

## News release

9 June 2009

### **Improved use of management information systems is needed in local authority youth services**

Today, Estyn, the education and training inspectorate for Wales, publishes its report, *'Management information in local authority youth services'*.

The findings of the report highlight the need for better use of management information systems at all levels.

Evidence shows a lack of common practice in the use of management information systems in local authority youth services across Wales. Because robust management information is not used, planning at all levels is hindered.

Dr Bill Maxwell, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector says, *'It is clear that there are some major areas of improvement for local authorities youth services if they are to meet the aims of the Welsh Assembly Government's flagship policy, Extending Entitlement.'*

*'Better use of effective management information systems, improvement of the collection and analysis of relevant data and more informed evaluation are just some of the steps all local authorities should take to ensure they fulfil their role in improving young people's access to support, services and opportunities for education, training and employment.'*

Estyn's report, in addition to the findings, provides six case studies on local authority youth service and concludes with a series of recommendations for the Welsh Assembly Government, local authority youth services and local partnerships.

The research was carried out by Estyn inspectors who met with a number of principal youth officers as well as local authority officers and youth workers. In addition, findings from youth support services inspection reports and annual performance reports on local authority youth services were analysed as part of the research.

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**Notes to Editors:**

- *Estyn's report 'Best practice in mathematics for pupils aged 3 to 7 years' was commissioned by the Welsh Assembly Government and is available in full at [www.estyn.gov.uk](http://www.estyn.gov.uk)*
- *In September 2001, the Welsh Assembly Government published 'The Learning Country' as a strategic programme for education in Wales up to 2010. 'The Learning Country: Vision into Action' followed six years later. Together, these reports set out how the Welsh Assembly Government intends to ensure that children and young people succeed in education in Wales reducing the number of pupils leaving primary school without a good understanding in mathematics.*
- *Estyn is the education and training inspectorate for Wales. Estyn commissions independent inspectors (registered, team and lay inspectors) and Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training to carry out inspections across the full range of education and training providers.*
- *Estyn inspects nursery schools and settings that are maintained by, or receive funding from, local education authorities (LEAs), primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, independent schools, further education, adult community-based learning, youth support services, local education authorities, teacher education and training, work-based learning, offender learning, careers companies, and the education, guidance and training elements of the Department for Work and Pensions funded training programmes.*