Promoting Quality Project Action Plan

[in response to Scrutiny Committee's report on quality of education in September 2013]

Objective: Raise standards at key stage 4

Action:

- Raise awareness and ensure secondary schools' commitment to the project work
- Develop leadership within schools
- Improve Maths provision and standards
- Ensure appropriate learner achievement tracking procedures
- Raise and communicate all stakeholder' expectations
- Reduce polarisation of quality within and between schools
- Strengthen the LEA's role in raising standards in schools and promote school to school collaboration
- Further develop Governors key role as a critical friend
- Increase lerners participation and influence of the voice of the learner
- Give guidance to schools so that they support vulnerable learners more effectively
- Develop the primary-secondary liaison
- Prepare a document outlining the features of 'Ysgol Gwynedd', an excellent school in all aspects of its work

Outcomes for children and young people:

- 62% or more pupils achieve the Level 2+ Threshold standard (5 GCSE grades (A*- C) including Mathematics and Welsh or English) at Key Stage 4.
- 64% or more pupils reach Level 2 (grade A*- C) in Mathematics.
- Narrow the gap between schools performance at TL2+
- Maintain the % of learners who reach TL1 97% +
- Narrow the gap between FSM and non FSM learners at TL2+ (<32%)
- Narrow the gap between performance score of LAC and those not in care
- Fewer Secondary Schools in Estyn 'follow-up' category.
- Fewer schools in amber/red category
- No school/department performs in FSM benchmark lower quartile for two year rolling period [2013/2014]
- LEA's performance exceeds or matches national benchmark at TL2+

Imp	ementation Measures	Responsibilit Y	Monitori ng Officer	Implement table	ation Time-	Milestones	Outcomes related to Children and young people and adults
				Commenc e	End		
1	Raise awareness and ensure the secondary schools commitment to the project work Present project aims to Gwynedd	NH	DRJ				
	secondary headteachers.			Dec	2013		Secondary headteachers
	 Visit every secondary school to gather information and obtain headteachers opinion about the project's direction 			Jan 2014	April 2014	Information gathering forms for all schools.	have a clear grasp of project aims. The headteachers have ownership of the aims and act based on
	 Establish a Management Board for the project 			May 2014	May 2015	Management Board meets – June 2014 October 2014 Dec 2014 Feb 2015 May 2015	information/training /support to raise learners standards of achievement.
	 Report to headteachers on progress on the project at every GCSU meeting 			February 2014	June 2015	Documents/ presentations disseminated.	
	 Prepare an Action Plan and disseminate 						

	it to all relevant stakeholders			May 2014	June 2014	Action plan communicated to	
PROG	RESS REVIEW		AME	NDMENTS TO	THE PLAN		
secon Board prese revise	ct aims have been disseminated with the headtead dary schools have been visited. Following this, the was established and the draft version of the action need to members at two separate meetings. The code following Management Board members commented the section of the action of the	e Management on plan was draft plan was ents.	appo	intment as Se	nior Challen	ge Adviser.	t Board following his nd of the Easter term.
2	Develop leadership within the secondary schools • Present a model 'Developing Joint Leadership' to Primary and Secondary headteachers so that the development pathway and key stakeholders role is wholly clear.	GaJ	DRJ	Februar	y 2014	Flow chart	Leaders have better understanding of aspects for attention to improve performance. Headteachers
	 Report to headteachers on good practices in school leadership field at GCSU meetings (following research and visits) 	NH	00	February 2014	June 2015	Documents/ presentations	/management teams act on the basis of individual schools development needs.
	 Support in leadership field by GwE for the 5 schools named in the LEA PIAP (and 1 other school) by establishing a Leadership Network (see PIAP for 	EVJ	DRJ	Sept 2013	June 2014	GwE Reports	Leaders have access to professional networks and good practices.

 details) Hold 3 day training for Middle Leaders. Action plans implemented by Middle Managers within the target schools. Create a training pack for middle managers for schools use. Schools use 	AJ MR	DRJ	June 20 Nov 2013	14 June	Training Programme June 3, 4 Training Pack	Consistency in how schools respond to the LEA's requirements. Improvements in main indicators performance at school and LEA level. Increase in number of
 Raise headteachers and professional tutors awareness of National developments in leadership development field. 	ALI, NH	DRJ OO	February	June June 2015	<mark>Minutes</mark>	schools receiving Excellent or Good judgements during Visit 3. Fewer headteachers vacant posts throughout
 Identify potential amongst school staff (to be future leaders) and ensure appropriate CPD opportunities for them 	Headteacher s,TP		Ong	oing	Gudance for TP Staff Development Plans	the LEA/More candidates for headteachers posts
 Promote and support teachers NPQH applications 	GaJ	00	Ar	nnual	Progress in successful NPQH applications	
 Hold training in Management field for primary headteachers 	СС	GaJ	Sept 2014	March 2015	Headteachers receive training in key fields	
 Pilot 'Strategic Leadership' in the 			Sept 2014	July		Model of catchment-area

Moelwyn catchment-area .	GaJ	00		2015	Scheme piloted	collaboration leading to progress in standards of
			July 2014	Dec 2014	3 CPD days held.	leaners well-being and attainment
 Three schools share good practice (in key fields) with other school leaders 	NH	DRJ/OO			Lead to implementation at other shools.	

PROGRESS REVIEW

A joint leadership development model was presented to headteachers in February. Good practice is shared at headteachers meetings. GwE have worked with leaders of 5 secondary schools to improve standard of leadership at the school. Improvement has been seen in the main performance indicators in the majority of schools.

Ysgol y Moelwyn, Ysgol Botwnnog and Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen have shared good practice. The training was well attended and very positive feedback was recieved. Other schools have implemented specific aspects following these days. These days have led to training of entire staff in some of the other schools.

Training has been organised for primary headteachers in leadership (interpersonal/communication skills). Very good response to the training.

A Strategic Leadership Pilot scheme is underway in Ysgol y Moelwyn's catchment area.

AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN

A training pack for Middle Managers will not be developed locally. Instead, training is organized for schools SMT members to develop them to coach, middle managers within their schools. The first training day in a series of 6 will be held on January 15th.

The LEA has commissioned GwE to develop expertise of Professional Tutors to ensure leaders' development is promoted at every level within schools and to drive the School to School collaborative work.

At the request of management teams, a meeting has been arranged for Schools Leaders responsible for curriculum development and time-tabling (following KS4 curriculum changes from September 2015). The meeting will be held in January 2015

QUANTITATIVE OUTCOMES:

Progress in main KS4 indicators:-

TI2+ 57.1% \rightarrow 61%, TI 2 82% \rightarrow 87%, TI2 Mathematics 61% \rightarrow 65%, TI 1 97% \rightarrow 97.4%, DPC 56.4% \rightarrow 60.4%

Fewer schools in ESTYN follow-up category $(2 \rightarrow 1)$

Fewer schools in amber and red category; red from 4 to 2 and amber from 6 to 3.

The gap between schools performance at TI2+ was not narrowed.

3	 Improve Maths provision and standards Report to headteachers on good practices in Maths at GCSU meetings (following research and visits) 	NH	DRJ/OO	May 2014 June 201	5 Documents/ presentations	High standards in Maths teaching
	 Meet TAR Mathematics lecturer to discuss training and recruitment problems/make enquiries with the Education department 	NH/ALL	00	May 2014	Feedback from the meeting. Collaborate with the University to train staff.	in Mathematics. LEA outperforms average for Wales (5 th position or above)
	 Identify a co-ordinator and organise termly meetings for Secondary Numeracy Co-ordinators to promote County Numeracy strategy. 	NH	00	Sept 2014 June 2	Share good practices throughout the county. Prepare a County numeracy strategy.	County numeracy strategy implemented KS4 revised curriculum successfully presented in
	 Analyse Maths results throughout the 					September 2015.

County – identify good practices and successful strategies and share them. Remind schools of KS4 Mathematics Plan. Hold CPD day and focus on Excellent lessons that develop learners numeracy	NH INSET sub- group	00	Sept 2014 October 2	Nov 2014	Collaboration within./between schools to develop	Suitable candidates for Mathematics posts in the County's schools.
 Ensure that Maths departments in Gwynedd are aware of regional developments in Mathematics and receive training in preparation to present GCSE Numeracy and new Maths GCSE from September 2015 / Establish Mathematics 'Lead School' 	AS/NH	00	Sept 2014	June 2015	Schemes of work/resources prepared and shared	More schools offer a place to trainee Maths
 Organize county-based training for Mathematics teachers 			Sept 2014	Dec 2014	Quality CPD Up- skill Maths teachers.	<mark>-Teachers</mark>
 Respond to Maths recruitment problems – schools (6th Form)/C areers Wales). Present a paper offering suggestions/solution. 	NH	00	July 2014	Dec 2014	Paper presented and discussed at the education dept Management Team.	

PROGRESS REVIEW	AMENDMENTS TO THE DIAN		
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YKOGRESS REVIEW

Learners performance Summer 2014 higher in every indicator. Improvement in Maths Level 2 results and in TL2+ results.

'Good Practice in Mathematics' booklet given to every school summarising successful practices in some schools, including a report on effective practices at 11 schools, outlining KS4 Maths Strategy, and summarizing ESTYN findings.

Two meetings were organized and held for the County's Numeracy coordinators led by NJ. Work has started on preparing Numeracy resources (operational and reasoning) to promote the field cross-curricularly in collaboration with Isle of Anglesey Numeracy Co-ordinators.

A paper was presented offering a solution to the Maths situation within the County.

A CPD day on numeracy was held at two centres for representatives of all the County's schools at Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen and Ysgol Eifionydd. Schools had an opportunity to collaborate in the afternoon.

WJEC has held training for Maths and Numeracy GCSE course.

It is expected that Ysgol Eirias will lead training in GCSE Mathematics across the region.

Request from GwE to take responsibility and costs (jointly with Isle of Anglesey) for the Numeracy sessions (and Literacy)

AJ and NH to look at solutions to recruitment problems in fields such as Maths (and English). NH to hold discussions with UCNW Bangor to retrain teachers in English and Maths. AJ to make arrangements for head of training school in Birmingham to attend the next meeting of North Wales Headteachers. AJ also to consider TeachFirst scheme in YSHO context.

OUTCOMES:

Learners performance in GCSE maths improved in 2014 – 65% (61% in 2013) Sicrhau bod gweithdrefnau addas i dracio **Consistency throughout** cyflawniad dysgwyr the County regarding target setting process, Reach County-based agreement on frequency of assessment, April 2014 Paper 00 NH principles of Target Setting, Assessment assessment of progress disseminated and Tracking against targets and Develop a system so that schools The LEA able to intervention. monitor school report on learners attainment against July 2015 GwE 00 Sept 2014 performance their targets to the LEA more **Learners receive** against targets GaJ regularly. appropriate support to achieve potential Visit other LEAs that have 'excellent' Good practices June 2014 Feb 2015 Narrowing of the gap procedures at LEA level to use data NH 00 disseminated between FSM and LAC and track progress. Tearners performance and Hold sharing good practice sessions in May 2014 July 2014 their peers Target Setting, Assessment, Tracking Good practices YUB. YB. and Intervention (YUB, YB, YYM) disseminated YYM **Performance of Gwynedd** 00 Jearners in the main Establish a more effective system of indicators in the higher progress tracking KS2/KS3 July 2014 Dec 2014 quartiles. NH, GaJ 00 Promote tracking progress and wellbeing of vulnerable pupils (link with SW P4). Include focus on invisible More detailed September 2014 learners. data available to schools to organize intervention 00

 Promote use of new live FFT – ensure Welsh medium system 	Cynnal		Sept 2014	April 2015		
PROGRESS REVIEW		AME	NDMENTS T	O THE PLAN	<u> </u>	
Three schools have shared good practices in Target setting and Intervention. An initial meeting was held at Ysgol y Moelwyn to discussummarising the principles of Target Setting, assessment and intervention. Have held discussions with officers in some LEAs on the within the LEA. Have met SW to discuss fields to include within SAC of the Engagement Framework. Schools are trialling this system.	ss a paper at, progress track use made of da heYouth m.	GwE king repre Region ta Have Achie	king and Internatives of the control	ervention. ibility for this of schools to e it to be establed other LEA we nel on the situendary schools from Carmart	aspect. AJ to org nable schools to ished. ork pattern in da lation locally com	rarget Setting, Assessment, ganise a meeting soon for adopt agreed principles. ta field and reported to appared to other authorities. ial a central reporting aising awareness afternoon
 Raise and communicate all stakeholders expectations Prepare an information sheet for learners and their partents on KS4 menu and main indicators (link with the learning partnership) 	BHP / EM	00	July	/ 2014	Area Prospectus	Roles of all stakeholders clearly defined and owned by them
Report to headteachers/Inclusion	NH/HWO/		Jan 2014	Feb 2015		

	 Group on good practices (following research and visits) and on the good practices to reach the parents and learners who disengage themselves from education. Give more detailed consideration to Y9 choices and the number and type of subjects some individuals follow. Ysgol y Moelwyn share their vision of having high expectations of their learners and inspire them to have selfbelief to succeed. 	Individual Schools DL Staff Moelwyn		Oct 2014 Feb 2015 July 14	Minutes meetings, Documents PDG Schemes Record of learners selected subjects Secondary school leaders implement the same principles in their establishments.	High expectations placed by all stakeholders. Schools performance targets place them in the higher quartiles. Schools effectively plan to meet vulnerable pupils needs – narrow the gap between learner groups performance.
REVIE	W PROGRESS		ADJU	STMENTS		
parent Preser Inclusi	Is provide parents with details of KS4 menu – documents evenings. In a strategy that refers to Promoting Family Engagon Group. Eld at Ysgol y Moelwyn a success – very positive fe	agement to the				

Have presented a paper to schools referring to good practice of giving

learners career advice as they select subjects in year 9.

Narrow the extremes in quality within and between schools.						_
	DRJ / EVJ	ITJ	By Septe	mber 2014		Gap narrows between
Clarity in LEA and GwE role					Summary report	schools perfortmance in
					prepared	the main indicators and
 Develop the Standards' Group's role 	00	GT	June	2014	Minutes of	the gap between
to monitor standards in schools more					Quality Group	performance in subject
<mark>carefully</mark>						within schools.
 Include 'polarisation' within schools as 	OO/EVJ	00	Oct 2014	Dec 2014		Consistency in
a point for discussion in Visit 1.	OO/EVJ	00			Visit 1 Reports :	Consistency in
Schools report on this and prepare an					Visit 2 Follow-up	performance in subject
action plan.						within individual schoo
						/residuals specific
Gather good practices from other						departments)
areas and countries	NJH	00	September 2	014 Feb 2015		
			Joptom -	01: :00 2010	Practices documented and	
					shared	

REVIEW PROGRESS

Have produced a document outlining the LEA and GwE's responsibilities within the National Model. The document mentions more robust methods of ensuring accountability by GwE. These discussions between the LEA and GwE are ongoing. Secondary Heads receive a report from GwE Challenge Senior Advisers at every meeting.

The Standards Group holds fortnightly meeting and focus on discussing schools. Standards Group Programme rationalised to hold more

ADJUSTMENTS

No specific focus on polarisation within schools in Visit 1 - as this matter arose as a matter of course during the discussion on Summer's results.

To focus on 'Teaching and Learning' procedures within schools.

meaningful discussions on specific schools. Challenge Advisers attend the meetings to present a report and respond to questions on specific schools.

Viist successful schools in different areas of Wales and research best practice over the Internet.

pract	ice over the internet.						
7	Strengthen the LEA's role when raising standards in secondary schools.		**************************************				
	 Clear procedure for supporting and sharing good practice established. 	NH	DRJ	May 2014	April 2015	Outline of procedure	Increase in the number of 'green/yellow' schools
-	 Item on quality of education including sharing good practice, on the agenda of every meeting of the secondary headteachers. 	NH	00	Jan 2014	April 2015	GCSU Minutes	Fewer secondary schools placed in ESTYN follow-up category
	 Three schools share good practice (in key fields) with other schools leaders. Every school has an opportunity to share its best practices at various forums. 	NH	DRJ/OO	July 2014	April 2015 Dec 2014	3 CPD days held. Has led to implementation at other schools.	
	 Confirm GwE broker role and the Council's service level agreement to support improvement 	OO/HFE	ITJ	Sept 2014		Rôle of Brokerage and Support Officer outlined.	
	 Collaborate with GwE Brokerage and Support Officer and establish a pattern of School to School 	NH/RhH	00	Sept 2014	April 2015	Pattern of collaboration within and between schools established.	

	<mark>collaboration.</mark>					
			00			
	 Outline LEA expectations for irs schools in a 'Gwynedd School' document and launch it . 	NH		Jan 2014	May 2014	Document prepared
<u> </u>	ERESS REVIEW		ΛMFI	VDMFNTS		

PROGRESS REVIEW

Good practices disseminated in the Headteachers group and in the Inclusion Group.

Three schools have already held a Sharing Good Practice Day.

A meeting has been held with RhH, GwE Brokerage and Support Officer outlining the work that has been completed within the LEA. Arrangements have been made for RhH to attend a meeting of Gwynedd professional tutors on January 21 to maintain the practice of a County based CPD development day. The agenda for that day will be more flexible to enable schools/departments/teachers to meet to collaborate in specific fields.

AMENDMENTS

GwE has a prominent role in promoting school to school work.

A bulletin to be produced for secondary schools sharing information on the project work.

8	Further develop the Governors key roles as a critical friend						
	 Need to ensure that headteachers understand pattern of work of effective Governing bodies – presentation at a headteachers 	GwE/OMB/ NH	00	Sept 2014	October 2014	Gwynedd Governors Handbook/Check list	All Secondary Schools Governing Bodies have effective work pattern
	 meeting and YDO share good practice. Need to ensure that governors have a clear grasp of the LEA's role. 						Progress in number of Governing Bodies awarded the Bronze

	 Urge Governing Bodies to apply for the Governors Quality Award (Bronze/Silver) 	ОМВ	00	OO Sept 2014		GCSU Minutes	Award
	Headteachers train Governing bodies (data field)	Schools	ОМВ	Sept 2014	Dec 2014	Training Pack	
OMB Bodie Iutie GwE	the progress has presented information to headteachers on effect of work patterns, reminding headteachers of Governors award for Governors have held training sessions for Governors.	ernors' statutor	ng This	JSTMENTS field to becor	me GwE's re	sponsibility.	
Some	headteachers have trained Governors on perform	nance data.					
9	Increase learners participation and the impact of the voice of the learner Consult with Judith Roberts (Healthy Schools Scheme) Promote pupils councils within the schools. Include a regular item on participation on the inclusion group agenda.	NH	RJ	Sept 20	014	Outline of effective school council work pattern	Every school has a participation strategy Schools are inclusive schools School Councils effectively implement

their opinion about 'Gwynedd School' features. Training for School Councils/School Councils Officers/Pupil Governors.	NH	00	Sept 2014 Sept 2014	Oct 2014 Oct 2014	Learners opinion included in the project. Regional Sessions held within the County.	Learners questionnaires very positive. Schools respond to questionnaire findings
 Include learners as an integral part of the Promoting Quality project. 	NH	00	Sept 2014	May 2015	Film to launch the document	
 Disseminate pupils questionnaires. Cascade learners opinion back to their schools. 	BER	00	Sept 2014	Dec 2014	Questionnaire analysis	
 Ensure that a Governor has contact with the School Council. 	NH/ OMB	ОМВ	Sept 2014	Dec 2014	Details of Contact Governor obtained	
 YyM shares good practice Provide schools with guidance on preparing Participation Strategy 	NH NH/IO	00	July	2014	Draft version Participation Strategy	
			Sept 2014	Dec 2014	prepared and disseminated.	

REVIEW PROGRESS

Training Day on 'Participation' held on November 12th. The day organized through consultation with Judith Roberts. Very positive feedback to the day. All materials prepared shared with the schools.

Have visited the secondary schools to discuss participation with the staff

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PLAN It was decided to hold a training day for the staff responsible for Participation, so that they train the learners at the school (more sustainable arrangement).

A model Participation Strategy was prepared and was disseminated on November 12th at a meeting for Participation Co-ordinators.

member responsible for this area. The staff member will collect learners' opinions about the features of 'Ysgol Gwynedd'.

Ysgol y Moelwyn has shared good practice. .

Situation has been scrutinized within the LEA regarding promoting participation and consultation with Llio Johnson ,Children and Young People Partnership. Gwynedd does not have an individual who provides a lead on participation. 'Gwynedd Ni' is not operational. In several authorities, Participation Strategy is driven by a designated officer.

Questionnaires shared with specific schools (3/4 year cycle).

The support for learners was discussed during KS4 through holding focus groups with Yr 12 students. An individual report was prepared for each school and a summary report at an LEA level.

Following a meeting of the Management Board, it was agreed to hold training sessions for individual school councils during the first part of the Spring term if the schools wish to avail themselves of the training. The Coordinators were eager to hold a day during the Summer Term for the pupils councils and make this an annual arrangement.

M/D schools felt frustrated in what the school's older pupils could do to promote participation amongst the younger learners. A meeting was held with one of Coleg Meirion Dwyfor's management team to promote a relationship between their students and the secondary schools. It was agreed to a pilot a participation promotion plan between the College and one or two secondary schools. (Easter Term).

10	Provide guidance for schools to more effectively support vulnerable learners Information sharing on best practices when supporting vulnerable learners, Sutton Trust research findings and appropriate use of Deprivation Grant	NH	00	March 2014		Document providing guidance disseminated	% Improvement in Secondary Schools attendance Learners receive appropriate support to
	 Monitor the schools grant schemes and their impact on outcomes 	HW	GaJ	April 2014	Feb 2015	Schemes/	reach potential Narrowing of the gap between FSM and LAC
	 Hold training at a county level to support vulnerable learners. 	HW/NH		Februa	ry 2015	Report	pupils performance and their peers

PROG	Develop and make better use of learner well-being and achievement tracking system. Project P4. RESS REVIEW	SW		AMEN	Proje	ect P4 D THE PLAN		Gwynedd learners performance in the main indicators in the higher quartiles.
	nce of research work summarised and presented usion group members.	to headteachers	s and	ESTYN field v succes	l Review Fra vere shared.	mework and Also noted wed the gap	supplementary g were good practi	epared. The up-dates of guidance on inspecting this ces of schools who formance of specific learner
11	Re-visit the transition schemes and ensure that schools meet the statutory requirements.	GaJ/NH	0	0	April 2014	June 2015 June 2015	Bridging schemes meet the statutory requirements. Quality KS2/KS3 development plans.	Purposeful strategic planning at a catchmentarea level. Learners confidently transfer from primary to secondary
	 Develop collaboration between Primary and Secondary to facilitate 				Sept 2014		Curricular	

	transfer and continuity in learners development from one key stage to the next.	GaJ/NH	O	O			projects that promote literacy and numeracy have been developed.		
	PROGRESS REVIEW				AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN				
_	Dyffryn Ogwen has reported on their bridging arr schools in the County.	angements to tr		prima plans Visit	ary/seconda ysgol y Moe	ry. Gwynedd lwyn to see t	has commisioned	on moderation of d GwE to monitor transition ea planning and its relevance	
12	Prepare a document outlining expectations in 'Ysgol Gwynedd', excellent school in all aspects of its work	NH	DRJ	/00	Jan 2014	April 2015	Document completed		
REVIE	REVIEW PROGRESS				ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PLAN				
	rmat of the document to be produced by the Ma greed and it was agreed to include case studies as	_	d						