

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

SCRUTINY
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SUBJECT: Briefing on National Categorisation of Powys Schools 2019 - 2020

REPORT FOR: Discussion / Information

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information on national categorisation profiles for all Powys schools.

All Powys' Schools Categorisation

All Schools Capacity to Improve 2019-20			
Group A	40 schools	43%	78%
Group B	33 schools	35%	
Group C	18 Schools	19%	22%
Group D	3 Schools	3%	

94 schools

All Schools Capacity to Improve 2018-19			
Group A	34 Schools	36%	71%
Group B	33 Schools	35%	
Group C	24 Schools	25%	28%
Group D	3 Schools	3%	

94 schools

2019-2020	
All Schools	
Green	(42) 45%
Yellow	(30) 32%
Amber	(17) 18%
Red	(5) 5%
	94 schools

2018-2019	
All Schools	
Green	(34) 36%
Yellow	(34) 36%
Amber	(23) 24%
Red	(3) 3%
	94 schools

In 2019-2020, the number of Powys schools categorised in the top category 'A' increased to 43% compared to 36% the previous year. There has also been an increase in the number of schools deemed to be self-improving, i.e., A & B schools, with 78% of Powys schools now in these two categories. Subsequently, the number of schools in the lower two categories, C & D, have reduced to 22%, with three Powys schools categorised in the lowest category of D. Out of the 18 schools categorised as C, 8 have acting headteachers, 5 are in an Estyn follow up category and two came out of an Estyn follow up category during the last academic year. Three Powys schools are in the D category. All of these schools do not currently have a substantive headteacher.

The support provided for schools for 2019-20 is represented by the colour category for each school. There is a reduction in the amount of support schools in Powys require, with more schools categorised as Green for support (45% in 2019-20). This is a significant increase on

the previous year, where 36% of Powys schools were categorised as Green. There has also been an increase in the number of schools needing the highest amount of support of greater than 20 days, i.e, Red for support, going from 3 schools in the previous year to 5 in 2018-19. Two of these schools are in Estyn follow up categories and three schools do not currently have substantive headteachers.

Primary School Categorisation

Primary Schools Capacity to Improve 2019-20			
Group A	35 schools	44%	81%
Group B	29 Schools	37%	
Group C	13 Schools	16%	18%
Group D	2 Schools	2%	

79 schools

Primary Schools Capacity to Improve 2018-19			
Group A	31 Schools	39%	77%
Group B	30 Schools	38%	
Group C	16 Schools	20%	23%
Group D	2 Schools	3%	

79 schools

2019-2020	
Primary Category	
Green	(37) 47%
Yellow	(28) 35%
Amber	(12) 15%
Red	(2) 3%
	79 schools

2018-2019	
Primary Category	
Green	(31) 39%
Yellow	(31) 39%
Amber	(15) 19%
Red	(2) 3%
	79 schools

The categorisation of Powys primary schools has improved in 2019-20, with 44% of primary schools now categorised as A for capacity to improve. There has also been an increase in the number of self-improving schools, with 81% of Powys primary schools now categorised as an A or B.

There are two primary schools categorised in the lowest category 'D'. A significant contributing factor is the lack of a substantive headteacher in both primary schools.

In 2019-2020, the number of primary schools in the Green support category has increased to 47%. There has been a reduction in the number of schools in the Amber support category. Out of the 14 schools in the Amber and Red support categories, 8 of these schools have a new or acting headteacher in post at the start of this academic year.

Secondary School Categorisation

Secondary Schools Capacity to Improve 2019-20			
Group A	4 schools	36%	45%
Group B	1 School	9%	
Group C	5 Schools	45%	55%
Group D	1 School	9%	

11 schools Inc. Bro H

Secondary Capacity to Improve 2018-19			
Group A	3 Schools	27%	45%
Group B	2 Schools	18%	
Group C	5 Schools	45%	55%
Group D	1 Schools	9%	

11 schools (inc. Bro Hyddgen)

2019-2020	
Secondary Category	
Green	(4) 45%
Yellow	(1) 9%
Amber	(3) 27%
Red	(3) 27%
	11 schools (inc. Bro Hyddgen)

2018-2019	
Secondary Category	
Green	(3) 27%
Yellow	(2) 18%
Amber	(5) 45%
Red	(1) 9%
	11 schools (inc. Bro Hyddgen)

The National Categorisation profile for Powys secondary schools has remained stable in 2019-20, with the only change being one school moving from a B school to an A category school. Of the 6 schools in the lowest two categories, all of these schools are either in an Estyn follow up category or have only recently been removed and still require support to embed and improve outcomes, provision and leadership.

There is an increase in the number of schools requiring the most support, Red category schools. This is due to two schools being in an Estyn follow up category and one school without a substantive headteacher.

School Category Changes

Powys Schools - 2019-2020	
Number of schools that improved their category	23
Number of schools that decreased a category	8
Number of schools that stayed in the same category	57

The number of schools that have improved at least one category has increased significantly in 2020. The increase is mainly in the primary and special school sectors with schools moving from yellow to green schools and from amber to yellow schools. Out of the eight schools that have gone down a category, five of these are because there are new or acting headteachers and two are due to support needed following Estyn inspections.

Three Year National Categorisation Trend for all Powys Schools

	2018		2019		2020	
A	31	33%	34	36%	40	43%
B	32	34%	33	35%	33	35%
C	29	30%	24	25%	18	19%
D	3	3%	3	3%	3	3%
Schools	95		94		94	

Over the last three-year period, 35 schools have remained in the same category for National Categorisation for each of these years, with 31 of these schools being in the A or B categories. There are four schools which have been in the C category for the last three years. Three of these are high schools which have recently been removed or are still in Estyn follow up categories. One primary school has been categorised as C Amber for three years and although strong progress is evident in addressing the previous year's recommendations, there are still a few significant areas that need to be addressed.

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