



St. Joseph's School and Sixth Form

Becoming fully human in Christ

24th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Inspection

I have received notification this week that (under section 28 of the Education Act 2005) the school will be inspected by Estyn in accordance with the Common Inspection Framework.

Please find attached information from Estyn entitled, **Understanding inspections in schools: A guide for parents and carers.**

Parents and carers are invited to meet with inspectors at 5pm on Monday, 14th October. This meeting will take place in the school's New Hall. Please come along.

I have also received notification from the Diocese of Menevia that (under section 50 of the Education Act 2005) the school will be inspected in the same week. I will share more information about this as I receive it.

If you have any questions relating to school inspections, please get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

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Understanding inspections in schools: A guide for parents and carers

Estyn is responsible for inspecting a wide range of education and training provision in Wales, and will soon be inspecting your child's school.

How do inspectors take account of my views of the school?

Estyn wants to know your views on the school. You can do this by:

- **completing an online questionnaire** via the direct link provided by the school or by going to <https://vir.estyn.gov.uk>, clicking on 'complete a parent questionnaire' and inputting 13911. The questionnaires will be available until 03/10/2019.
- **attending a meeting with inspectors.** The school will inform you of the date and time.

If you have any difficulties in accessing or completing the questionnaire, hard copies are available from your school or Estyn on request. Return hard copies directly using the freepost facility or 'In Confidence' via your school no later than 30/09/2019.

How will an inspection benefit my child?

An inspection tells you about the standards and quality at your child's school. It gives the school an expert view on its work, outlining what it does well and helps it to improve.

Who inspects the school?

The inspection team is led by a Reporting Inspector who has considerable experience of teaching and education. Each inspection team also includes a lay inspector and a peer inspector. Lay inspectors have not worked as teachers in a school, while peer inspectors are headteachers or managers from another school. Each school may nominate someone to liaise directly with the inspection team to keep the inspectors informed about the school and its work.

How will the school be inspected?

Inspectors follow Estyn's inspection guidance. <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/inspection/inspection-guidance>

How will inspectors take account of my child's view of the school?

During the inspection, inspectors will ask groups of children how they feel about the school, their work and how well they are getting on. All learners in key stage 2 and above will complete an online questionnaire before the inspection.



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

How will I know the inspectors' views on the school?

Inspection reports are published on the Estyn website 45 working days after the start of the inspection. The governing body will also send you details of the report.

What will be included within the report?

The report will have overall judgements on:

- standards
- wellbeing and attitudes to learning
- teaching and learning experiences
- care, support and guidance
- leadership and management

Inspectors use a four-point scale when making these judgements:

Excellent: Very strong, sustained performance and practice

Good: Strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement

Adequate and needs improvement: Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement

Unsatisfactory and needs urgent

improvement: Important weaknesses outweigh strengths

What happens after an inspection?

All schools must produce an action plan based on the recommendations in the inspection report. The inspection team will also consider whether the school requires any follow-up activity. The three types of follow-up activity include:

Estyn review: involves reviewing the progress the school has made towards addressing the recommendations highlighted in the report about 12-18 months after the publication of the inspection report

Significant improvement: involves a small team of Estyn inspectors visiting the school about 12-18 months after the publication of the inspection report

Special measures: involves a small team of Estyn inspectors making regular visits to review the school's progress following the publication of the inspection report

How can I contact Estyn?

Address: Freepost ESTYN

Email: ic@estyn.gov.wales

Tel: 02920 446446

Feedback about inspections:
feedback@estyn.gov.wales

For further information on Estyn please visit our website - <http://www.estyn.gov.wales>