

Analysis of Inspection Reports Denbighshire SACRE

Spring 2017

(Reports published in the autumn term)

3 schools

School	Dates	Reporting Inspector
St Brigid's	May 2016	Vaughan Williams
<p><i>St Brigid's School is a voluntary-aided school situated in Denbighshire local authority. The school caters for learners between the ages of 3 and 19. Pupil numbers have increased by around 4% since the school was inspected in 2010. There are currently 510 pupils on roll with 83 in the sixth form compared to 491 at the time of the last inspection when there were 58 in the sixth form. There are 149 pupils in the primary department. The school is situated on the outskirts of Denbigh in a very attractive rural setting. It serves a large catchment area stretching from Llandudno in the West to the Welsh Borders in the East, and beyond Ruthin in the South.</i></p>		
Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	July 2016	Anthony Mulcahy
<p><i>Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is a local authority special school maintained by Denbighshire County Council. The school provides day and residential placements for pupils aged 3 to 19 with autism. Pupils are drawn from the whole of Denbighshire as well as from neighbouring local authorities across the North Wales region.</i></p> <p><i>The school is based on three sites in the town of Denbigh. There are 67 pupils of secondary school age at the main site in Park Street, 37 pupils at the primary setting in Rhyl Road and 19 secondary-aged pupils with more complex needs at Ty'r Ysgol in Nantglyn Road. The residential provision is situated alongside Ty'r Ysgol.</i></p>		
Ysgol Dewi Sant	September 2016	Kevin Davies
<p><i>Ysgol Dewi Sant is situated near the town of Rhyl and is maintained by Denbighshire local authority. There are 544 pupils between 3 and 11 years old on roll, including 66 part-time nursery aged children. Pupils are divided between 20 mixed age classes, and Welsh is the main medium of the school's life and work.</i></p> <p><i>Approximately 38% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes. Approximately 13% are eligible for free school meals. The school has identified that 23% of pupils have additional learning needs, including a very few who have a statement of special educational needs. Very few pupils come from an ethnic minority or mixed background.</i></p>		

COMMENTS

Current Performance:

Key Question 1: How good are the Outcomes? Standards

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Wellbeing:

- Nearly all pupils across the school show care and concern for one another. For example, younger pupils pray for older pupils who are sitting their examinations. (St Brigid's)

Key Question 2: How good is provision?

Learning experiences:

- The school makes a successful contribution to developing pupils' awareness of sustainability and global citizenship through working with various external agencies such as 'Wateraid' and CAFOD. Most subjects and the personal, social education programme contribute effectively in developing pupils as responsible citizens in their community. (St Brigid's)

- Pupils have good opportunities to learn about sustainability and this is effective in helping pupils to understand their role as global citizens. Strong international links A report on Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn and regular cross-cultural celebrations enhance pupils' understanding of other cultures. These links also enable staff to share good practice with teachers from other countries. (Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn)
- The school provides valuable learning experiences that meet the requirements of the Foundation Phase, the National Curriculum and the agreed syllabus for religious education. (Ysgol Dewi Sant)
- Provision for promoting pupils' understanding of issues relating to sustainable development and global citizenship is appropriate. The eco council promotes sustainability work well and contributes positively to pupils' understanding of the need to save energy and water. However, there are limited opportunities for pupils to learn about the wider world. (Ysgol Dewi Sant)

Care, support and guidance:

- The school has an effective personal and social education programme that has a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of pupils. The school has appropriate arrangements for promoting healthy eating and drinking. The arrangements for pastoral care and the extensive range of extra-curricular activities have developed a strong sense of community at the school. The work of the Combined Cadet Force and the Chaplaincy are particular strengths of the school. They have a beneficial impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils' lives. (St Brigid's)
- There are effective arrangements to promote pupils' moral and spiritual development through the curriculum and thought-provoking assemblies on moral issues. These have a significant effect on pupils' confidence and self-esteem. The school successfully promotes pupils' social and cultural development through a wide range of activities such as residential visits and learning about the life of artists such as Vincent van Gogh. (Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn)
- The school is a caring community that promotes its pupils' moral, spiritual, cultural and social development effectively. The ethos of care and support for vulnerable pupils is a strong feature of its provision. (Ysgol Dewi Sant)
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Learning Environment:

- St Brigid's is a happy school with a strong family atmosphere and a caring, inclusive ethos based on a religious character. The school's values are 'To inspire and be inspired through Respect, Love, Faith, Truth and Excellence'. Nearly all staff, pupils and parents share these values. They are reinforced by the well-attended events organised by the chaplaincy and by assemblies held at the school chapel. (St Brigid's)
- The school makes good use of acts of collective worship to celebrate individual pupil achievements and teach pupils about a wide range of cultures and traditions. (Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn)
- The school has a welcoming, inclusive and friendly ethos in which pupils are treated equally. Staff offer valuable opportunities that ensure that pupils receive a range of beneficial experiences both inside and outside the school. Tolerance and racial equality are given appropriate attention in morning assemblies with particular themes. Pupils are encouraged to be

polite and support the local community and charities regularly. (Ysgol Dewi Sant)