Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg Minister for Education and Welsh Language

Jayne Bryant MS Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee



14 December 2023

Dear Jayne

In response to the Children, Young People and Education Committee Inquiry in to peer on peer sexual harassment among learners, I committed to provide the Committee with an update in September 2022, and then at 6 month intervals thereafter, on the numbers and proportions of local authorities and schools with relationships and sexuality education (RSE) leads in place.

All regional school improvement services in Wales have an RSE lead in place. RSE leads in the regional school improvement service across Wales provide support to schools and deliver and co-ordinate quality professional learning in their region. The Welsh Government highlighted the critical importance of continuing professional support for all aspects of RSE in the Curriculum for Wales annual report for the academic year 2022/23. Over the next academic year, the Welsh Government will work in collaboration with our partners to ensure practitioners are increasingly able to draw on professional support and resources that are publicly available and shared with other schools and settings across Wales.

Schools have the discretion to organise the leadership of RSE to best meet the needs of their learners. Schools do this in a range of ways: many do have a designated RSE lead, and others lead this RSE through a wellbeing team or through the senior leadership team, particularly in the case of smaller schools. The most recent information received by the Welsh Government indicates that over half of local authorities expect schools to lead this area of the curriculum through designating a specific lead for RSE and the majority of schools in these local authorities have taken this approach and designated a named lead.

Yours sincerely

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg Minister for Education and Welsh Language