

# We are Estyn.

We look at how well schools and other places for learning are doing across Wales. Our job is to make sure children and young people are learning in a safe, happy, and helpful way. We visit schools, nurseries, colleges, and training places to see what is going well and what could be better.

When we visit, we talk to teachers and learners, watch lessons, and look at work. After our visit, we write a report that says what the school is doing well and how it can improve. This helps schools make learning better for everyone.

Our name, Estyn, means “to reach out” in Welsh. That’s what we try to do – reach out to help improve education in every part of Wales.

We are independent, which means we don’t work for any school or council. This helps us give fair and honest advice. We also share what we find with the Welsh Government to help them make good decisions for education.

**Our main goal is to make sure all learners in Wales get the best chances to learn, grow, and succeed.**

- Your school is a welcoming and friendly place where you feel safe, respected and cared for.
- Staff know you well and help you with your learning and well-being, so you feel confident and ready to learn.
- You are kind to each other, behave well and help to create calm and purposeful classrooms.
- The school has large grounds, but there are not enough opportunities for you to learn in the outside areas.
- You enjoy learning and most of you make strong progress from your starting points.
- If you need extra help, staff supported you well so they can take part in everything.
- Sometimes, teachers give you helpful feedback, but you do not always get the chance to improve your work and identify the next steps in your learning.
- You develop your speaking skills well and become confident when talking about your ideas.
- You are learning Welsh and are becoming more confident using it.

- Reading is a real strength, and many of you read fluently and with expression.
- You use your writing skills well across different areas of learning.
- In mathematics, most of you build strong number skills and use them well.
- Your teachers plan interesting lessons and you learn through a broad curriculum that helps you understand your local area and the wider world.
- Sometimes, lessons are too directed by adults, which means you do not always get enough chances to work things out for yourselves and become more independent.
- You learn to respect others and understand different cultures and backgrounds.
- Leaders and governors work well together to improve your school and make sure you continue to make good progress and feel supported.