

## CYPE(6)-20-23 – Paper to note 10

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc  
ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People  
and Education Committee**

Efa Gruffudd Jones  
Welsh Language Commissioner

26 June 2023

### **CYPE Committee’s inquiry: Do disabled children and young people have equal access to education and childcare?**

Dear Efa,

We recently launched a new and wide-ranging inquiry which is looking at disabled children and young people’s access to education and childcare. This inquiry is being framed within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People. We are asking whether childcare providers, schools and local authorities are meeting their duties under the Equality Act 2010. We have kept the scope purposefully broad, covering all aspects of statutory school provision and childcare. It encompasses neurodivergence, physical, sensory and learning disabilities. You can find out more information on our inquiry webpage, including how to provide a consultation response:

<https://business.senedd.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?lId=40923>

We held our first oral evidence sessions with the Children’s Commissioner for Wales and the Equality and Human Rights Commission in May. During this session, we heard that the Children’s Commissioner is due to publish a joint piece of work with you looking at Welsh-medium provision for those with additional learning needs. They agreed to share this work with us when it was available, which they have subsequently done. They also highlighted that there can be an additional barrier for children with additional learning needs who wish to go to Welsh medium education.<sup>1</sup>

As well as drawing your attention to this work, we wanted to ask if there are any particular issues in relation to Welsh medium education or childcare provision for neurodivergent or disabled children and young people that you feel the Committee should be looking at as part of this inquiry.

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<sup>1</sup> Children, Young People and Education Committee, 18 May 2023, Record of Proceedings, paragraph [77].

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If you need any further information about the inquiry or our specific request, please contact the Clerk, Naomi Stocks on 0300 200 6222 or [seneddchildren@senedd.wales](mailto:seneddchildren@senedd.wales)

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant

Jayne Bryant MS  
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.