – August 2032

This Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is made under Section 84 of The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the content complies with the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019. We have given due regard to the statutory guidance issued by Welsh Ministers when setting our targets.

Our ten year vision for increasing and improving the planning of the provision of Welsh-medium education in our area

The year 2050: The Welsh language is thriving, the number of speakers has reached a million, and it is used in every aspect of life. Among those who do not speak Welsh there is goodwill and a sense of ownership towards the language and a recognition by all of its contribution to the culture, society and economy of Wales...Our vision is to secure favourable circumstances throughout the country that support language acquisition and use of Welsh language skills. We want to see an increase in language transmission in the family, early introduction of Welsh to every child, an education system that provides Welsh language skills for all...

Cymraeg 2050 – A million Welsh speakers (Welsh Government, 2017)

Since the turn of the century Swansea has seen a marked increase in the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium education. This increase in demand has been supported by the opening of a further three Welsh-medium primary schools and one additional Welsh-medium comprehensive school. In addition, the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme has supported the Council in making a huge investment across the Welsh-medium school stock.

In 2022 we will see more Welsh-medium places being created with the opening of the new and enhanced accommodation and facilities for YGG Tan-y-lan and YGG Tirdeunaw. This will be followed by additional classroom space at YGG Bryn y Môr and YGG Y Login Fach. To complement this provision we are also delivering enhanced provision at both our Welsh-medium Comprehensive Schools Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe that includes improving the learning environments both internally and externally. This provides a solid foundation for our journey towards 2050.

With the creation of these additional places, we aim to work with all our partners to promote the benefits of bilingualism to ensure that all parents and families can make an informed decision at the earliest possible time in their child's life. We also recognise that it is more difficult in some parts of the city and county to access Welsh-medium provision from an early age. We will seek to increase opportunities to access Early Years provision so that more parents have a real choice in making a preference for their children's education. As the additional places in our current school stock are filled, we will review where further places are needed in Swansea to realise the full extent of Swansea's target. This will include identifying areas where Welsh-medium education is less easily accessible.

The development and expansion of Welsh-medium education remains our vision and we recognise the importance of creating opportunities for all Swansea pupils to become bilingual/multilingual so that they emerge from our education system, proud of their identity and confident to use all the languages that they have acquired.

As Swansea develops its next Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027 we will work across the Council and beyond to ensure that the WESP is supported and strengthened by decisions and opportunities throughout the life of the Strategy.

In promoting bilingualism, we are giving all our children an opportunity to thrive in the language of their choice, increasing their life opportunities and by learning more than one language, facilitating the learning of other languages.

For our vision to be realised, it is imperative that we also recognise the importance of the use of Welsh beyond the classroom. We will, through the Council's Welsh Language Strategy and by working with all our partners, continue to maximise opportunities for all Swansea learners to use Welsh in all aspects of everyday life.

Taking all of this into consideration, our vision for the next ten years is as follows:

1. Providing equal opportunities for all learners to learn Welsh and speak the language confidently and to promote the benefits of bilingualism.
2. To increase the percentage of pupils opting for Welsh-medium education, to between 23% and 27% of Year 1 pupils by the end of the Plan, and apply the principles of the 15-minute neighbourhoods to ensure that all learners have access to Welsh-medium education within a reasonable distance of their homes.
3. That learners who have attended a Welsh-medium setting in the primary phase will be encouraged and expected to continue with this when transferring to subsequent key stages in the secondary phase.
4. To ensure significant growth in Welsh-medium education, to increase the number of people of all ages who become fluent in Welsh, English and other languages and who can use their languages confidently with their families, friends, neighbours and in the workplace.
5. To provide an equal linguistic opportunity to learners with additional learning needs (ALN).
6. To provide an equal linguistic opportunity to learners with Welsh or English as additional languages.
7. To aspire that, through this plan, Swansea contributes significantly to the national goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

This document by its very nature sets out a strategic plan which will be complemented by appropriate action plans to turn the vision to a reality. Both the strategic plan and associated action plans need to be 'living' documents which will be reviewed as appropriate throughout the coming years. By their very nature the action plans can only be fully developed following the finalisation and formal approval of this strategic plan.

Our ten year target outlining the expected increase in Year 1 children who are taught through the medium of Welsh

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019 requires us to set a ten year target outlining the expected increase in Year 1 children who are taught through the medium of Welsh in the Swansea area during the lifespan of the Plan. This is the overarching ten year target for the 2022 - 2032 WESP.

The number of learners being taught through the medium of Welsh will vary in each year group, therefore the target is based on the number of Year 1 learners (5 and 6 year olds), representing the start of statutory education. PLASC data for Year 1 learners represents the most comprehensive dataset available for learners at the earliest stages of primary school education.

In addition, local authorities have been grouped into different categories reflecting the differences (and recognising similar elements) between the 22 local authorities. The factors considered when grouping included the percentage of learners taught in Welsh in our area; the models of Welsh-medium education provision adopted by us and the linguistic nature of our area. For this purpose Swansea has been placed in Group 3.

Group 3: Between 14% and 19% of Year 1 children in these local authorities were being taught through the medium of Welsh in 2019/2020. It may be that Welsh-medium community education is the norm in one/a very small number of areas, but this is the exception not the rule. There is usually a choice between Welsh-medium education and English-medium education.

Swansea Target

	2019/2020		2030/2031 Target			
			Lower Range		Upper Range	
Swansea	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	390	15.4%	590	23%	695	27%

The lower range has been set so that the national target of 30% of Year 1 learners being taught through the medium of Welsh by 2030/2031 is achieved. The upper range should not be seen as an upper limit – we are encouraged to exceed the targets where possible.

As we prepare this 10-year plan the number of Year 1 children being taught through the medium of Welsh (January 2021) is 388, representing 15.1% of that year's cohort in Swansea and by April 2021 it was 383 – 14.9%.

The admission number for our Welsh-medium primary schools in September 2021 is 495. This means that there is currently capacity for an additional 107 children to be

taught through the medium of Welsh in the Year 1 cohort. This would represent 19.2% of the current cohort.

The Council aspires to significantly increase the number of pupils and families who choose Welsh medium provision in Swansea. On the basis of the target % increases prescribed by Welsh Government, and our forecast of the pupil population over the next 10 years, we will need to:

- Increase the number of Year 1 pupils being taught through the medium of Welsh by between 200 to 400 pupils (based on the current cohort figures). In view of the location and linguistic make-up of our schools currently, we have the following complementary strategies to achieve the target increase in Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh:
 - Increase the Welsh-medium pre-school offer as part of a wider marketing strategy to promote the benefits of being bilingual. This will include at least one Cylch Meithrin linked to every Welsh-medium primary school and/or areas within their catchment and looking at opportunities to increase the Flying Start Welsh offer within our current settings.
 - Fill the approximately 107 additional Year 1 Welsh-medium places already available in our schools through the effective promotion of the benefits of bilingual provision.
 - Establish new Welsh-medium school(s)/increase capacity in areas where there is high demand and/or identifying areas where Welsh-medium education is currently less easily accessible. In such cases, it may be necessary to include projects in a future capital programme.

Key outcomes

To support the planning process, we are required to arrange our Plan around the outcomes below. The outcomes reflect a learner's education journey and are consistent with the policy areas of Cymraeg 2050 and Education in Wales: Our National Mission.

- Outcome 1: More nursery children/three year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh
- Outcome 2: More reception class children/five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh
- Outcome 3: More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another
- Outcome 4: More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh
- Outcome 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school
- Outcome 6: An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018
- Outcome 7: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh

Objective 1: More Nursery children / 3 year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

The number of nursery (N2) children/three year olds receiving their education through the medium of Welsh over the last five years is shown in the table below.

Nursery	January 2017	January 2018	January 2019	January 2020	April 2021
Swansea	404	388	400	382	342 15.2%

For comparison purposes the numbers over the same period in our English-medium Nursery (N2) provision is as follows:

Nursery	January 2017	January 2018	January 2019	January 2020	April 2021
Swansea	2119	2083	2112	2008	1906 84.8%

There is currently one Welsh-medium Flying Start (Dechrau'n Deg) setting in Swansea, seven Cylchoedd Mudiad Meithrin and nine Ti a Fi groups.

All 10 Welsh-medium primary schools provide a part-time nursery offer. As it currently stands there are more opportunities for pre-school in English-medium provision and therefore this can impact on the decisions being taken by parents early in their child's development due to the distance or proximity of their Welsh-medium catchment school.

It is also important to note, as stated earlier in this document, the declining birth rate in Swansea during this same period and that the focus should be on the percentage of pupils rather than the actual numbers. We also need to fully understand the impact of Covid-19 and recognise that projections at this stage need to be treated with some caution.

What we are required to do...

Objective 1 requires us to set out how we will use data derived from our review of the sufficiency of childcare provision for our area (under duties set out in regulation 3 of the Childcare Act 2006 (Local Authority Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2016) to inform planning of Welsh-medium education.

We must also make clear how we will provide parents and carers with information as to the availability and type of Welsh-medium education provision on offer, how we will provide parents and carers with information stating that Welsh-medium education is an option for persons regardless of their linguistic background and how we will make best use of information regarding the benefits that bilingualism and multilingualism can bring.

Finally, we need a statement setting out how we, in collaboration with other local authorities as necessary, will promote access to education and training through the medium of the Welsh language in relation to learner transport in line with the duty set out under section 10 of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008).

Our targets for the next 10 years are as set out in the table below:

Numbers and % of 3-year olds receiving their education through the medium of Welsh									
2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025		2025-2026		2026-2027	
355	16.3%	363 - 367	17.1 - 17.3	373 - 381	17.1 - 17.5	385 - 397	17.8 - 18.4	399 - 417	18.5 - 19.4
2027-2028		2028-2029		2029-2030		2030-2031		2031-2032	
415 - 439	19.9 - 20.3	433 - 465	19.9 - 21.4	455 - 495	20.9 - 22.7	481 - 525	21.9 - 23.9	507 - 595	23%- 27%

*These targets reflect current pupil projections in Swansea and these will be reviewed annually.

To achieve this outcome and to grow the take up of Welsh-medium nursery education places from 15.4% to between 23-27% of the eligible cohort by the end of the 10-year plan, in the first 5 years we will:

1. Establish an early years sub-group to monitor work in this area from the launch of the Plan.
2. Work with Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin to open 3 new Cylch Meithrin settings (currently 7 settings in Swansea) in the school catchment areas of YGG Lon Las, YGG Y Login Fach and YGG Tan-y-lan and explore opportunities to develop Welsh-medium wraparound childcare options to support parents. This will include the phased expansion of early years provision, to include all 2 year olds, as set out in the Co-operation Agreement.
3. Work with Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and other partners to start 5 new Cylchoedd Ti a Fi (currently 9 in Swansea) to increase the opportunities for early Welsh language interaction for parents and their children.
4. Develop a Welsh language strategy across all our Flying Start settings to increase the use of Welsh and explore opportunities for more Welsh language settings (currently 1).
5. Increase the Welsh language early years childcare provision as required by the Welsh Government to increase the number of Welsh-medium places in our local authority area.
6. As part of a clear marketing strategy on the benefits of being bilingual/multilingual, create an appropriate digital platform to provide parents and carers with high quality accessible information. This will be in conjunction with partner organisations regarding Welsh-medium education and local provision to promote awareness, stimulate interest and support informed decision making.
7. In the first year of the Plan we will undertake a full review of the council's admissions process to ensure that parents and carers are fully aware of the Welsh language offer at all stages of the process and have sufficient information to make informed decisions.
8. Explore opportunities with Health colleagues to collect information from parents when registering their child's birth in order to establish a more direct way of communicating with families about our Welsh-language offer and the benefits of being bilingual/multilingual.
9. In the first year of the Plan we will commission research in areas where take up of Welsh-medium is low and/or within specific under-represented groups/communities (including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) to understand the reasons for this and develop a clear action plan to improve the

information available and promote what is available to these groups and areas.

10. Commission research with regional and national partners into various ways of raising awareness of the benefits of being bilingual and of Welsh-medium education.
11. Support schools, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and Gower College Swansea with the development, promotion and delivery of childcare qualifications to increase the numbers of staff available to work in the increasing number of settings.
12. Work with partners to develop and promote a bespoke training offer for staff across all childcare settings in Swansea to allow all settings to increase their Welsh language offer.
13. Develop a Swansea benchmark to identify and promote the Welsh language offer across all childcare settings and encourage and promote an Active Offer across all pre-school and childcare providers.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

14. Increase the number of Welsh-medium nursery education places aligned to primary provision to ensure we have appropriate capacity and distribution of places across the city and county. This will include exploring opportunities for the opening of **at least an additional 3 forms of entry (subject to capital funding and statutory consultation processes)**. Any new builds would consider a supporting Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin setting.
15. Work with schools and Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin to identify school catchments that would benefit from having an additional setting and look to deliver on this.
16. Develop Welsh-medium wraparound childcare options to support parents accessing the 30 hour offer in conjunction with our partners including Mudiad Meithrin through:
 - a. Examining the feasibility of building in space and facilities for delivery of Welsh-medium childcare (such as Cylch Meithrin provision) to be built into each new Welsh-medium primary school as has happened in YGG Tirdeunaw and YGG Tan-y-lan.
 - b. Exploring opportunities to build in space and facilities for delivery of Welsh-medium childcare (such as Cylch Meithrin provision) to be built into existing Welsh-medium primary schools utilising Welsh capital grants.
17. Ensure health and other universal services colleagues are aware of the WESP and are actively promoting consistent messages regarding benefits of being bilingual/multilingual and able to dispel myths and concerns to support parents' decision making regarding their child's education.
18. Review the current transport situation for nursery pupils and, subject to any changes in the Welsh Transport Measure, review what can be done to further promote access to the Welsh-medium offer. This will be considered alongside the Swansea Climate Change agenda.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council

- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and Cylch Meithrin
- Swansea Schools
- Menter Iaith Abertawe
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Early Years Programmes Team
- Gower College Swansea
- Private childcare providers
- All Flying Start Settings
- Partneriaeth
- Neath Port Talbot Council

Objective 2: More Reception class children / five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

The number of reception class children/five year olds receiving their education through the medium of Welsh over the last five years is shown in the table below.

Reception	January 2017		January 2018		January 2019		January 2020		April 2021	
Swansea	438	15.6%	412	15.8%	397	15.7%	400	15.5%	379	15.4%

For comparison purposes the numbers over the same period in our English-medium Reception classes is as follows:

Reception	January 2017		January 2018		January 2019		January 2020		April 2021	
Swansea	2358	84.4%	2188	84.2%	2126	84.3%	2165	84.5%	2092	84.6%

On the next page we look at the current situation across all our Welsh-medium primary schools and highlight the further opportunities linked to our current schools.

We currently have 10 Welsh-medium primary schools across Swansea with varying levels of surplus capacity. 3 schools have less than 10% surplus capacity. As well as improvements linked to our current schools (highlighted below) we will be exploring opportunities to open at least 3 new forms of entry during the life of the Plan (subject to capital funding and statutory consultation processes).

School	January 2021 FT Pupil Numbers	Current Capacity		Current % Surplus	Proposed further action (Subject to approval of the necessary investment)
		Current Capacity	Current Variation		
Bryniago	184	222	38	17.1%	Consider scope for nursery / wrap round provision to boost intake numbers. Review demand for places and alternative sites in light of LDP Strategic Site developments and changes in provision cross border
Bryn-y-mor	224	260	36	13.8%	Consider scope for further improving facilities and increasing capacity on site for pupils / removal of sub standard accommodation as well as potential alternative sites
Gellionen	218	305	87	28.5%	Should be scope to increase numbers at school
Llwynderw	303	320	17	5.3%	New build appropriate for current demand
Lon Las	437	530	93	17.5%	New build (2.5 FE) appropriate for current demand
Pontybrenin	505	501	-4	-0.8%	Additional classroom accommodation provided whilst review demand for places and opportunities for new build / enhanced site in light of LDP Strategic Site developments. Review impact of catchment area changes.
Tan Y Lan	161	420	259	61.7%	Review impact of new build and catchment area changes in intake numbers
Tirdeunaw	342	525	183	34.9%	Review impact of new build and catchment area changes in intake numbers
Y Cwm	137	197	60	30.5%	Consider scope for best future use of site in light of demand for places
Y Login Fach	208	214	6	2.8%	Review future demand for places in light of LDP strategic site - potential for new larger site. Consider scope for further improving facilities and increasing capacity on site for pupils.
General Strategy					Further review of catchment areas to reflect changes in capacities / school organisation / LDP impacts Access necessary resources and capital investment to deliver strategy beyond Band B and delivery of further 2/3 forms of entry
Primary Total	2,719	3,494	775	22.2%	

What we are required to do...

Objective 2 requires us to set a target outlining the expected increase in the number of children in reception taught through the medium of Welsh in our area during the lifespan of the Plan.

We must also set out how we will achieve the expected increase in the number of children in reception taught through the medium of Welsh, how applications we make for grant funding from the Welsh Ministers in respect of our maintained schools will take account of the target to increase the number of Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh and our arrangements with regard to the provision for latecomers to Welsh-medium education, including how and when information is provided to parents and carers.

Swansea Council has increased the number of Welsh-medium primary places from 1,912 places in September 2004 to the current total of 3,494 places, an increase of 1,582 or 82.7%. This reflects the continuing significant capital investment in Welsh-medium accommodation and facilities and amounting to at least £36.9m to date in Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme alone.

Our targets for the next 10 years are as set out in the table below:

Numbers and % of 5-year olds receiving their education through the medium of Welsh									
2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025		2025-2026		2026-2027	
369	16.9	375 - 380	17.7 - 17.9	385 - 392	17.7 - 18.0	395 - 408	18.3 - 18.9	407 - 425	18.9 - 19.7
2027-2028		2028-2029		2029-2030		2030-2031		2031-2032	
421 - 445	19.5 - 20.6	437 - 469	20.1 - 21.6	457 - 497	20.9 - 22.8	481 - 525	21.9 - 23.9	507 - 595	23%- 27%

*These targets reflect current pupil projections in Swansea and these will be reviewed annually.

To achieve this outcome and to grow the percentage of Reception age children educated through the medium of Welsh from take up of Welsh-medium nursery education places from 15.4% to between 23-27% of the eligible cohort by the end of the 10-year plan, in the first 5 years we will:

1. Seek to sustain city wide capacity in the primary Welsh-medium sector at 10% over and above the projected intake to support growth and allow for in year admissions and flexibility for transition.
2. In the first year of the Plan there will be detailed area reviews across the city and county to prioritise future capital programmes (post Band B of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme). These reviews will inform the location of Welsh-medium provision and will be part of our capital strategy in addition to increasing take up of surplus places available in some areas.
3. Any new provision will be subject to political approval for the statutory consultation process and future capital funding being made available by Welsh Government.
4. Encourage 100% of children that attend Cylch Meithrin to transition to a Welsh-medium nursery setting by creating formal partnerships that include individual schools, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and Swansea Council.

5. In Year 1 we will complete the review of our current primary immersion provision and set a clear action plan to enhance the offer to support intense language acquisition and catch up. We have been successful in obtaining Welsh Government grant to support this initial work.
6. Actively promote the primary Welsh-immersion provision to all new in year transfer enquiries for admission to Swansea schools.
7. Explore and develop opportunities for a secondary latecomers provision to support learners who want to make the transition later in their education journey and also to support current pupils in our schools who are at risk of leaving Welsh-medium education. We have been successful in obtaining Welsh Government grant to support this work.
8. Actively promote the benefits of bilingualism to families seeking an education place in Swansea by our admissions service and in our admissions guidance literature.
9. Commission research in areas where take up of Welsh-medium is low and/or within specific under-represented groups/communities (including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) to understand the reasons for this and develop a clear action plan to improve the information available and promote what is available to these groups and areas.
10. Enhance the range and promotion of extra-curricular activities and other social opportunities within and outside school in conjunction with our partners including Menter Iaith Abertawe, yr Urdd, our schools, local businesses and Welsh speaking volunteers.
11. As part of our clear marketing strategy on the benefits of being bilingual/multilingual, increase the literature and guidance available to support families making decisions regarding their child's education with an enhanced range of case studies to demonstrate the diversity our Welsh-medium schools and benefits to learning Welsh regardless of your home language.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

12. Deliver the further capacity required to achieve a total of **at least 3 forms of primary school entry (subject to capital funding and statutory consultation processes)** across the life of the plan.
13. Create the opportunities for cross school partnerships to enhance awareness of Welsh-medium education and encourage children to have a greater desire to learn and potentially consider transfer to Welsh-medium education.
14. Support all schools in the development and implementation of Curriculum for Wales 2022 to ensure growth in the opportunities for all children in the city and county to learn Welsh and feel confident in developing their skills and speaking the language. This will include the establishment and implementation by Welsh Government of a single continuum of Welsh language learning.
15. Upskill linguistic competence of the current English-medium teaching and learning workforce to ensure they feel confident to support enhanced Welsh language learning with all pupils as part of the new Curriculum Wales offer.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council

- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and Cylch Meithrin
- Swansea Schools
- Menter Iaith Abertawe
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Early Years Programmes Team
- Gower College Swansea
- Private childcare providers
- All Flying Start Settings

Objective 3: More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

In Swansea we have a very good track record of pupil retention when they transition from key stage 2 to key stage 3. Over the last three years this has seen 99.7%, 98.7% and 97.5% respectively transitioning from Welsh-medium primary schools to Welsh-medium secondary schools in Swansea.

Welsh Medium Transition Numbers

Estab	School	Year 6 leavers in.....			Year 7 intake in.....		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
2189	Y G G Bryniago	19	34	24			
2098	Y G G Bryn Y Mor	31	33	44			
2133	Y G G Felindre	0	6	0			
2232	Y G G Gellionnen	29	28	43			
2235	Y G G Llwynderw	40	42	43			
2036	Y G G Lonlas	77	68	51			
2212	Y G G Pontybrenin	49	70	53			
2242	Y G G Tan-y-lan	7	14	19			
2231	Y G G Tirdeunaw	53	61	56			
2229	Y G G Y Login Fach	30	30	30			
2245	Y G Y Cwm	0	2	3			
4078	Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Tawe				164	169	164
4074	Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr				170	214	193
	Totals	335	388	366	334	383	357
	Retention percentage				99.7%	98.7%	97.5%

On the next page we look at the current situation across all our Welsh-medium secondary schools and highlight the further opportunities linked to our current schools.

We currently have 2 Welsh-medium secondary schools with capital projects planned or currently taking place at both sites. This would increase capacity to ensure that both schools are future proofed in the short to medium term. As we begin to meet our targets for increasing the number of pupils going into Welsh-medium education, we will at this point need to consider the possibility of increasing our capacity further to service the additional learners.

School	January 2021 FT Pupil Numbers	Current Capacity		Current % Surplus	Proposed further action (Subject to approval of the necessary investment)
		Current Capacity	Current Variation		
Bryn Tawe	882	1,243	361	29.0%	Review demand for places and opportunities in light of LDP Strategic Site developments / contributions. Ensure that current accommodation is appropriate for the planned numbers and any opportunity is identified to further enhance capacity in the future (Band B business case submitted). Further review current partner primary links to better match demand for places and school capacities as well as optimising home to school transport costs.
Gwyr	1,102	1,069	-33	-3.1%	Consider any further scope for improving facilities on site for pupils (Band B scheme almost completed). Consider further review of current partner primary feeder schools to further rebalance demand and capacity.
General Strategy					Further review of catchment areas to reflect changes in capacities / school organisation / LDP impacts Access necessary resources and capital investment to deliver strategy beyond Band B and models for future secondary school organisation
Secondary Total	1,984	2,312	328	14.2%	
All Welsh Medium	4,703	5,806	1,103	19.0%	

*The current work taking place on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr site will see the capacity increased to 1273.

Linguistic progression between year groups

The data below shows the percentage assessed in Welsh First Language each year, except for 2020 and 2021 where we've used PLASC data as end of key stage assessments did not get collected.

Year	FP	KS2	KS3	KS4
2021	15.0%	14.7%	12.4%	12.1%
2020	14.4%	13.6%	13.1%	10.8%
2019	15.6%	13.8%	12.1%	11.8%
2018	14.7%	12.7%	11.0%	10.7%
2017	15.7%	13.5%	11.5%	9.7%
2016	15.3%	12.4%	10.7%	10.4%
2015	14.6%	11.2%	9.7%	9.3%

The percentage in Welsh-medium is showing an upward trend at each key stage over the last 7 years.

When tracking cohorts, the percentages tend to be similar, with a small drop-out from Welsh-medium (as seen in national data). For example, FP in 2015 was 14.6% and this year group was then 13.8% in 2019 when at the end of KS2. There is then a further small drop out from KS2 to KS3, but from KS3 to KS4 there is little or no drop out for each year group.

As we have added more capacity in primary schools, it takes time for the increased numbers to work through to later key stages, and this can be seen in the data.

More recent figures for entry to primary schools need to be seen in the context of the currently very low birth rates.

There is some evidence that the pandemic may have resulted in a small increase in drop out rates from Welsh-medium. This needs further research when more data is available nationally.

The position relating to children transferring from Welsh-medium schools in year over the past three years is as follows:

Destinations of pupils leaving WM primary and secondary schools in-year						
	2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021	
Moved out of Swansea	33	20.9%	23	20.4%	33	18.1%
Transferred to another Swansea Welsh-medium school	17	10.8%	8	7.1%	10	5.5%
Transferred to a Swansea English-medium school	45	28.5%	32	28.3%	74	40.7%
Other	63	39.9%	50	44.2%	65	35.7%
Totals	158	100.0%	113	100.0%	182	100.0%

We will continue to monitor the above data in the coming years to assess whether the increase in those moving from Welsh-medium to English-medium is an isolated event resulting from the challenges of the pandemic or a recurring pattern.

What we are required to do...

Objective 3 requires us to set out how we will ensure the continuation of persons taught in Welsh on transfer from one year group to another and plan accordingly if retention rates are a cause for concern.

We must also set a target outlining the expected increase during the lifespan of the Plan in the amount of Welsh-medium education provided in our maintained schools which provide education through the medium of both English and Welsh, make clear how we will achieve the expected increase in the amount of Welsh-medium education provided in our maintained schools which provide education through the medium of both English and Welsh and how we will work on a collaborative basis with other local authorities by exercising our functions jointly to ensure continuity in arrangements for persons accessing Welsh-medium education outside our area.

To achieve this outcome and grow the number of children that continue to improve Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another, in the first 5 years we will:

1. Explore, develop and deliver additional secondary Welsh-medium provision/capacity to ensure the seamless transition of increasing future numbers in the primary sector. This will include discussions with our neighbouring local authorities.
2. Ensure 100% of children (and their families) that attend a Welsh-medium primary school transition to a Welsh-medium secondary setting by working with all our schools on transition as part of our wider marketing strategy.
3. Work with Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin to ensure that 100% of children (and their families) that attend their settings transition to our Welsh-medium primary schools and are aware of the full Welsh-medium progression route.
4. Seek to secure funding to expand the primary immersion provision to support intense language acquisition catch-up as required to enhance learner confidence and provide greater assurance to parents choosing Welsh-medium that their child will have the opportunity to access support if required. This will build on work done in a pilot in 2022 funded by the Welsh Government. This pilot will continue into the 2022/23 academic year to provide a full academic year of qualitative data. As the pilot progresses we will look to access further funding to develop a strong marketing strategy and access further training for staff across our Welsh-medium schools.
5. We will also, seek to use the funding to pilot a secondary immersion provision to provide a resource for those wishing to transfer from English-medium schools to Welsh-medium education at transfer to secondary.
6. Work with all schools and wider partners to support all learners to become multilingual, able to use Welsh, English and at least one international language, and develop an openness to and curiosity about all languages and cultures of the world.

7. Develop and deliver a Language Plan template for all schools to support every child's linguistic progressions in Welsh and other languages across all our schools. Utilise School Improvement Advisers to support schools in formulating robust language plans for improving Welsh with a clear focus on individual schools' Estyn recommendations and the linguistic journey set out in the new curriculum. This will take into account the establishment and implementation by Welsh Government of a single continuum of Welsh language learning.
8. Work in close partnership with schools to improve the information available as standard on individual school websites to explain the value placed on developing Welsh linguistic skills, the benefits of being bilingual and up to date information regarding how children and young people are supported in their learning.
9. Increase signposting to out of school Welsh learning and socialising opportunities to normalise the use of Welsh outside of the school formal learning environment.
10. Identify and provide focussed support to schools where transition rates may be a cause of concern and publish resources to increase confidence in pupils, along with supporting and reassuring parents/carers regarding transition between phases to encourage retention. In addition, we will monitor requests for transfer from Welsh-medium schools into the English-medium sector in the city and county and work with schools to provide support and reassurance with a view to reconsideration to remain.
11. Work with Partneriaeth colleagues to provide advice, professional learning and resources to English-medium schools to increase the percentage of the curriculum taught through the medium of Welsh and increase the amount of learning provision offered and enhanced opportunities for Welsh language use.
12. Support collaboration between primary and secondary schools to produce resources that promotes linguistic progression to parents/carers and provides reassurance to support retention.
13. Ensure that the whole educational journey from nursery to post-16 is clear to families in order to develop further confidence in choosing Welsh-medium including highlighting available support for their child to develop and grow in confidence in using Welsh outside of school.
14. Celebrate and share good practice across Swansea and the wider Partneriaeth.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

15. Progress strategic plans to increase the permanent capacity of Welsh-medium secondary provision.
16. Increase the capacity of Welsh-medium secondary provision including seeking to establish city and county wide capacity in the Welsh-medium sector at 10% over and above the projected intake.
17. Work with Partneriaeth to provide support and resources to schools, including:
 - Provide individual and cluster support to improve standards of Welsh-medium education across the primary sector

- Provide professional learning and support to improve standards of teaching Welsh in primary schools. Work with school leaders and the wider system to deepen understanding of effective language pedagogy
 - Sharing good practice and developing new resources to support the learning and teaching of Welsh
18. In Swansea we aspire for at least one member of staff from each Early Years/Foundation Phase English-medium primary school to attend the national sabbatical course. We will seek funding and opportunities at a regional and national level to support this aspiration.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council
- Partneriaeth
- Swansea Schools
- Menter Iaith Abertawe
- Gower College Swansea
- RhAG
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Urdd
- University of Wales Trinity St David
- Swansea University
- Education Workforce Council

Objective 4: More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh

We have seen a steady growth in the percentage of learners studying for assessed qualifications in Welsh as a subject, as is illustrated in the table below. We will look to work with our schools to ensure that this growth continues throughout the life of the Plan.

Our Welsh-medium secondary schools offer assessed qualifications in all subject areas through the medium of Welsh. We will continue to work with both our Welsh-medium secondary schools to ensure that this continues to be the case.

		Welsh Language GCSE Entries			
Year	Y11 cohort	First lang	Second lang	Total	Percentage
2017	2404	225	1590	1815	75.50%
2018	2348	248	1646	1894	80.66%
2019	2431	271	1717	1988	81.78%
2020	2470	263	1803	2066	83.64%
2021	2443	292	1736	2028	83.01%
Overall Total	12096	1299	8492	9791	80.94%

A-level First Language Welsh Entries (Year 13)

	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe	7	9	4
Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr	8	9	9
Total	15	18	13

Students Attending Welsh-medium 6th Form Provision

	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
	Year 12	Year 13	Year 12	Year 13	Year 12	Year 13
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe	64	48	63	60	66	56
Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr	89	72	95	82	93	98
Total	153	120	158	142	159	154

Post-16 Subjects Studied Through the Medium of Welsh

Welsh Medium Course Data for the 2021/22 Academic Year					
	Gwyr		Bryn Tawe		Total
	Y12	Y13	Y12	Y13	
Welsh Medium Learning Activity					
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Wales and Northern Ireland)			5		5
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Extended Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Wales and Northern Ireland)				3	3
OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate in IT			25	9	34
OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT				18	18
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Public Services			5		5
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Sport			3	1	4
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Engineering	9	7		5	21
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Public Services	7	12		6	25
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport				6	6
WJEC Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Baccalaureate)	93	85	70	54	302
WJEC Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate	93	86	69	54	302
WJEC Eduqas Level 3 Advanced GCE in Electronics		6		1	7
WJEC Eduqas Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Electronics	2		1		3
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Art and Design		15	3	9	27
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Biology				15	15
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Business		1		5	6
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chemistry				7	7
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Computer Science				1	1
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Design and Technology	1	8			9
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Drama and Theatre		3			3
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in French		5		1	6
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Geography		3		7	10
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Government and Politics		1		6	7
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Health and Social Care (Double Award) (Pilot)		18			18

WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in History		13		9	22
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Mathematics		31		11	42
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Media Studies		2		5	7
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Music		2		2	4
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Physical Education				1	1
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Physics				5	5
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Psychology		10		7	17
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Religious Studies		8			8
WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Welsh First Language		10		6	16
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Art and Design	16		12		28
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Biology			12		12
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Business	9				9
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Chemistry			13	1	14
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Computer Science	3				3
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Design and Technology	14	1			15
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Drama and Theatre	3		4		7
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in French	3				3
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Geography	9		5	1	15
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Government and Politics	3		7		10
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Health and Social Care (Double Award) (Pilot)	21	1	5	1	28
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare			5	1	6
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in History	16		18		34
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Mathematics	31	1	15		47
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Media Studies	3	1	7		11
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Music	5		4		9
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Physical Education	9	4	3		16
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Physics			6	2	8

WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Psychology	12	1	13	1	25
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Religious Studies	5	1	2	1	7
WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Welsh First Language	7	1	18	1	25
WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Business		1	22	1	22
WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Tourism	1	1	3	1	3
WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts	1	1	2	1	2
Grand Total	374	334	357	260	1325

We expect the number being assessed through the medium of Welsh to continue to rise with over 15% (currently 12%) projected to do so by 2032. We will work with our secondary schools and post-16 partners to increase the numbers that chose a Welsh-medium path after their GCSEs.

What we are required to do...

Objective 4 requires us to set a target outlining the expected increase during the lifespan of the Plan in the number and percentage of persons in Year 10 and over in our maintained secondary schools who are studying for qualifications and are assessed through the medium of Welsh.

We must also set out how we will achieve the expected increase during the lifespan of the plan in the number and percentage of persons in Year 10 and over in our maintained secondary schools who are studying for qualifications and are assessed through the medium of Welsh, how we will support the continued provision of Welsh-medium education for persons in Year 10 and above by working collaboratively with other schools and FEIs if necessary and how we will work with our schools and FEIs (if necessary) to co-ordinate the provision of Welsh as a subject to persons in Year 10 and above in our maintained secondary schools.

To achieve this outcome and ensure more learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh, in the first 5 years we will:

1. Work with partners across Partneriaeth, our schools and colleges as well as partners across the city and county to highlight the benefits of Welsh including opportunities for apprenticeships, work experience and/or volunteering opportunities in Welsh-speaking organisations and workplaces that maximise the potential of bilingual speakers.
2. Commission a full review of the post-16 offer in Swansea to map out the current provision in our schools and colleges and identify opportunities for further growth.
3. As part of the review, work with Careers Wales to identify where students go after completing GCSEs in our Welsh-medium settings so as to learn lessons and to put actions in place to encourage more to follow a Welsh-medium post-16 path.

4. Create a cross-sector working party to deliver a clear action plan based on the findings of the post-16 review.
5. Explore options such as E-sgol to strengthen our offer in secondary schools
6. As part of the Digital Platform, support and promote bilingualism and multilingualism as skills for local, regional and global career opportunities as well as linking in with the City Deal including supporting pupils' progression even if Welsh is not the spoken language at home.
7. Work with our Welsh-medium secondary schools, external providers and Welsh Government on any national initiatives to promote Welsh as an A-level subject.
8. Support our English-medium schools to explore opportunities to widen their Welsh language offer including taking into account the publication of the Welsh language learning framework being developed by Welsh Government to support English-medium schools and settings as part of Curriculum for Wales preparations.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

9. Ensure that the increased capacity in our Welsh-medium secondary schools supports the increased numbers coming through our primary schools to study for qualifications and get assessed through the medium of Welsh.
10. Explore opportunities offered by e-sgol, a blended learning initiative to deliver online teaching and learning opportunities using direct; real-time and interactive learning approaches, to further enhance our Welsh-medium offer.
11. Engage with exam boards to represent the desire for a greater range of courses and qualifications (particularly with regard to vocational learning opportunities) delivered in Welsh-medium to achieve parity with the range available in English.
12. Aim to see over 15% of our learners being assessed through the medium of Welsh at GCSEs.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council
- Partneriaeth
- Swansea Schools
- FE and HE Partners
- Education Workforce Council
- Exam boards
- Coleg Cymraeg

Objective 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school

What we are required to do...

Objective 5 requires us to set out how we will improve the Welsh language skills of persons receiving Welsh-medium education in any school we maintain in order to improve the standards of Welsh-medium education.

Working with partners across agencies locally in Swansea and beyond is key to the success of our strategy. The council works in partnership with community organisations that promote the Welsh language, namely Mudiad Meithrin, the Urdd, Menter Iaith Abertawe, Rhagoriaith, Swansea University, University of Wales Trinity St Davids and Welsh for Children. We will enhance the working relationship between our schools and partners to achieve this outcome and ensure learners have more opportunities to use Welsh in different contexts in school.

In the first 5 years we will:

1. Include Siarter Iaith, and other Welsh language activities in all School Development Plans.
2. Develop and launch an annual Shwmae Awards with the aim of celebrating the contributions of individuals and groups in promoting the Welsh language and culture within schools and communities as well as the achievements of Welsh learners.
3. Support all Swansea schools to increase the social use of Welsh by children and young people using Siarter Iaith. We will support all schools to access Siarter Iaith and to show improvement during the life of our plan.
4. Support all Welsh-medium schools to reach at least the Siarter Iaith Silver award.
5. Support all English-medium schools to reach at least the Siarter Iaith Bronze award.
6. Work with our schools (both Welsh and English) to scope how much time is allocated to using Welsh in school.
7. Use the data from our workforce linguistic skills audit to identify English-medium schools with the potential and desire to strengthen the contact time their learners receive in Welsh.
8. Establish a bank of online resources to assist schools to introduce Welsh as part of the new curriculum as well as resources to fulfil the Siarter Iaith Framework.
9. Make resources available to further promote the value and benefits of bilingualism in order to strengthen pupils' motivation to become confident speakers of both official languages in Wales.
10. Undertake up to date mapping of out-of-school provision in conjunction with other providers to identify gaps and underpin discussions relating to new collaboration / partnerships in order to increase / expand the provision to meet

the demand. This will feed into the Digital Platform, to provide the public with a clear map of the current offer across the city and county.

11. As part of our exercise, we will consider how opportunities provided through the Menter Iaith, Urdd, Partneriaeth etc. positively impact Welsh language use amongst learners (in terms of acquisition, confidence and awareness).
12. Undertake focussed engagement activities (in the first year of the Plan) with young people about what Welsh learning and socialising opportunities they would most like to see.
13. Explore and maximise scope for collaboration within the local authority between the Youth Service and partner organisations including Menter Iaith Abertawe and the Urdd to upscale the range of opportunities available for young people across the city and county. This will include identifying opportunities for accessing appropriate funding to ensure a sustainable partnership with Menter Iaith Abertawe.
14. Undertake research with young people and adults (in the first two years of the Plan) who have previously achieved Welsh fluency but have lost confidence to use it in order to better understand and tackle the challenge of language retention beyond statutory education.
15. Explore opportunities with our partners to develop further holiday provision to maintain and improve the Welsh language skills of learners. This could include opportunities via the Welsh Government's School Holiday Enrichment Programme.
16. As part of the schools' Language Plans identify and action a wide range of opportunities to use Welsh outside the classroom.
17. As Swansea develops its next Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027 we will explore opportunities beyond our school communities for children and young people and their families to learn and use Welsh across Swansea's diverse communities.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

18. Provide support for schools in the use of Welsh in schools with high quality Welsh Language, Literacy & Communication professional learning opportunities including bespoke support for individual schools/clusters and opportunities for school-to-school collaboration and peer partnerships as appropriate.
19. Work with Partneriaeth to provide all schools with designated support for Siarter Iaith and Cymraeg Campus progress focussing on promotion, support, challenge and accreditation of all Swansea schools to make progress with the Siarter Iaith and Cymraeg Campus Awards.
20. Support all Welsh-medium schools to reach the Siarter Iaith Gold award.
21. Support all English-medium schools to reach the Siarter Iaith Silver award.
22. Evaluate impact of the Siarter Iaith and Cymraeg Campus to support refinement of the schemes over time, especially alongside the implementation of the new curriculum.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council
- Partneriaeth

- Swansea Schools
- Menter Iaith Abertawe
- Urdd
- Gower College Swansea
- University of Wales Trinity St David
- Swansea University

Objective 6: An increase in the provision of Welsh medium education for pupils with additional learning needs

What we are required to do...

Objective 6 requires us to set out how we will use the findings of our reviews under section 63 of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 to improve Welsh language provision for persons with additional learning needs and for workforce planning within the additional learning needs sector.

In Swansea, the current level of demand for Additional Learning Provision (ALP) through the medium of Welsh is low. However, a pattern of movement from Welsh-medium to English-medium through parental choice has been identified in the primary sector for pupils with emerging Additional learning Needs (ALN).

There is one Welsh-medium Specialist Teaching Facility (STF) at Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr for General Learning Delay and a resource base at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe that provides outreach support for a range of need.

The current position relating to the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in Swansea is as follows:

The incidence of ALN in the Welsh-medium sector continues to be lower than for Swansea schools overall:				
April 2021	All schools	% of pupil pop.	WM schools	% of pupil pop.
School action plus	2603	7.20	245	4.69
Statemented	1617	4.47	64	1.22

Throughout the life of Plan we will:

- Continue to review the level of demand and ALP available in the medium of Welsh on an annual basis.
- Continue to build capacity within our mainstream schools, in line with the inclusive vision of the ALNET Act.
- Develop the knowledge of our schools in identifying ALN and providing ALP at a local level, in the language of their choice.
- Deploy wider strategic duties including those under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 if availability for ALP in Welsh is not sufficient.

To achieve this outcome and deliver an increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN), in the first 5 years we will:

1. Create a Welsh-medium ALN working group to focus on this objective. This will be made up from representatives across the sector.

2. Lead ongoing cluster work, advice and support from specialist, Welsh-speaking staff and links with regional / national bilingual resources to support schools in identifying ALN and providing ALP.
3. Pool resources and establish national networks in order to ensure that Welsh-medium ALP can be accessed, particularly where the number of learners requiring this provision is very low.
4. Undertake detailed analysis of the causes that influence movement from Welsh-medium to English-medium in the primary sector (during the first 18 months of the Plan).
5. Ensure Welsh-medium provision is reviewed as part of a wider review of specialist provision in Swansea.
6. Continue to offer training and support across both Welsh-medium and English-medium schools, e.g. ASD friendly schools.
7. Identify opportunities for the development of Welsh-speaking specialist staff by reviewing the language skills of the current ALN workforce and offer training opportunities.
8. Explore opportunities to support Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and other non-maintained childcare providers.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

9. Continue to offer specialist provision for learners in the language of their choice, in accordance with the ALNET Act.
10. Develop a model of very early intervention, supporting learners to remain in Welsh-medium provision where appropriate.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council
- Partneriaeth
- Swansea Schools
- NHS services
- Wider Council Services

Objective 7: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh

What we are required to do...

Objective 7 requires us to set out our commitment to identify the workforce we require to provide Welsh-medium education during the lifespan of the Plan in accordance with the Plan's targets, and to calculate any anticipated shortfall in our workforce.

We must also set out our commitment to work on a collaborative basis with other local authorities by exercising our functions jointly in planning and delivering support to improve the Welsh language skills of school teachers and school learning support workers in maintained schools in our area and to ensure that the Plan is taken into account during considerations regarding the Welsh-medium educational standards of maintained schools in our area.

We have used the data collected about the Welsh language skills of the workforce in the School Workforce Census to identify current skills gaps and where the gaps are likely to occur in the future. Changes in the amount of Welsh taught in our English medium schools will affect the skills needs of staff and the linguistic support required. The chart below provides an indication of ability levels.

Whilst there is significant Welsh-language proficiency within the school workforce, this does not necessarily mean that staff will all be confident in teaching through the medium of Welsh. The number of staff required in future to meet the national aspiration for continuing growth in Welsh-medium provision would appear to present quite a challenge.

School Workforce Census 2020 : Ability in Welsh						
All schools	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		
	Teachers	Support Staff	Total	Teachers	Support Staff	Total
Proficient Level	364	213	577	18.2%	8.9%	13.2%
Advanced Level	77	37	114	3.9%	1.5%	2.6%
Intermediate Level	176	58	234	9.1%	2.1%	5.4%
Foundation Level	416	192	608	21.1%	7.7%	13.9%
Entry Level	509	750	1259	26.0%	31.3%	28.9%
No language skills	424	1139	1563	21.5%	48.3%	35.9%
Information not yet obtained	2	5	7	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Grand Total	1968	2394	4362	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
English medium only	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		

Level	Support			Support		
	Teachers	Staff	Total	Teachers	Staff	Total
Proficient Level	109	38	147	6.4%	1.7%	3.8%
Advanced Level	70	20	90	4.1%	0.9%	2.3%
Intermediate Level	176	52	228	10.3%	2.4%	5.8%
Foundation Level	416	192	608	24.4%	8.8%	15.6%
Entry Level	509	750	1259	29.8%	34.2%	32.3%
No language skills	424	1135	1559	24.9%	51.8%	40.0%
Information not yet obtained	2	5	7	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Grand Total	1706	2192	3898	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Welsh medium only	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		
Level	Support			Support		
	Teachers	Staff	Total	Teachers	Staff	Total
Proficient Level	255	175	430	97.3%	86.6%	92.7%
Advanced Level	7	17	24	2.7%	8.4%	5.2%
Intermediate Level		6	6	0.0%	3.0%	1.3%
Foundation Level				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Entry Level				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No language skills		4	4	0.0%	2.0%	0.9%
Information not yet obtained				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	262	202	464	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Staff in Welsh-medium primary schools (SWAC 2021)

School	Teachers		Support	
	No.	FTE	No.	FTE
YGG Bryniago	10	8.92	13	9.33
YGG Bryn-y-Mor	15	13.20	8	6.41
YGG Gellionnen	11	10.80	11	9.58
YGG Llwynderw	17	13.09	14	11.93
YGG Lonlas	22	19.61	25	20.09
YGG Pontybrenin	30	25.37	24	21.30
YGG Tan-y-Lan	10	8.16	13	10.31
YGG Tirdeunaw	18	17.20	15	9.15
YGG Y Cwm	7	4.98	8	5.98
YGG Y Login Fach	13	10.25	9	7.25

A significant growth of the workforce able to teach Welsh and through the medium of Welsh is critical in order for Swansea to succeed in delivering the growth of Welsh speakers through education in our schools and wider learning opportunities.

In order to identify an initial target for what we will need during the life of the plan we are measuring the likely numbers of staff required for a further 3 Welsh-medium primary schools. For this purpose we believe we would need an additional

40 teaching staff and 40 support staff. If the provision was provided across 3 new schools this could potentially mean the need for 3 new headteachers. **This is modelled against one of our current Welsh-medium primary schools.**

During the first couple of years of the plan we will do some further modelling with our secondary schools, regional and national colleagues to model the staffing requirement as these increased cohorts move through the system.

To achieve this outcome and increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh in the first five years we will:

1. Undertake a central workforce audit **(in the first 2 years of the Plan)** to review existing staffing along with consideration of current and future vacancies of teaching and support staff to support recruitment and retention of staff with Welsh language skills including fully fluent teaching and learning staff.
2. Analyse the outcome of the school workforce census data and qualitative evidence sources **(in the first year of the Plan)** to support workforce planning to inform design of professional learning programmes which reflect our local workforce needs specific to enhancing Welsh language use in all schools.
3. Provide advice, support, and guidance to schools on how to accurately reflect the Welsh language skills of staff.
4. Our Welsh in Education Development Officers will provide post-course support to practitioners who have participated in the Sabbatical Scheme. We will also implement a Language Champions mentoring programme where, after completing the Sabbatical Scheme, these practitioners become Language Champions and mentor other practitioners to increase their confidence to speak Welsh, teach through the medium of Welsh, or teach Welsh as a subject in English-medium schools and share good practice.
5. We will ensure that schools target Welsh language skills development in School Development Plans in the context of improving standards to ensure that there is a strong focus on prioritizing continuing professional development which includes improving language skills.
6. **Improve the confidence of the workforce able to teach in Welsh but not currently doing so by offering further Welsh language courses in partnership with FE/HE institutions.**
7. School improvement advisers (SIAs) monitor School Development Plans and New Language Schemes to ensure leaders plan to improve the linguistic skills of the workforce. Outcomes for the workforce will also be shared with SIAs to assist with monitoring.
8. Ensure that all school leadership teams and governors are made aware of the WESP and of the need for bilingual skills and that monitoring the upskilling of their staff is key as part of their governor and CPD training.
9. Encourage the governors of each school to include a report on the Welsh language in their annual report to parents and hold training sessions for school governors.
10. Support and provide advice to governors and school leaders on staff appointments and development.
11. Ensure that staff from Welsh-medium schools are applying for relevant national leadership development programmes and professional learning

opportunities including the Aspiring Headteacher Programme leading to NPQH qualification.

12. Explore scope to develop a localised promotion and recruitment campaign to target the need for further diversity across the teaching and learning workforce, particularly in Welsh speaking workforce to support diversifying the long-term uptake of Welsh-medium and ensuring that all families and pupils feel that their school is reflective of their local community.
13. Encourage and monitor take up of the new National Centre for Learning Welsh course by teaching staff as another route for developing language confidence within the teaching and learning workforce.
14. Work with Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin through the National Training Scheme (apprenticeship) and the Cam wrth Gam Schools Scheme which offers a full range of Welsh-medium Childcare, Play Learning and Child Development qualifications in the post-14/post-16 education.
15. Model (during the first 3 years of the Plan) the staffing requirements in the secondary sector as these increased cohorts move through the system.
16. Work with Welsh Government and other relevant stakeholders to undertake regular analysis of all data sources to understand trends in the demand for Welsh-medium teachers. This will require projecting annual transition rates of learners from primary to secondary education and looking at trends in terms of number of teachers moving into leadership roles, moving schools or leaving / retiring from the profession, for example.
17. Based on the data analysis of the Welsh language skills of the workforce we will set targets for increasing the proportion of our workforce with language skills at foundation level, and at intermediate level or higher and report on these as part of our annual monitoring of the WESP.

By the end of the 10-year plan we will:

18. Require the governors of every school to include a report on the Welsh language to celebrate and reflect on enhanced use and development of Welsh skills of pupils and focussed language acquisition opportunities of their teaching and learning staff in their annual report to parents.
19. Ensure that schools set and report on targets of Welsh skills development within school development plans within the context of improving standards to ensure that there is a strong focus on prioritising continuous professional development which includes improving linguistic skills.
20. Target teachers and support staff in each of the county's primary English-medium settings to attend occasional bilingual/language courses. In addition we will aspire to have one member of staff from each school attending the sabbatical course during the life of the Plan.

Main partners responsible for implementing actions above include:

- Swansea Council
- Swansea Schools
- ITE providers incl. – Swansea University, University of Wales Trinity St David, Open University, Coleg Cymraeg
- Gower College Swansea
- Education Workforce Council
- Welsh Government
- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin

Summary

The vision for the development of Welsh-medium education in Swansea is clear, robust and ambitious. The work to be done is multi-faceted and multi-layered, and the next step after approval of the strategy will be to develop an action plan for the next 10 years. Clear use of data will enable us to set specific targets, which will allow us to measure the impact and success of our work.

Data Pack (to be updated annually)

Population and Linguistic Characteristics

Pupil Population Trend and Forecasts

As at April 2021, there were 32611 full time equivalent (FTE) pupils (excluding nursery) in all Swansea schools, these can be broken down as follows:

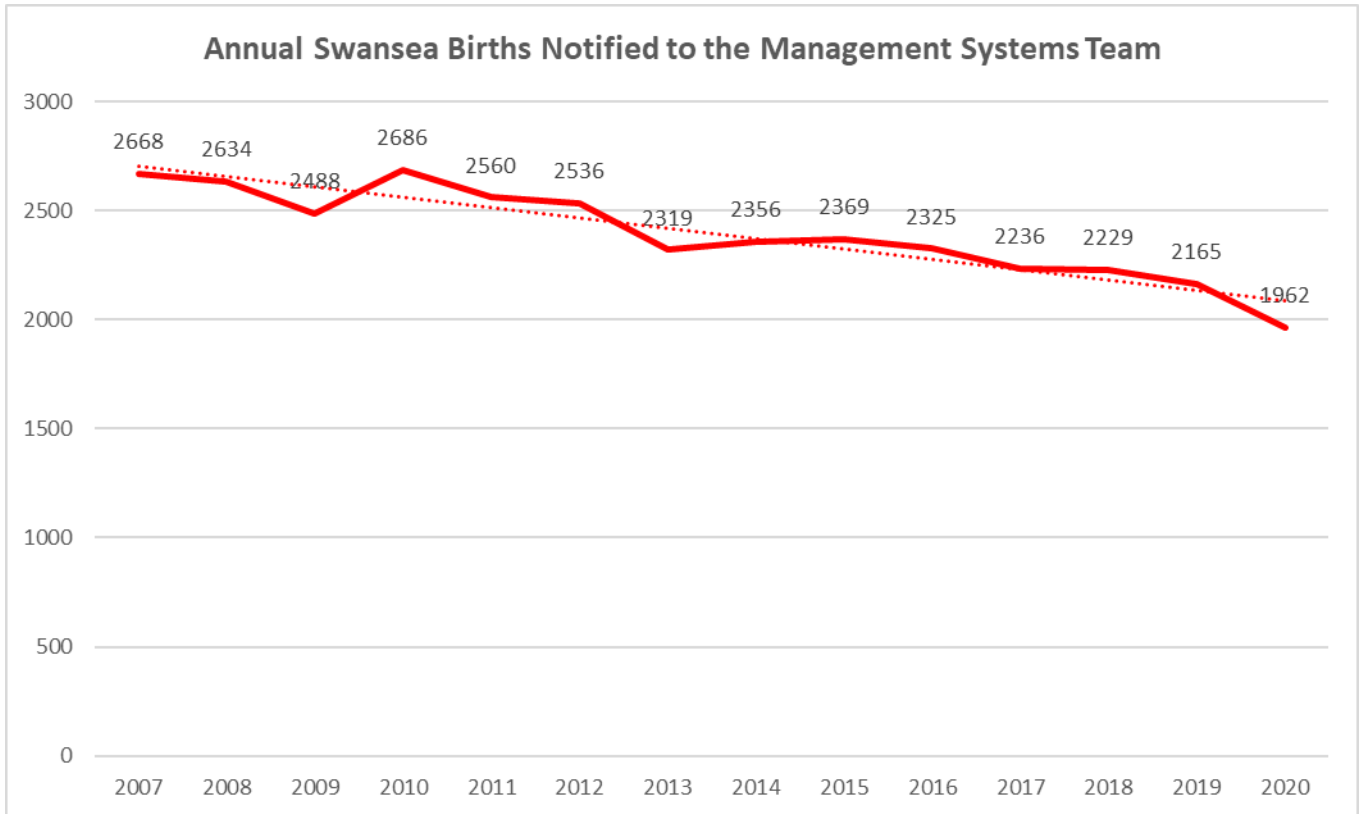
School Rolls	Total Welsh and English streams	Number of students in Welsh medium provision	Percentage of students in Welsh language streams
Primary	18362	2703	14.72%
Y7-11	12776	1671	13.08%
Y12-Y13	1473	313	21.25%
Total	32611	4687	14.37%

Numbers of Births Registered in Swansea 2007-2020

The birth rate in Swansea has seen a dramatic decline over the last 10 years. In the longer term this is likely to lead to empty places across the school stock in Swansea. As we work towards increasing the percentage of pupils going into Welsh-medium Education, it is important that we consider the impact of the birth rate.

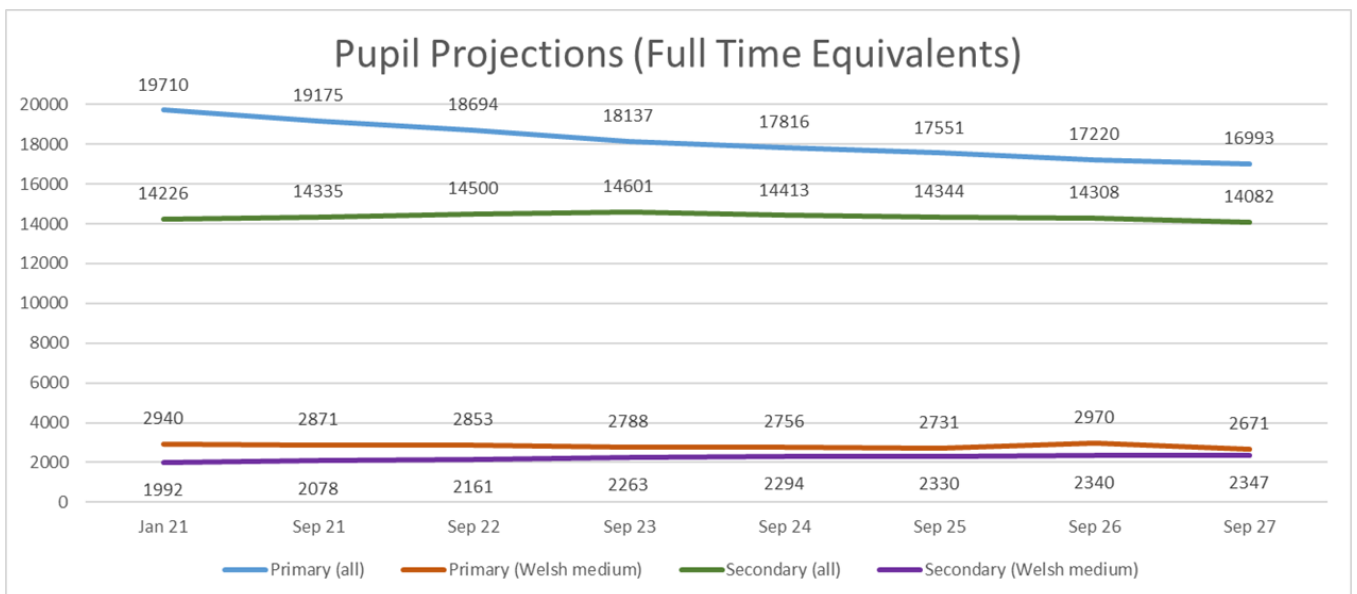
There was a further significant drop in 2020, however given the Covid-19 pandemic we will treat this data with caution as it is such a marked drop from previous figures and trend line.

Year	Births
2007	2,668
2008	2,634
2009	2,488
2010	2,686
2011	2,560
2012	2,536
2013	2,319
2014	2,356
2015	2,369
2016	2,325
2017	2,236
2018	2,229
2019	2,165
2020	1,962



Pupil projections

There has been a similarly marked drop in pupil numbers in 2020 which is reflected in the latest available pupil projections that are shown in the graph's below. Given the Covid-19 pandemic we will again treat this data with caution as it is inconsistent with previous projections and trends. Moreover, the longer term impact of the further significant enhancement of Welsh-medium places and facilities on parental perceptions and choices is still to be seen.



Ability to speak Welsh

The results of the 2011 Census indicated that 11.4% of the population in Swansea were able to speak Welsh; this is below the Welsh average of 19%. Whilst the Census is the key source of information about the number of people who can speak Welsh, the Annual Population Survey (APS) collects information about respondents' Welsh speaking ability and also includes a question on how often people speak Welsh. The APS estimates of Welsh language ability are historically higher than those produced by the Census. It is encouraging to note the steady increasing trend for Swansea (23.5% by December 2020) representing a sound foundation for the future.

Over the past 10-15 years we have enhanced provision for Welsh-medium learners significantly. However, to deliver our 2050 aspiration we need to enhance greatly the number of learners opting for Welsh-medium.

Current Welsh Provision

Early Years

The early exposure of children to the Welsh language is an important factor in expanding Welsh-medium education provision, and is key in the context of our target to increase the number of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh. The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment presents an opportunity to measure demand in this area and in the context of provision through the medium of Welsh. A new assessment is due to be completed in 2022 which will provide clear current data on the provision in Swansea. As with statutory Education provision it is important that we support the sector to increase their language offer and increase the number of parents choosing a Welsh-language provision.

In 2017, 55% of all parents that responded stated that they held an ambition for child(ren) to be bi-lingual in English and Welsh.

Although there were some incidences of parents stating that they were not accessing formal childcare due to an absence of Welsh-medium provision or them being unable to locate such provision, such a problem was not evidently widespread.

There is currently one Welsh-medium Flying Start (Dechrau'n Deg) setting in Swansea, seven Cylchoedd Mudiad Meithrin and nine Ti a Fi groups.

All 10 Welsh-medium primary schools provide a part-time nursery offer. As it currently stands there are more opportunities for pre-school in English-medium provision and therefore this can impact on the decisions being taken by parents early in their child's development due to the distance or proximity of their Welsh-medium catchment school.

In Swansea **all** primary schools provide part-time nursery education for parents who would like their child to attend a nursery class. The policy of the local authority is to provide part-time nursery education only. A nursery place will be available for all children from the term following their third birthday.

Mudiad Meithrin Provision

Cylch Meithrin (CM)	Ti a Fi Group attached?
CM Clydach Ysgol Gellionnen Clydach SA6 5HE	No
CM Meini Bach Ysgol Y Cwm Heol Jersey Bonymaen SA1 7DL	Yes
CM Treboeth a Tirdeunaw Canolfan Gymunedol De Penlan Heol Frank Penlan SA5 7AH	Yes
CM Parcywerin Pafiliwn Bowlio Parc y Werin Gorseinon SA4 4UX	Yes
CM Pontarddulais Bont Elim Church Alltiago Road Pontarddulais SA4 8HU	Yes

CM Sgeti Canolfan Gymunedol Brynmill Heol St Alban Brynmill SA2 0BP	Yes
CM Y Mwmbwls Neuadd Vivian Ffordd Mwmbwls SA3 5LT	Yes

Cylchoedd Ti a Fi (unattached to a Cylch Meithrin)

Cylch Ti a Fi Penllergaer
Neuadd Llywellyn
Heol Abertawe
Penllergaer
SA4 9AQ

Cylch Ti a Fi Clydach
Neuadd y Nant
Heol y Nant
Clydach
SA6 5HB

Cylch Ti a Fi Waunarlwydd
Neuadd Gymunedol Waunarlwydd
Heol Victoria
Waunarlwyd SA5 6SY

Welsh-medium Schools: Details as published in the Information for Parents booklet

Name, address and telephone number of establishment	Age range	Type	Number on roll Apr 2021	AN Sept 2021	Total Capacity Jan 21	Name of Head teacher
YGG Bryniago Lower James Street, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 1HY. (01792) 882012 E:Mail YGG.Bryniago@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Bryniago	3-11	WM	214	31	222	Mrs N Jones
YGG Bryn y Môr St, Alban's Road, Brynmill, Swansea, SA2 0BP. (01792) 466354 E:mail: YGG.Brynymor@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Brynymor	3-11	WM	274	37	260	Mrs E Wakeham
YGG Gellionnen Gellionnen Road, Clydach, Swansea, SA6 5HE. (01792) 845489 E:mail: YGG.Gellionnen@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Gellionnen	3-11	WM	258	43	305	Mr K Davies
YGG Llwynderw West Cross Lane, West Cross, Swansea, SA3 5LS. (01792) 407130 E:mail: YGG.Llwynderw@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Llwynderw	3-11	WM	364	45	320	Ms I Griffiths
YGG Lon Las Walters Road, Llansamlet, Swansea, SA7 9RW. (01792) 771160 E:mail: YGG.Lonlas@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Lonlas	3-11	WM	520	75	530	Mrs K Thomas

YGG Pontybrenin Loughor Road, Kingsbridge, Gorseinon, Swansea, SA4 6AU. (01792) 894210 E:mail: YGG.Pontybrenin@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: www.yggpontybrenin.com/	3-11	WM	599	71	501	Mr C H Scourfield
YGG Tan-y-lan Tan-Y-Lan Terrace, Morriston, Swansea, SA6 7DU. (01792) 772800 E:mail: YGGTanylan@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: www.yggtan-y-lan.co.uk/	3-11	WM	196	60	130	Mr B Jones
YGG Tirdeunaw Heol Ddu, Tirdeunaw, Swansea, SA5 7HP. (01792) 774612 E:mail: Tirdeunaw@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Tirdeunaw	3-11	WM	408	75	413	Mrs J James
YG Y Cwm Jersey Road, Bon-y-Maen, Swansea, SA1 7DL.(01792) 650326 E:mail: ygyccwm@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: www.ygyccwm.co.uk/	3-11	WM	164	28	197	Mrs S David
YGG Y Login Fach Roseland Road, Waunarlwydd, Swansea, SA5 4ST. (01792) 874399 E:mail: YGG.LoginFach@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: www.yloginfach.co.uk/	3-11	WM	247	30	214	Miss U Evans

Name, address and telephone number of establishment	Age range	Number on roll Apr 2021	AN Sept 2021	Total Capacity Jan 21	Name of Head teacher
WELSH MEDIUM COMMUNITY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS					
Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Tawe Heol Gwyrosydd, Penlan, Swansea, SA5 7BU. (01792) 560600 E:mail:YGG.Bryntawe@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/bryntawe	11-18	972 (877 excl dual sub reg)	205	1,243	Mr S Davies
Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr Talbot Street, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3DB. (01792) 872403 E:mail: Ysgol.Gyfun.Gŵyr@swansea-edunet.gov.uk Web: www.yggwyr.org.uk/	11-18	1,210 (1107 excl dual sub reg)	173	1,069	Mr D Jenkins

Secondary Welsh medium provision

In Swansea we have a very good track record of Pupil retention when they transition from key stage 2 to key stage 3. Over the last three years this has seen 99.7%, 98.7% and 97.5% respectively transitioning from Welsh-medium primary schools to Welsh-medium secondary schools in Swansea.

In GCSE Welsh First Language, 88.0% in 2021 of students attained grades A* - C, and numbers entering this subject have increased steadily in the nine years up to 2021.

In the GCSE Welsh Second Language (full course), over 74.8% in 2021 attained grades A* - C and numbers entering the subject have increased in the eight years since 2012 from 239 entries to 1736 entries in 2021. The increase in entries is due partly to the withdrawal of the short course option in this subject, with all entries being full course from 2019.

Performance in Welsh is also strong in key stages 2 and 3, but no data was collected in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Post 16 Welsh Medium provision

A wide range of courses are available for students who wish to stay on in full-time education after their 16th birthday. Students may choose to continue their studies in a secondary school with a sixth form or a Further Education (FE) college.

Both Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe and Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr offer sixth form provision through the medium of Welsh.

The FE college, Gower College Swansea also offers a number of courses through the medium of Welsh.

Welsh in the new curriculum

The Curriculum for Wales sets out that all our children and young people are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world, and are supported to develop as ambitious and capable learners who can communicate effectively using both Welsh and English. All learners should have appropriate pathways for learning Welsh and English to enable them to develop the confidence to use both languages in everyday life.

'Developing learners' comfort and ability to work in two languages also provides a strong foundation for learners to engage with different languages they encounter and develop learning in other languages as they progress. Schools should ensure rich language environments for all learners and reading, listening, speaking and writing across the curriculum should be developmentally appropriate.'
Curriculum for Wales

We will support learners in our schools, regardless of their linguistic category to develop their Welsh skills as set out in the What Matters statements of the Languages, Literacy and Communication area of learning and experience.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 also requires public bodies to work towards 'A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language'. We have a duty to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language and to work towards the achievement of the well-being goals. This must be a strong thread through everything that we do.

The Workforce

We have used the data collected about the Welsh language skills of the workforce in the School Workforce Census to identify current skills gaps and where the gaps are likely to occur in the future. Changes in the amount of Welsh taught in our English medium schools will affect the skills needs of staff and the linguistic support required. The chart below provides an indication of ability levels.

Whilst there is significant Welsh-language proficiency within the school workforce, this does not necessarily mean that staff will all be confident in teaching through the medium of Welsh. The number of staff required in future to meet the national aspiration for continuing growth in Welsh-medium provision would appear to present quite a challenge.

School Workforce Census 2020 : Ability in Welsh						
All schools	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		
Level	Teachers	Support Staff	Total	Teachers	Support Staff	Total
Proficient Level	364	213	577	18.2%	8.9%	13.2%
Advanced Level	77	37	114	3.9%	1.5%	2.6%
Intermediate Level	176	58	234	9.1%	2.1%	5.4%
Foundation Level	416	192	608	21.1%	7.7%	13.9%
Entry Level	509	750	1259	26.0%	31.3%	28.9%
No language skills	424	1139	1563	21.5%	48.3%	35.9%
Information not yet obtained	2	5	7	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Grand Total	1968	2394	4362	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
English medium only	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		
Level	Teachers	Support Staff	Total	Teachers	Support Staff	Total
Proficient Level	109	38	147	6.4%	1.7%	3.8%
Advanced Level	70	20	90	4.1%	0.9%	2.3%
Intermediate Level	176	52	228	10.3%	2.4%	5.8%
Foundation Level	416	192	608	24.4%	8.8%	15.6%
Entry Level	509	750	1259	29.8%	34.2%	32.3%
No language skills	424	1135	1559	24.9%	51.8%	40.0%
Information not yet obtained	2	5	7	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Grand Total	1706	2192	3898	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Welsh medium only	Headcount			Percentage of Headcount		
Level	Teachers	Support Staff	Total	Teachers	Support Staff	Total
Proficient Level	255	175	430	97.3%	86.6%	92.7%
Advanced Level	7	17	24	2.7%	8.4%	5.2%
Intermediate Level		6	6	0.0%	3.0%	1.3%
Foundation Level				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Entry Level				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No language skills		4	4	0.0%	2.0%	0.9%
Information not yet obtained				0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	262	202	464	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Provision for latecomers

The purpose of the provision for latecomers is to provide intensive Welsh language learning courses to enable children to achieve the level of fluency required to transfer to education in a Welsh-medium school. This is currently delivered through a peripatetic model of learning with the support going to the learner rather than the learner travelling to a specific site within the boundaries of the city and county.

Provision and support for children who are new to Welsh in the immersion sessions are intended for pupils in key stage 2, and start as soon as possible after they transfer to a Welsh-medium school. Latecomers in the foundation phase benefit from the immersion measures that exist in their school.

Welsh Medium Provision for Pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Considerable changes are planned in Wales from September 2021 in relation to the statutory provision required to meet the needs of learners with SEN or ALN. The ALNET Act 2018 requires local authorities to keep the arrangements for supporting learners with SEN or ALN within their area under review and consider whether these arrangements are sufficient. The ALNET Act 2018 also includes a statutory requirement to take reasonable steps to create a Welsh-medium and bilingual system of support for learners with SEN or ALN.

Until the anticipated sequential implementation of The New Code, from September 2021 local authorities are required to comply with the existing SEN Code of Practice for Wales 2002 (The 2002 Code) to fulfil their statutory duties towards learners with SEN or ALN. The 2002 Code states that learners have SEN or ALN if they have a learning difficulty that calls for a special educational provision to be made for them.

Throughout Swansea there are a range of specialist provisions which include Specialist Teaching Learning Facilities at Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe. As the numbers in Welsh-medium education increase further, we will consider options for further specific Welsh-medium provision to support this group of learners.

School Transport

The Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 requires local authorities to provide home to school transport for eligible children. This relates to statutory school age (Reception) pupils and does not include Nursery aged pupils.

In considering whether a school is suitable, the Learner Travel Wales Measure 2008 states that neither the child's or parent's language preference or mother tongue should have any bearing on whether a school is suitable. However, the measure requires local authorities to promote access to education and training through the medium of Welsh. For this reason, Swansea Council will provide free transport to the nearest suitable school which provides education through the medium of either Welsh or English provided that the pupil meets the distance criteria or non-availability of a safe walking route

Post 16 students

The Learner Travel Measure (Wales) 2008 requires local authorities to consider the needs of learners who are aged 16-19 years; however, there is no requirement for local authorities to provide school or college transport free of charge to any learner who is more than compulsory school age. The authority, however, uses its discretionary powers and will provide transport for learners over compulsory school age who meet the criteria of minimum distance or lack of a safe/available route to their designated school or college, or special educational need. The Council provides eligible learners with bus passes to travel to their designated school.

The Council delegates funding and responsibility for the provision of post-16 college transport to the two FE colleges. If the designated school or linked college does not offer the particular course of study that the student requires, transport will be provided to the nearest school/college that offers the course if it meets the minimum distance criteria.