

Report to: Performance Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 24th September 2015

Lead Member/Officer: Lead Member for Education/Head of Education

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Title: A Level Results of Rhyl Sixth

1. What is the report about?

The report is about the results of A Level Students attending the Rhyl Sixth, the Tertiary College for Rhyl, and part of Grwp Llandrillo Menai.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The purpose of the report is to provide members with information about the performance of the Rhyl Sixth.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To receive the report presented by the Assistant Principal Learner Engagement Coleg Llandrillo and the Head of Rhyl Sixth.

4. Report details.

4.1 Introduction and context

The Rhyl Sixth was established in September 2009. This created a tertiary environment in Rhyl with all Post 16 AS and A Level provision becoming the responsibility of Coleg Llandrillo.

The first year was a transitional year while the Rhyl Sixth Capital Project was built. All provision, with the exception of Sociology, Psychology and the Welsh Baccalaureate, was delivered at Rhyl High School by Rhyl High School Staff. Since 2010/11 provision has been delivered and managed by the College.

The Rhyl Sixth established a unique partnership with Prestatyn High School in 2011 and formed the Prestatyn High School and Rhyl 6th Partnership. This was the first time in Wales that college learners studied in a school setting as well as school pupils at college. Significant opportunities associated with breadth of A level subject choices and the Welsh Baccalaureate became available to North Denbighshire Sixth Formers as a result of this alliance. In addition work has begun to identify opportunities to promote greater sustainability of A2 provision.

The numbers of Rhyl 6th Learners can be seen in the following table. These figures exclude Prestatyn High School Partnership Learners which average approximately

20 Year 1 and 10 year 2. Part-time learners are also not included. These account for approximately 10 to 20 learners. The capacity planned for when established was 120.

Year	Year 1	Year 2
2015/16*	60	45
2014/15	70	37
2013/14	50	30
2012/13	58	43

* Ongoing

4.2 Performance

A Level Results

Year	Rhyl	6th		Denbighshire	Wales	England
	A-A*	A-C	Overall Pass Rate	Overall Pass Rate	Overall Pass Rate	Overall Pass Rate
2015	21.1%	62.1%	98.9%	98.0%	97.3%	98.1%
2014	15.2%	74.7%	98.7%	98.8%	97.5%	98.0%
2013	9.2%	54.2%	95.8%	98.2%	97.6%	98.1%
2012	5.8%	42.5%	86.7%	98.9%	97.6%	98.0%

Analysis

- There have been very pleasing year on year improvements since 2012. Trends over the last four years have provided a very positive picture with over 12% improvement in overall pass rates. In addition nearly all subjects achieved a 100% pass rate.
- The overall pass rate for this year is above the Denbighshire, Welsh and English benchmarks.
- There has been a significant improvement of over 15% in the achievement of higher grades (A*-A) over the last 4 years.
- Although there has been a decrease in the percentage A-C grades this year, four year trends show that there has been over 19% improvement. There has also been a pleasing shift in the number of E to D Grades.

Results of Prestatyn High School Pupils attending the Rhyl 6th and Rhyl 6th Learners attending Prestatyn High School have been excellent with 100% of these learners passing.

Welsh Baccalaureate

In addition to the above results the majority of Rhyl 6th learners complete the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma. The Welsh Bac has been graded A* to C for the first time this year for those who pass. As a general rule this diploma is the equivalent of 120 UCAS points and 140 UCAS points for an A*. The Rhyl 6th Learners received outstanding results.

Year	Rhyl 6th						Wales
	A*	A	A*-A	B	C	Overall Pass Rate	Overall Pass Rate (2014)
2015	32%	36%	68%	24%	8%	100%	87.1%

Value Added

Value added provides an opportunity to measure learners' performance by subject over and above expectations. All learners are provided with an expected grade at the beginning of their programme based on external examination results. This is then compared to their final results and a value added measure established.

The value added results for 2015 have been outstanding see table below.

% of learners exceeding expected grades by subject	55%
% of learners performing at expected grades by subject	25%
% of learners performing below expected grades by subject	20%

There are many examples of individuals exceeding their expected grades e.g.

Expected Grades	Actual Grades
B, B, C, B	A*, A, B, A
D, C, D, C	C, B, C, A
E, E, C	E, A, A*
D, E, D	D, B, C
C, C	A, C
B, B, B	A, B, A
E, D	C, C
C, C, C	A, A, B
C, C, B	D, C, D

Rhyl 6th learners have excelled in extra curricula, community and charitable activities and there are many highlights. It is a pleasure to report that 2 learners were chosen to become part of the Welsh Debating Squad and 12 learners have had poetry published in Poetopia and War of Words poetry anthologies.

Progression

All learners have had positive progression outcomes. All learners who applied for university have successfully gained places with nearly all at their first choices. 22% are progressing to Russell Group Institutions.

Action

The College remains totally committed to continuous improvement and recognises specific areas on which to work including:

- Continuing to improve overall pass rates.
- Continuing to improve the grade profile of results with a focus on converting more D grades to C and on those subjects with lower grade profiles.
- Continuing to increase number of learners accessing Russell Group Universities.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

Denbighshire County Council's continued support of the Rhyl 6th paints a positive picture and is clearly contributing to improving education standards in Rhyl and surrounding area. It is also driving up the development of advanced skills leading to excellent progression routes. This is extending the aspirations and ambitions of Rhyl learners and in the longer term the economic prosperity of the area.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

NA

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

At this time accurate current data on the performance of students by gender and ethnicity is not available. See attached appendix

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

NA

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

NA

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

NA

11. Power to make the Decision

Article 6.3.4(d) outlines Scrutiny's powers with respect to reviewing and scrutinising the performance of other public bodies in the area.