



8th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

During May 2026 we welcomed a team of Estyn inspectors to Rhyl High School. The inspection team carried out a full and thorough inspection of the school that included:

- Staff, Pupil, Parent Questionnaires.
- A Governor Meeting.
- A Parents Meeting.
- Observing 59 lessons, 3 form times and 1 assembly.
- Visiting all the alternative provisions.
- Spending time observing pupils' behaviour during break, lunchtimes, on corridors and starting and finishing school.
- Sampling pupils work in their exercise books.
- Holding a number of meetings with both teaching and support staff.
- Holding meetings with a range of pupils from all age groups and years.
- Conducting a site tour with pupils and a separate Health and Safety site tour.
- Scrutinising a range of school documentation and policies.

I am writing to you following the publication of the Estyn inspection report today and to update you on the outcome of the inspection and the actions we will now take as a school. The parent/ carers summary report is attached to this letter. The full report is available on the Estyn website [Estyn](https://www.estyn.gov.uk)

Over recent years and particularly since the pandemic, the school has introduced many systems and processes to support and develop our pupils to being the best they can be. I am pleased to report that the Estyn inspectors recognised our hard work and dedication in many areas of the school noting that "Rhyl High School is a caring and inclusive community where staff place a strong emphasis on supporting wellbeing." Amongst some of the many positives the report has highlighted was the extensive pastoral support available to learners, the specialist provision available for vulnerable learners and those with additional learning needs (ALN), a range of extracurricular opportunities and positive links with the wider school community. The report also recognises that many pupils behave well and engage respectfully in lessons. In many cases teachers establish purposeful working relationships with pupils and use suitable routines, explanations and questioning to support teaching.

As well as acknowledging many strengths, the report also identifies key areas where improvement is required. As a school, we fully accept the findings and recommendations and are committed to ensuring that they lead to meaningful and sustained improvement for our pupils, staff and wider community. The findings of the inspection has resulted in Rhyl High School being placed in the Estyn category of requiring significant improvement. Please note that this is **NOT** special



measures. It is important that we are open and honest about the findings and the work that lies ahead.

Our priority is, and always will be, to provide the highest quality education and support for every young person who attends Rhyl High School. The inspection outcome does not change our ambition for our pupils, nor does it diminish the many successes and achievements of our young people and staff. However, it does provide a clear framework for the improvements that must now take place.

Working closely with Estyn, Denbighshire Local Authority and other external partners, we have already begun developing a detailed post-inspection action plan. This work will focus particularly on:

- Improving the quality and consistency of teaching, learning, assessment, and feedback.
- Strengthening pupils' literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum.
- Further developing leadership at all levels so that leaders evaluate performance rigorously and drive improvements effectively.
- Raising standards, expectations and outcomes for all pupils, particularly with respect to attendance.
- Ensuring that improvements are sustainable and have a measurable impact on pupil progress and achievement.

A team of Estyn inspectors will revisit the school in approximately 12 to 18 months to monitor the progress we have made against our recommendations.

Continued school improvement requires the support of the whole community. I would therefore like to thank parents and carers for their continued support, encouragement, and belief in our school. By working together, we can ensure that Rhyl High School moves forward positively and continues to ensure that we deliver the highest standards of education for all our pupils.

We have produced an information sheet attached with this letter. This summarises how families can work with us and support the school in our improvement journey.

We will keep you updated regularly on our progress and the actions we are taking over the coming months. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the main school office Rhyl.high@denbighshire.gov.uk who will forward them on.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Phil Collins
Headteacher