



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru  
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

**A report on**

**Coleg Llanymddyfri  
Queensway  
Llandovery  
Carmarthenshire  
SA20 0EE**

**Date of inspection: March 2021**

**by**

**Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education  
and Training in Wales**

## About Coleg Llanymddyfri

Llandovery College is a co-educational independent boarding and day school that was established in 1848. It is situated in the town of Llandovery in Carmarthenshire. The school caters for pupils aged from four to 18 years. The preparatory school section, for pupils aged from four to 11 years, and the senior school is housed in separate buildings on the same site.

There are currently 224 pupils on roll. These include 33 pupils in the preparatory school. In the senior school, there are 191 pupils, including 82 sixth-form students. There are around 84 pupils who are boarders.

Most pupils come from the wider local area stretching from Llanelli, Ammanford and Lampeter into Carmarthenshire and towards Pembrokeshire.

About 5% of pupils are from minority-ethnic backgrounds. A very few pupils speak English as an additional language. Around 45% of pupils in the preparatory school and around 4% of pupils in the secondary school speak Welsh as a first language.

Around 49% of pupils are on the college's register of pupils with special educational needs. A very few pupils have a statement of special educational needs.

The college is non-academically selective and aims to provide a broad, balanced and bespoke education to pupils from a range of backgrounds, with a range of abilities and learning needs. The preparatory school considers the admission of pupils through a visit to the college and informal assessments. Pupils wishing to enter the senior school are assessed in English, mathematics and non-verbal reasoning, in order to establish the most suitable programme of study.

Lessons are taught through the medium of English. The college teaches Welsh as a second language to all year groups in the preparatory school. In the senior school, Welsh is taught as a first and second language in Year 7 and Year 8 and is offered as an option to pupils in Year 9 to Year 13.

The school was last inspected in March 2013. The current warden (headteacher) was appointed in September 2019.

In March 2021 the Welsh Government requested Estyn and Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to undertake a focused inspection of the college, with a particular focus on standard 3 of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003. Inspectors visited the college on 10 March 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the onsite activity undertaken was limited. However, further evidence was gathered remotely to support judgements.

## Main findings

Overall, the school meets standard 3 of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003.

### Strengths

- The college has a strong culture for safeguarding pupils with pupils' wellbeing at the heart of the college's work.
- The lead designated safeguarding person (DSP) has a secure understanding of safeguarding and provides clear leadership, guidance and advice to other members of staff.
- The named governor with responsibility for safeguarding has a secure understanding of safeguarding practices and policy.
- All staff attend termly internal safeguarding training sessions and in addition the college's designated safeguarding persons attend appropriate external safeguarding training courses.
- The college's safeguarding policies are detailed, reviewed regularly and shared appropriately with staff, governors and other stakeholders.
- The college has an appropriate system for recording and sharing safeguarding concerns with the lead DSP and deputy DSPs. This is understood by staff.
- The college refers safeguarding concerns to outside agencies when appropriate.
- The college undertakes safe recruitment procedures appropriately.
- The college organises regular meetings for staff to share safeguarding and wellbeing concerns.
- Members of staff feel confident to report any safeguarding concerns relating to their colleagues.
- There is a clear code of conduct for the appropriate behaviour of staff when around pupils.
- There are robust procedures for both staff and pupils to record wellbeing concerns, including alleged bullying incidents. Information logged on this online system is shared with relevant members of staff.

### Areas of development

- Ensure that in the future, should the need arise, all staff disciplinary hearings linked to alleged safeguarding concerns are taken to their conclusion and where appropriate, the relevant information is shared with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and other regulatory bodies.
- Strengthen the role of the deputy DSPs to build shared expertise and avoid over reliance on the DSP to lead on all safeguarding matters.
- Strengthen the referral process to outside agencies to ensure that the college follows up referrals when feedback is not received.
- Strengthen governance to ensure more robust challenge from the governing body when developing safeguarding policies and to include regular safeguarding training for all governors.
- Improve the recording of information in all safeguarding minutes from meetings to include a list of attendees.

- Ensure that all Stage 3 complaints are dealt with in line with the college's complaints policy

## **Compliance with the standards for registration**

### **Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 1.

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

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 2.

### **Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety 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 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 4.

### **Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 5.

### **Standard 6: The provision of information**

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 6.

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

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 7.

## **Recommendation regarding continued registration**

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003.

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

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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