Y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol

_

Equality and Social Justice Committee

Senedd Cymru

Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN SeneddCydraddoldeb@senedd.cymru senedd.cymru/SeneddCydraddoldeb 0300 200 6565

Welsh Parliament

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN SeneddEquality@senedd.wales senedd.wales/SeneddEquality 0300 200 6565

Jeremy Miles MS Minister for Education

13 December 2022

Dear Jeremy

Inquiry on the experiences of young people with speech, language and communication needs in the criminal justice system

On Monday 5 December we held a spotlight inquiry on the experiences of young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) in the criminal justice system.

We heard how school exclusions are detrimental to a child with SLCN, particularly as it removes them from a potential support network. Please could you confirm, out of the number of children excluded from school in Wales, how many have been identified as having SLCN?

I would be grateful if you could outline any discussions currently taking place to identify alternative options for exclusion, in order to deliver a trauma-informed, pupil centred approach, particularly for those with SLCN where school attendance can offer access to additional support networks. As the First Minister said in the Scrutiny of the FM Committee on 9 December, we need to spread the good practice going on in many schools.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Rathbone MS

Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee

