



YSGOL BRO PLENYDD

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Dear Parents,

I'm pleased to inform you that Ysgol Bro Plenydd's Inspection Report for February 2015 is now available on the Estyn website. If you wish for a hard copy could you please inform me and I will arrange that you receive one. The report will also be available on the school's website in due course.

The school is very proud of the report that states that the school's performance is **good** in its present performance and its prospects for improvement and on the three key questions within the report. However I would like to draw your attention to one element within the report that has disappointed us i.e the **adequate** given under the Wellbeing subtitle. I wish to explain further :

When the inspection team were giving their feedback at the end of the inspection they awarded the school a **good** on Wellbeing which consists of attendance among other things. The lay inspector, Ms Glenda Jones was the one responsible for inspecting this department and she was very positive as the Wellbeing report conveys. As you know the school's attendance figures for last year was 95.3% which met the county and national target of 95%. The inspection team also saw that there had been an increase in the school's attendance figures over the last three years and that the school had plenty of evidence to show that it was working on improving attendance.

When the report went back to Estyn to be checked one of the senior directors noted her dissatisfaction with the **good** for Wellbeing on the basis of one thing only : the school's standing within its family of schools on attendance. Every school in Wales is banded according to its proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals. Ysgol Bro Plenydd is in the band of schools which has the lowest of children eligible for free school meals. The attendance figures would have to have been 95.9% [a .6% difference] for the **good** to have been accepted by the director. Or in other words if the school had more pupils eligible for free school meals then 95.3% would have been acceptable.

Mr Kevin Davies, the reporting inspector who led the inspection reported that he and Mr Huw Watkin, a senior inspector had fought on our behalf to convince Estyn but without

success. **This shows how important data is to Estyn at present. Although the school is doing everything it can to improve attendance it is the figures compared to other schools across Wales in the same group that count.**

Ysgol Bro Plenydd therefore has further work to do on improving attendance and as I have noted previously your support as parents is vital in this matter.

Yours Sincerely,