

Kirsty Williams AM
Cabinet Secretary for Education
Welsh Government

08 May 2018

Dear Kirsty

Thank you for agreeing to attend Committee on 28 June 2018 for a general scrutiny session. I am writing to set out the areas we would like to cover during the session. We would be grateful to receive a paper in advance providing an update on the latest position and progress in relation to each area.

The Committee would like to focus on three of the ten education priorities you agreed with the First Minister in June 2016 and requests an update on the latest position on each of these. The three priorities relate to areas of pre-16 education, which the Committee has not focused on specifically to date:

- Reducing infant class sizes;
- Review of current policy of surplus places with an emphasis on rural schools and taking account of future growth trends (the Committee wrote to you on 04 May 2018 regarding the Welsh Government's plans to lay a new School Organisation Code);
- Prioritising schools' access to super-fast broadband within the national programme.

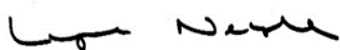


The Committee also requests information on:

- the latest position in respect of **supply teaching**, including arrangements for their procurement and employment as well as provision for their professional development;
- the latest position and progress on the **development of the new Curriculum for Wales**, including the content design at Strand 3. For example, we are interested in how the relatively high-level strategic work so far is evolving into the more detailed formulation of the new curriculum.
- any implications for the Education MEG from the **First Supplementary Budget 2018–19**. (based on last year's timescales, we would expect this information to be available before the session and would be grateful to receive details about the main changes to your budget lines in-year, if possible).

We would be grateful if we could receive your paper by **Tuesday 12 June 2018**.

Yours sincerely



Lynne Neagle AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair

