

Reducing the Bureaucratic Burdens on Schools Project

Draft Report

Mandy Paish - Project Leader

- Are the bureaucratic burdens on schools in Wales going to be reduced?

Overview

- Background
- Findings
- Specifically how bureaucratic burdens will be reduced
- Future sustainability

Background

Commitment

The image features a blue gradient background. A dark blue horizontal band is positioned across the middle, containing the word "Commitment" in a red, serif font. Below this band, a thin, light blue horizontal line extends from the left edge towards the center.

Areas of school work

- Documentation, planning and teaching resources
- Assessment, recording and reporting procedures
- Target setting
- National Assessments at each key stage
- Analysis of data for achievement and attendance
- Special educational needs
- Management of external documentation that schools receive
- Management of meetings and internal systems of communication
- Inspections

Areas of school work

- Work of the governing body
- Funding and financial management
- Responses to national and local initiatives
- Partnerships with industry, parents, the community and other schools
- Health and safety requirements
- Behaviour and attendance issues
- LEA requests for information
- The use of IT/ICT for school management
- Performance management of all staff
- Liaison with health and social services

Key considerations

- Is an area contributing to the key objective of school improvement?
- Is it unduly burdensome because of the way that it is managed?

Findings

Findings

- All areas are necessary for school improvement
- Some bureaucratic systems are not as effective, efficient and manageable as they could be
- The report is a starting point for this necessary future work to reduce burdens

Findings

- Aim to reduce the total impact of bureaucratic burdens rather than eliminating whole areas of activity
- Actions will need to be undertaken by: -
 - Assembly
 - Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies
 - LEAs
 - Variety of educational organisations
 - Schools

Action Plans

- Actions to be taken
- Persons responsible
- Timescale
- Monitoring and evaluation

- Specifically how will bureaucratic burdens be reduced?

Current Focus for Action

- External documentation
- Documents and Planning
- Examinations
- School Inspections
- Assessment, recording and reporting
- Prospectuses and governors' annual reports
- Health and safety

Current Focus for Action

- ICT
- Administrative support in schools
- Special educational needs
- Meetings and written communications
- Secondary school performance information booklets

Future Sustainability

- The project recommendations will lead to a baseline being established that will minimise the burdens of current school improvement work
- New initiatives will need to be monitored to ensure that they do not create unnecessary burdens

Future Sustainability

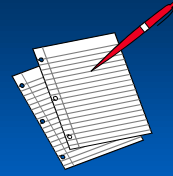
- There will need to be clear responsibilities to ensure the agenda for minimising bureaucratic burdens is maintained
- Progress of action plans will need to be tracked

Future Sustainability

- Bureaucratic burdens on schools will need to be a standing item in policy development in order to ensure that schools in Wales are not unduly burdened by bureaucratic systems

Next Steps

- ELL Committee invited to agree draft report
- Advisory group to endorse draft report and help to plan for and support future sustainability
- Plenary - July 10



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