

## Improving **Education and Skills**

### **Why this priority is a well-being objective.**

- We want all children and young people to attend school regularly, to be included, to be resilient and have successful futures.
- We want all children and young people to have good Welsh language skills.
- We want to support and maintain effective school leadership.
- We want to support and maintain excellent teaching.
- We want all learners to receive their education in environments that are safe and sustainable communities for learning.

### **The longer-term challenges this well-being objective will help address.**

- Ensuring young people have the skills to be able to enter local employment opportunities, including those arising from the Swansea Bay City Deal.
- Ensuring children and young people's learning, health and well-being is supported, particularly following the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Addressing the inequalities created by the link that exists between educational attainment and economic prosperity.
- Ensuring that the support for the provision of additional learning needs is stronger, less adversarial and places children and young people at the centre of decision making.
- Ensuring equal opportunities for all learners to learn Welsh, speak the language confidently and to promote the benefits of bilingualism/multilingualism.
- Ensuring leaders and practitioners are supported to maintain delivery of excellent education in all learning settings.
- Providing a school estate that is suitable, safe, and sustainable.

### **The steps we will take to meet this well-being objective are:**

- **Inclusion Strategy** - We will deliver the inclusion strategy to embed universal provision for additional needs, specialist places for additional needs and a whole school approach to emotional health and psychological wellbeing. The strategy will promote attendance, inclusion, learner participation in decision making and reduction in peer-on-peer bullying and harassment in schools.
- **Welsh Language Skills Strategy** - We will deliver a strategy that embeds the Siarter Iaith to all schools. The strategy will ensure that all schools are supported

to develop learners' skills within and outside the classroom. We want learners to speak Welsh with confidence when they leave school.

- **Leadership Support Strategy** - We will deliver a strategy to maintain and support effective leadership, including governance, across all schools. The strategy will promote self-improvement and collaboration. We want our school leaders to improve their own wellbeing in order to support practitioners and learners well.
- **Teaching Support Strategy** - We will deliver a strategy to support literacy, numeracy, and digital competence to maintain, restore and accelerate learners' skills. The strategy will promote excellence across all schools. We want all teachers to equip learners with key skills to access all areas of learning.
- **Designing Destinations Strategy** - We will deliver a strategy to support vocational learning, post-16 curriculum collaboration, careers and work-related education. We want schools to engage with community learning champions, employers and other education providers to inspire successful futures for learners.
- **Equity in Education Strategy** - We will deliver a strategy to embed trauma informed practice across all schools, actions to reduce the impact of poverty on learners and meet our responsibilities as corporate parents. We want our vulnerable learners to access support in one place through community focussed schools.
- **New and Better Schools Strategy** - We want to provide an efficient and effective educational infrastructure to meet current and future demands for school places. We will deliver a transformed schools' estate using our school building and maintenance programme and also respond to the developments set out within the local development plan (LDP) while ensuring community benefits from contracts. We want to reduce our carbon footprint within the school estate and make assets available for community use where local demand exists.

**By the end of 2023-2024 we will have:**

- Developed and promoted the new inclusion strategy.
- Continued to support schools to support learners develop Welsh language skills, in line with the WESP delivery plan.
- Encouraged take-up and support for school staff to undertake leadership development opportunities including qualifications.
- Promoted a new vision for school governance to support school leadership.
- Promoted local and regional opportunities of professional learning to support excellent teaching and learning.
- Consulted with learners on post-16 choices and developed a new post-16 and vocational strategy.
- Ensured suitable facilities to deliver universal free school meals to reception age, in line with the Welsh Government offer.
- Submitted a strategic outline programme for sustainable communities for learning.

## How we will measure progress \*

\*Provisional pending review and data development.

- Improved attendance in all educational settings.
- Reduction in exclusions from all educational settings.
- Increased percentage of learners educated through the medium of Welsh at nursery and reception ages.
- Increased percentage of learners remaining in Welsh-medium provision when transferring from one key stage to another.
- Increased number of learners assessed for qualifications through the medium of Welsh.
- Numbers of leaders on MLDP/SLDP/Aspiring Headteacher/NPQH qualifications.
- Improved percentage of learners making good progress in reading and writing skills.
- Improved percentage of learners making good progress in their digital competence.
- Reduction in young people known to be NEET at 16 years of age.
- Enrolment and outcomes of apprenticeships in the Council and the wider community.
- Engagement with training weeks secured for the economically inactive or unemployed through community benefit clauses in contracts.
- Increased take-up of universal Free School Meals (within the Welsh Government offer).
- Swansea becoming the first Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE)-informed Council in Wales.
- Approved business cases and delivery of the remaining Band B projects.
- Increased number of schools available for community use.
- Increased number of schools whose Display Energy Certificate (DEC) rating is either an A or improves by at least one grade, e.g., D to C.
- Increased number of schools that are net zero operational carbon (currently none).

## The contribution this well-being objective makes to the national goals.

A prosperous Wales	A Resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A Wales of more cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A healthier Wales	A globally responsible Wales
Indirect	Direct	Direct	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Direct

**How we will maximise our contribution to the national goals through the way in which we work.**

*Preventing problems from occurring or from getting worse – by:*

- Supporting schools to design engaging curriculums and opportunities to further develop good quality teaching, so that pupils develop skills and qualifications that they need to go on into further and higher education, training, or employment.
- Supporting learners and their families from the earliest opportunity to overcome barriers to good attendance.
- Supporting learners and their families through early intervention to increase inclusion, engagement and prevent exclusions.
- Early identification of need to ensure learners have suitable provision.

*Addressing long-term challenges – by:*

- Ensuring the school curriculum in Swansea provides pupils with the skills and qualifications for the future and contributes to the success of the Swansea Bay City Deal in raising prosperity.
- Ensure the schools’ estate is maintained to be suitable and safe for both current and future learners.

*Working in partnership with others – by:*

- Maintain and further develop working closely with other services across the local authority.
- Collaborating with local authorities through the regional arrangements to support school improvement services.
- Improved collaboration and information sharing with agencies to ensure early identification and support to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people.

*Avoiding conflicts between public body objectives – by:*

- Creating synergy between national and local objectives and economic development.

*Involving people – by:*

- Involving learners in their education through a range of engagement mechanisms in order to demonstrate we value these key stakeholders.
- Ensuring the views of families and the wider community are considered.
- Co-construction of policies and plans as appropriate to ensure they meet needs and expectations of the learning community.

**The contribution this well-being objective makes to the Public Services Board Well-being Objectives.**

Children have the best start in life to be the best they can be	People live well and age well	Working with nature	Strong communities
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Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Direct
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