



Well-being Objective 3

Start Well - Continue to improve learner attainment for all

The following are our commitments and end of year progress comments for this Well-being Objective during 2017/18.

Last Year's Commitments	✓ ✗	Progress Comment
A - Teacher Assessments and Examinations		
We will enhance outcomes for More Able and Talented (MAT) pupils. <i>(Action ID 12511)</i>	✓	<p>More able and talented action research project The Carmarthenshire MAT action research project includes 18 participating schools (5 secondary and 13 primary). Planning, preparation and establishing the project in each school has taken place. Schools are in the implementation stage, e.g. pupils have undertaken initial workshops with artists, poets etc, undertaken research in the community (e.g. with M&S retail team), and have been introduced to certain enhanced learning strategies to develop perseverance strategies for independent learning, for example.</p> <p>This work will continue into the summer term and following evaluation schools will share their experience and good practice with the rest of the Carmarthenshire schools. The project has taken the overarching notion that by stretching the most able you will raise achievement for all by targeting the more able but opening the projects to all.</p>
We will increase the percentage of schools designated with a 'Green or Yellow' support category within the National School Categorisation System. <i>(Action ID 12512)</i>	✓	<p>Challenge advisers have rigorously undertaken the categorisation process alongside our schools during the autumn term, ensuring that all schools are provided with the correct package of support to ensure that they achieve further progress. Data in relation to Categorisation can be found on 'My Local School'.</p> <p>In Carmarthenshire the number of 'green' primary schools has increased from 16 in 2016 to 21 in 2017; our number of 'yellow' schools has decreased from 58 to 49 and our number of 'amber' schools has increased from 21 to 26. We have 1 'red' primary school. Our data reflects the trends across the ERW region.</p>
We will support schools, in tandem with ERW (Education through Regional Learning), to further improve outcomes for all pupils outcomes at the end of the Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 but with a particular emphasis on raising the achievements of pupils entitled to free school meals and looked after children. <i>(Action ID 12513)</i>	✓	<p>The team of challenge advisers and associate challenge advisers have undertaken the core support visits to our schools, at times in conjunction with the ERW leaders of learning in order to support with particular areas of focus. The visits have been designed in collaboration with individual schools, developing a bespoke programme of support and challenge in line with the school's self-evaluation and monitoring programme. Visits have included the Welsh government categorisation process. The feedback from schools has been exceptionally positive with leaders valuing the professional dialogue which has underpinned work scrutiny, lesson observations and learning walks, as well as pupil voice opportunities. Increasingly schools are becoming more confident in addressing the changes to the Estyn inspection framework</p>

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		and are using the core support visits to enhance the professional development of staff and governors through this process. There is an improved understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development which are reinforced well through purposefully planned actions.
We will continue to hold all schools and ERW (Education through Regional Learning) to account for further improving standards and outcomes for learners, intervening in schools where performance is not satisfactory. <i>(Action ID 12514)</i>	✓	The broad range of activities implemented in support of the effective implementation of this action have continued to focus on specific elements of the 'support, challenge and accountability' agenda. They have included: 1. Completion of all ERW Core Support Visits 1 and 2 within each of our school settings. This work has included - a) analysis of performance outcomes (2017) and school's ability to self-improve b) agreement of current National Categorisation Support Category for 2018-19 c) Review and revision of each individual school Support Package d) Review of 'leadership & teaching and learning' provision Schools and officers are currently involved in the process of benefiting from ERW Core Support Visit 3 during the Summer Term 2018. This activity will be reported on during the next cycle of this PI. 2. Rigorous monitoring and scrutiny of progress made by our 'Schools Causing Concern' has continued via a range of processes. Overseen through Carmarthenshire and ERW Team meetings, with additional support and challenge from LA Scrutiny Panel meetings and Estyn LALI visits, the work has ensured a relentless focus on progress against agreed actions. Officers have ensured that school-based activities continue to be well supported on a regular basis. The E&C Scrutiny Panel has implemented its first cycle of 'School Visits'. These have presented the opportunity to discuss and analyse individual school performance and needs. Findings have been reported back the full Scrutiny Panel as a specific meeting agenda item.
We will maintain the % of Year 11 pupils achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, or equivalent, including English or Welsh first language and Maths <i>(PAM/006) (2016/17 Result - 65.1% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 65.1% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</i>	✗	2017/18 Result - 57.2% - 16/17 Academic Year Following recommendations from reviews and policy changes announced by Welsh Government, several key changes have been made to the Key Stage 4 performance measures data which impacts on comparisons with previous years. Our comparative Welsh ranking has declined from 6th to 8th but remained above the Wales average of 54.6%. Important to note that all LAs in Wales witnessed an impact. The School Improvement Team will continue to support, monitor and challenge schools appropriately to ensure enhanced performance outcomes for all pupils. This will be implemented through the agreed regional content of ERW Core Support Visits.
We will improve the Average Capped 9 score (best 9 exam results) for pupils in Year 11 <i>(PAM/032)</i> <i>This is a new Measure for 17/18 – Academic Year 16/17, and replaces the Level 2 threshold measure (PAM/006) above as the main measure for Key Stage 4</i>	-	2017/18 Result – 360.8 - 16/17 Academic Year A result of 360.8 was achieved by Year 11 pupils, this was the 7 th best result in Wales and above the Welsh average of 350.9.

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<p>We will increase the % of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of Key Stage 2 (PAM/004) (2016/17 Result - 89.0% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target – 89.2% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✗	<p>2017/18 Result - 88.8% - 16/17 Academic Year The result is off target and has declined by 0.2 percentage points compared to the previous year. The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 2. National arrangements to support accuracy of Teacher Assessment have been implemented and will continue to support work in our schools. It is useful to note that two key pieces of national work, namely National Categorisation and the revised Estyn Inspection Framework are now focusing in more detail upon 'individual pupil progress.' This does not exclude formative analyses of end of Key Stage performance but does potentially provide a broader context to this PI.</p>
<p>We will increase the % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2 (SCC/29a) (2016/17 Result - 56.67% -15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 60% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✓	<p>2017/18 Result - 71.4% (10 out of 14) which is on target and showing an improvement. Please be aware that the number of children receiving care and support used to calculate this measure is small and varies from year to year there will affect the result and can fluctuate greatly.</p>
<p>We will increase the % of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of Key Stage 3 (PAM/005) (2016/17 Result -86.3% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 86.5% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✓	<p>2017/18 Result - 88.4% - 16/17 Academic Year The result is the highest recorded by the Local Authority, continuing our upward trend from 68.4% in 2011. The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 3.</p>
<p>We will increase the % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (5.0.2.2) (2016/17 Result – 89.2%- 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 89.5% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✗	<p>2017/18 Result - 72.6% - 16/17 Academic Year Following recommendations announced by Welsh Government, several key changes have been made to the Key Stage 4 performance measures data which impacts on comparisons with previous years. It is important to note that these changes impact on all LAs in Wales. Our comparative Welsh ranking has dropped from 4th to 5th.</p>
<p>We will increase the % of pupils achieving the Level 3 threshold (2 A Levels grade A-E) (5.0.2.3) (2016/17 Result – 99.5% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 99.6% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✗	<p>2017/18 Result - 97.8% - 16/17 Academic Year This measure is off target and has declined compared to the previous year. The LA's relative ranking in Wales has declined from 1st to 5th. Additional challenge and support to schools continues to impact effectively on performance in general with each cohort's individual profile taken into context. Annual fluctuations are to be expected at such a high level of performance. It is important to note that we have remained above the Wales average for the past five years.</p>
<p>We will increase the % of Year 11 pupils achieving the `core` subject indicator. <i>Those pupils achieving at least grade C in GCSE English or Welsh, Mathematics and Science in combination</i> (5.0.2.6) (2016/17 Result- 62.34% -15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 62.5% - 16/17 Academic Yr)</p>	✗	<p>2017/18 Result - 58.71% - 16/17 Academic Year Following recommendations from independent reviews and policy changes announced by Welsh Government, several key changes have been made to the Key Stage 4 performance measures data which impacts on comparisons with previous years. It is important to note that variance has been witnessed nationally.</p>

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We will increase the % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at key stage 4 (SCC/29b) (2016/17 Result - 18% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 20% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 12.5% (5 out of 40) this is off target and showing a decline on previous year. Please be aware that the number of children receiving care and support used to calculate this measure is small and varies from year to year there will affect the result and can fluctuate greatly.
We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a teacher assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 2 (EDU/006i) (2016/17 Result - 50.5% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 51.0% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✓	2017/18 Result - 52.2% - 16/17 Academic Year This measure is on target and has improved on the previous year and remains considerably above the Welsh average of 21.0%.
We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a teacher assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3 (EDU/006ii) (2016/17 Result - 42.2% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 42.5% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 39.9% - 16/17 Academic Year Despite being off target and showing a decline compared to the previous year, we continue to maintain a healthy position within the top four results in Wales.
We will increase the average point score for Year 11 pupils (EDU/011) (2016/17 Result - 596 points - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 600 points - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 469.4 - 16/17 Academic Year Following recommendations from independent reviews and policy changes announced by Welsh Government, several key changes have been made to the Key Stage 4 performance measures data which impacts on comparisons with previous years. It is important to note that these changes impact on all LAs in Wales. Our comparative Welsh ranking has dropped from 1st to 8th but we remain above the Wales average of 458.7.
B - Improving School Attendance - Making every day count		
We will continue to promote regular school attendance to maximise educational opportunities and child welfare, robustly challenging poor attendance and persistent absenteeism. (Action ID 12515)	✓	The Education Welfare Service continues to support families and pupils who have school attendance below 85%. A summary of its performance for the school year ending 2017 which has been distributed to schools which outlines the level of engagement and support provided by the Education Welfare Service. The service was reviewed in January 2018 and a number of recommendations have been made to further improve the service. These will form specific project plans through 2018/19.
We will consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the % of absence due to authorised family holiday and absence due to illness. (Action ID 12516)	✓	A consultation has been completed and an action plan developed. A range of project streams in line with the action plan will be implemented during 2018/19.
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in primary schools (PAM/007) (2016/17 Result - 94.8% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 95.0% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 94.4% - 16/17 Academic Year. This is off target and the result has declined by 0.4% compared to the previous year. Comparatively we have declined to 21 st from 13 th the previous year. This is a disappointing result and analysis shows a 0.3% increase in absence due to pupil illness and a 0.1% increase in agreed family holiday. Continued improvements will be sought through increased support and challenge of schools. We will particularly consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the two highlighted areas.

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We will reduce the % of authorised absence in primary schools (4.1.2.3) (2016/17 Result - 4.4%- 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 4.2% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 4.8% - 16/17 Academic Year. This is off target and the result has declined by 0.4% compared to the previous year. This is a disappointing result and analysis shows a 0.3% increase in absence due to pupil illness and a 0.1% increase in agreed family holiday. Continued improvements will be sought through increased support and challenge of schools. We will particularly consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the two highlighted areas.
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in secondary schools (PAM/008) (2016/17 Result - 94.5% - 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 94.6% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✗	2017/18 Result - 94.3% - 16/17 Academic Year. This is off target and the result has declined from the previous year. We continue to be above the Welsh average of 94.1% but we have moved from 9 th to 7 th place in Wales. Our expected ranking is 11 th , based on the % of Eligible Free School Meal pupils per Local Authority. There will be robust consultation with Headteachers, Educational Welfare Service and related professionals to develop an action plan to improve school attendance moving forward.
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in secondary schools (4.1.2.2) (2016/17 Result - 4.9%- 15/16 Academic Yr) (2017/18 Target - 4.8% - 16/17 Academic Yr)	✓	2017/18 Result - 4.8% - 16/17 Academic Year. This is on target and showing a slight improvement. The Welsh average is 4.5% therefore focus will be kept on improving attendance, especially for vulnerable groups.
C - Continue to provide the best possible learning environments for our learners		
We will deliver the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme, incorporating all elements of the MEP (Modernising Education Programme). (Action ID 12517)	✓	Carmarthenshire are just over half way through delivering Band A of the 21st Century Schools Programme. Band B of the programme submitted in July 2017 - retrospective democratic approval given by Executive Board. A number of Band B schemes have been accelerated for early delivery.
We will manage school estate affairs including building maintenance, asset verification, governor property initiatives and responsibilities under disability access (DDA) legislation. (Action ID 12518)	✓	Building Maintenance - urgent projects were implemented over the summer school holidays. A similar prioritisation process has commenced for the 2018/19 financial year. Asset Verification - Additions/removals of buildings and use are received and verified on an ad hoc basis. Asset registers and capacity calculations updated as required. Estate management - requests for school development proposals and support for risk management bids considered and approved as required. DDA - Requests received, developed and implemented on an ad hoc basis.
We will undertake statutory procedures associated with federation, school organisation and/or improvement projects. (Action ID 12519)	✓	A number of School Organisation/Federation proposals have been discussed in a workshop by Officers. An initial workshop has taken place with Executive Board and more are planned and followed by discussions with the ECS Scrutiny Committee.
We will invest around £19 million in major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Pen Rhos, Trimsaran, St John Lloyd and Parc Y Tywyn. (Action ID 12520)	✓	All grant claims submitted to WG. Coedcae - construction complete. Pen Rhos (Seaside) - Construction complete occupation to take place April 2018. Trimsaran - construction progressing well Phase 1 complete, phase 2 external works nearing completion. St John Lloyd - construction progressing well, and nearing completion ready for full occupation in September 2018. Parc y Tywyn - construction has progressed well during the year ready for occupation this summer.

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We will develop and submit business cases for MEP school reorganisation and investment projects to the national 21st Century Schools Programme. <i>(Action ID 12521)</i>	✓	During 2017/18: Pontyberem and Llangadog Business Justification Cases (BJC) were submitted and approved by WG. Dewi Sant Outline Business Case (OBC) and Pembrey Strategic Outline Case (SOC) submitted and approved by WG.
We will decommission premises following the closure or amalgamation of schools. <i>(Action ID 12522)</i>	✓	Llanwrda, Llansadwrn former Schools and Pwll and Llwynhendy former Teaching and Learning Centre sites have been decommissioned and transferred to Property Division.
We will ensure that all newly built schools have the latest digital technologies and infrastructures in place to deliver 21st century education. i.e. LiDW 2 Project. <i>(Action ID 12523)</i>	✓	New 5 year Schools package for ICT provision is complete including cost model, ICT Strategy and SLA. Consultation on this package with schools, Education department, political and corporate leadership was positive. The strategy includes aspirational technical blueprints for schools that outline all of the various infrastructure and systems necessary to support 21st century education provision. All new schools builds now align to this blueprint. Discussion with schools MEP and Education DMT has occurred regarding a new cost model for new schools builds and a forward plan of work for resourcing this programme of work. Both the cost model and forward plan of work will help to ensure all new schools builds are adequately resourced and treated as a priority within ICT Services.. We are working closely with Welsh Government, BT and Schools to progress the LiDW 2 project, upgrading superfast broadband infrastructure and increasing internet bandwidth at 42 sub speed schools.
We will continue to improve the condition, suitability and ICT resources within schools. <i>(Action ID 12524)</i>	✓	We have continued to improve the condition, suitability and ICT resources for schools over the year and have rolled out self-service to all schools. The work done on our data centres and network re-design will benefit the schools by adding resilience to core services they use.
We will retain the % of schools graded as "Good" (Category A) or "Satisfactory" (Category B) for school building condition <i>(4.3.1.8)</i> <i>(2016/17 Result - 57% / 2017/18 Target - 57%)</i>	✓	2017/18 Result - 57%. The result is on target and has remained constant. The result is slow moving due to the time scales in improving and the building of new schools and targets 'stepped' as each building project is due to be completed. There were no new schools due to be opened in 2017/18 and the target set to remain constant to the previous year.
D - Continue to support the development of effective leadership and high quality learning provision		
We will continue to support, challenge and improve the quality of leadership and its impact on improving provision and outcomes in collaboration with senior school leaders e.g. provision of Leadership Seminars and Networks. <i>(Action ID 12525)</i>	✓	This year's activities have further progressed the bespoke nature of effective support and actions for this action. The have focused specifically on: 1. Implementation and evaluation of ERW Support Core Visits 1 and 2 within each school setting 2. Commissioning of Senior Leaders to support ERW Challenge Adviser work (as 'Commissioned Challenge Advisers') has continued to contribute effectively to the sharing of 'good leadership practice' across many of our schools and support commissioned colleagues with valuable professional development training. 3. Ongoing opportunities for Middle and Aspiring Leader development through participation in the ERW leadership

Last Year's Commitments	✓ x	Progress Comment
		<p>development programme including NPQH and Leadership Placements;</p> <p>4. Informative and developmental `Leadership Seminars and Briefings for Senior Leaders and Governors` have also ensured a tight focus on specific areas of strategic leadership and improvement in support of improving outcomes within our schools.</p> <p>5. Commissioning of senior leaders in support of WG Grant funded packages e.g. Small and Rural Schools. Senior leaders have worked alongside ERW / CCC Officers in pursuit of improved resources and provision across the standards and inclusion agendas.</p>
We will support Governors in their strategic leadership role through focused training and briefing activities, including the mandatory governor training programme. <i>(Action ID 12526)</i>	✓	The implementation of the new Governor data management system over the past months will result in improved communication with governors. The training programme continues to develop in response to need.
We will further develop systems to support school improvement, including ongoing Professional Development and Performance Management provision for school staff. <i>(Action ID 12527)</i>	✓	The development of Hwb, a new data management system and online training has ensured that support systems for schools and central staff have improved over the past year.
We will continue with the design of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum in partnership with ERW, schools and other partners, in line with national priorities, requirements and guidance. <i>(Action ID 12528)</i>	✓	This action`s progress is now subject to, and mirrors, the Regional/National timetable and effort. We await a regional update in ECS Scrutiny Committee on 23.4.18. Since the new curriculum of Wales will not be fully operative until 2022, a new milestone target will be set for this aspect for the year 2018/19.
We will implement the content of the `WESP` Welsh in Education Strategic Plan in partnership with school leaders for the benefit of all Carmarthenshire learners. <i>(Action ID 12529)</i>	✓	The Carmarthenshire WESP received Ministerial approval in March 2018, without the need for further amendments. Considerable work has occurred in the background to prepare for full implementation - which can now go ahead. The WESP will be officially launched in June 2018. A new milestone target will be set for this ongoing action, as the strategy leads up to 2020.
We will continue to support partnership working with other providers of adult community learning through the Carmarthenshire Adult Community Learning Group. <i>(Action ID 12530)</i>	✓	The Department for Education and Children continues to be the facilitating body for the Adult Community Learning (ACL) partnership in Carmarthenshire. This work is on-going as part of day to day duties of service officers.