

NOTE OF VISIT: ANNUAL MONITORING/POST S163 MONITORING OF REGISTERED INDEPENDENT SPECIAL SCHOOLS

School	<p>1.Greenfields School 30 Stow Park Avenue Newport NP20 4 FN 01633 259019 e-mail: mausumi@greenfields.uk.com</p> <p>2.The Potteries Abermule SY15 6JH 01686 630176 e-mail: potterieseducation@gmail.com</p>
School Number	679/6016
Purpose of visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • post S163 inspection; and • registration inspection.
Date of visit	3 -5 December 2012
HMI	Rosemary Lait HMI Huw Davies HMI
Head of Education	Ron Troughear (The Potteries: Andy Joynson)
Proprietor	CareTech UK
Staff	<p>Newport: 5 x f/t teachers (3 with QTS) 1 x f/t LSA</p> <p>The Potteries: 1 x f/t teacher (with QTS)</p> <p>Care support staff from children's homes</p>
Number of pupils	<p>1. 8 pupils of school age</p> <p>2. 2 pupils of school age</p>
Provision	<p>Newport: Day provision for children resident in the Greenfields children's homes in South Wales and Bristol.</p> <p>The Potteries: in-house provision for resident children</p>

Type of learning difficulty catered for by the school	Social, emotional and behavioural difficulties
Last Section 10/163 inspection	May 2011
Last CSSIW visit	Children's homes visited in June-July 2012. CSSIW are not required to inspect day provision in the Newport school. The Potteries received CSSIW registration on 13 November 2012 for up to 4 boys and girls aged 8-18 (not more than 4 years age difference).

Main findings

1. Background information

Estyn inspected Greenfields Adolescent Care under S163 in May 2011. At that time, the proprietor provided in-house education for residents in each of the organisation's five children's homes in south-east Wales.

In November 2011, the proprietor made significant changes to the provision of education. Greenfields School opened in a large Edwardian house in Newport. The proprietor provides transport for children from the homes to receive day education there.

In addition, the school has opened a satellite assessment unit in Abermule, Powys. This unit operates separately from the main school in Newport. The provision is quite different and the sites are far apart.

However, both sites have the potential to provide appropriate education.

2. Strengths at Greenfields School, Newport

- The main school has made good progress since the S163 inspection in May 2011. There is a clear action plan that identifies appropriate areas for school improvement.
- Pupils who attend have positive attitudes to their work and make good progress over time. Their work is presented well.
- Teachers have high expectations of pupils and ensure that work is completed to a good standard.
- There is a range of good quality pupils' work displayed around the school. This includes, for example, art work, writing and science experiments and indicates that pupils experience a good variety of activity.
- Pupils' work is marked regularly and teachers' comments provide pupils with challenge to help them improve.
- There is appropriate baseline assessment of pupils on entry to the school. The school maintains careful records and uses the information to produce suitable

individual education and behaviour plans. These plans are shared with pupils who know and understand their targets.

- The main school premises provide an attractive environment for learning.

Strengths at The Potteries

- The premises provide an appropriate learning environment.

2. Emerging issues and/or areas for development

The school has undergone significant change since Estyn's S163 inspection in May 2011. The inspection report of 2011 is not relevant to the current provision of education. Estyn has regarded this visit as a registration inspection of the new provision.

It is unclear if the proprietor asked the National Assembly for Wales to make a material change to operate the newly structured school.

Newport:

- During this inspection, only four pupils attended. The school reported that other pupils were involved in work experience placements. CCSIW report that pupils are positive about the school and that attendance is improving.
- The expectation of attendance of post-16 pupils is unclear. These pupils may be involved in work experience or other activities so do not always attend school. This may impact on the views of younger pupils regarding the importance of attending school.
- Teachers are developing appropriate schemes of work to meet the learning needs of individual pupils. These could be developed further by joint curriculum planning.
- The school is developing appropriate links with a range of local providers and employers to extend the range of learning opportunities and work experience to pupils.
- The premises are well-maintained and provide appropriate accommodation for education.
- The school provides an outreach service in the children's homes to provide education for pupils who are unable or unwilling to attend school.

The Potteries:

- The school has opened in the last two weeks so is at an early stage of development.
- The proprietor plans to use the provision as an assessment centre so pupils are unlikely to be in residence for longer than 6 months.
- The teacher has a good knowledge of the local area from previous employment in similar settings and has well-developed links with other providers.
- In his previous employment, the teacher received Price and Team Teach training in RPI.
- The teacher has received level 2 child protection training delivered by Powys CC.

3. Recommendations

The Newport school should:

- take steps to comply fully with the regulatory requirements for Standards 1, 3 and 5, as listed below;

- make a formal request to NAFW to make material changes to operate the school from the new premises in Newport and Abermule;
- improve pupils' attendance and punctuality, and ensure that late attendance is always recorded in the registers;
- continue to develop the key stage 4 curriculum and increase the range of accredited courses offered;
- increase the teaching time for all pupils to encourage engagement in, and continuity of, learning;
- and
- clarify the roles and responsibilities of staff and develop a system of performance management.

The Potteries:

It is too early to make recommendations as the school has only just opened.

Progress in addressing recommendations from inspection report

The Newport school needs to:

R1 comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003;

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

R2 ensure that all staff receive regular update training on safeguarding and that records of this training are readily available;

This recommendation has been fully addressed.

R3 increase opportunities for pupils to develop their information and communication technology, literacy and numeracy skills across a curriculum which is broad and balanced;

The school provides good opportunities for pupils to develop literacy and numeracy skills. Pupils have appropriate access to computers in the classrooms and the ICT suite. There is evidence of pupils using ICT to develop their work.

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

R4 ensure that assessment processes clearly identify the individual learning needs of all pupils;

The school has made good progress in addressing this recommendation. Staff carry out WRAT4 baseline assessment within first 6 weeks of a pupil's entry. They carry out further assessment after 6 months to ascertain pupils' progress. The school maintains good quality records of pupils' progress and achievements. Teachers can access the information on the school intranet.

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

R5 increase the teaching time for all pupils to encourage engagement in, and continuity of, learning;

Since the inspection in 2011, the school has increased the teaching time. However, the timetable still only offers 16.5 hours per week and falls short of the recommended 25 hours. Most pupils travel from a distance so the school day does not start until 9.30 am and ends at 3.00pm to allow for traffic problems.

Pupils work at home on their ASDAN projects on Friday afternoons and this work is overseen by care staff. Pupils may also be involved in sports activities at the local park during the lunch hours. These activities are not recognised as part of the curriculum provision.

This recommendation has been partly addressed.

R6 ensure that leaders and managers monitor the standards of teaching and learning rigorously;

Staff work closely together as a team and have good systems to share information about pupils on a regular basis. However, staff do not have up-to-date job descriptions and there is no system of performance management to help them identify areas for improvement.

This recommendation has not been addressed.

R7 provide good quality training opportunities to allow staff to develop their skills;

Staff have received training in a range of health and safety matters including child protection and safeguarding. Teaching staff have also received appropriate training in the assessment procedures the school has introduced.

Two members of staff are currently extending their professional qualifications by following courses at the University of Wales Newport. These courses are the PGCE and the MA in SEN that are relevant to the needs of pupils at Greenfields School. The school does not finance the courses but recognises their value and provides support, for example in allowing staff time to attend.

This recommendation has been largely addressed.

R8 ensure that learning resources are well matched to the learning needs of the pupils

The school is beginning to build on its range of resources. It is well-furnished. There are computers in each classroom and an ICT suite. There is a small selection of suitable books. The school kitchen is available during afternoons for cookery sessions. The school has allocated a classroom for design technology but planning and resourcing is at an early stage.

This recommendation has been partly addressed.

Compliance with the standards for registration

Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- ensure classroom resources in Newport are of an adequate quality, quantity and range and are used effectively. [1(3)(f)]

Standard 2: The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- have regard to any National Assembly guidance on health and safety responsibilities and powers of schools by providing:
 - an asbestos survey and register for Newport and Abermule premises;
 - a boiler service certificate for Abermule;
 - confirmation when the base of the oil tank at Abermule has been extended in size to meet the Building Regulations; [3(4)] and
- provide an up-to-date fire risk assessment for Newport. [3(5)]

Standard 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

The school does not fully meet the regulatory requirements for this standard. In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003, the school should:

- ensure that the water supply at Abermule meets the requirements of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 by providing a potability certificate for the cold water supply; [5a] and
- comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 by providing an access strategy and access plans for Newport and Abermule. [5(v)]

Standard 6: The provision of information

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 7: The manner in which complaints are to be handled

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Recommendation regarding registration

When considering this school's registration the National Assembly for Wales may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

- the school does not currently meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003. To comply fully with these requirements, the school should address the issues identified above for each standard.

Estyn considers that each of the two sites should be registered as a separate independent school because:

- the provision at each site differs considerably and does not have enough in common to be considered as one school; and
- the sites are geographically far apart so it would be difficult for the school to develop effective close working links.

Inspectors' judgements on this inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Confidential information

To be removed before publication

Pupils/Students	<p>Newport</p> <p>1 x girl in year 9; 2 x boys in year 9; 2 x boys in year 10; 1 x girl in year 11; 2 x boys in year 11; 2 x girls in year 12; 1 x boy in year 12; 1 x girl in year 13; and 1 x boy in year 13.</p> <p>The Potteries</p> <p>1 x boy year 10 1 x boy year 11</p> <p>All pupils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have social, emotional and behavioural difficulties;• are looked after;• have day placements and are resident in the Greenfields children's homes. <p>Newport</p> <p>Five children have statements of SEN.</p>
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	<p>Pupils in years 12 and 13 attend a range of work experience placements that are overseen by the school.</p> <p>The Potteries</p> <p>1 pupil has a statement of SEN</p>
Fee per pupil (care and education element)	<p>1:1 support £4750 per week</p> <p>2:1 support £5500 per week</p>
Placing/Funding authorities	<p>Newport:</p> <p>Wales</p> <p>Cardiff;</p> <p>Swansea (4)</p> <p>Torfaen</p> <p>Vale of Glamorgan</p> <p>England</p> <p>Leeds (2)</p> <p>Plymouth</p> <p>Merton</p> <p>Windsor</p> <p>Worcester</p> <p>The Potteries:</p> <p>Birmingham</p> <p>Cheltenham</p>

For the attention of:

<p>Gemma Delahay DfES</p> <p>Claire Roberts DfES</p> <p>Jassa Scott AD</p> <p>Caroline Rees HMI</p> <p>LA Link inspectors: Mererid Stone HMI and Jane Taylor HMI</p> <p>Emma Ing and Jane Cooper, Ofsted</p> <p>Sharepoint support</p> <p>School</p>	<p>School Number:</p> <p>679/6016</p>
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