



Arolygiaeth Ei Fawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

A report on

Swansea Sixth Form College

Date of inspection: November 2023

by

Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education

and Training in Wales

About Swansea Sixth Form College

Swansea Sixth Form College is situated in a suburb of Swansea in proprietor-owned premises. The property is in a terrace of commercial properties and includes a small outside area.

In March 2016, the proprietor contacted the Welsh Government to apply for registration as an independent school. An Estyn AI carried out an inspection of the premises and HMI visited on 4 April 2016 to consider the documents and planned arrangements for registration as an independent school.

Swansea Sixth Form College entered the register for independent schools in June 2016 and is registered to admit up to 20 pupils aged 14 to 17 years.

Since the initial registration visit, the school has not provided full time education for five or more pupils of compulsory school age nor full time education for either one or more pupils of compulsory school age with a statement of special educational needs, or who is in public care. Therefore, Estyn had been unable to complete a follow up to registration visit before this time.

Due to the length of time since initial registration Estyn completed a follow up to registration visit on 14 November 2023. At the time of this inspection the school was educating three pupils of compulsory school age part time and online, and one pupil of post compulsory school age part time using a blended model of online and face to face teaching.

HMI were able to observe one A level pupil being taught and review their work. From this very limited evidence we cannot evaluate standards 1(3) to 1(5) 'teaching and assessment'. In addition, we cannot evaluate Standard 2 'The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils'. We can confirm where policies are in place but cannot comment on the implementation of these policies due to the very small number of pupils attending the school.

The Welsh Government may wish to consider whether this provider should maintain its registration as an independent school.

Main findings

Strengths

- The proprietor can clearly articulate her vision for an independent school.
- The school responds very well to the needs of individual pupils and provides a highly bespoke education.

Recommended areas for action

Comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003 as outlined below.

Compliance with the standards for registration

Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- Provide a full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age [1(2)(a)(i)]

Standard 2: The spiritual, moral, and cultural development of pupils

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 2.

Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- Maintain an accurate admissions register for the pupils educated at the school [3(9)]

Standard 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- Ensure that prior to appointment the appropriate staff checks are carried out and accurate records are maintained. [4(bb)(c)]

Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- Ensure there are sufficient washrooms for staff and pupils [5(k)]

Standard 6: The provision of information

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 7: The manner in which complaints are to be handled

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

The school does not currently meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003. To comply fully with these requirements, the school should address the issues identified above for each standard.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.wales)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards Regulations 2003. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of publication. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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