



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

21 July 2016

Dear ,

ATISN 10541– Information regarding the PISA-Based Tests and PISA 2015

Thank you for your request which I received on 30 June 2016 about PISA-Based tests for schools and PISA 2015. I have considered that information which is held by Welsh Government and responses to your requests have been set out below.

- 1) The final number of secondary schools in Wales that accepted the offer of "PISA-based tests", administered by the NFER and delivered in early 2015 on behalf of the Welsh Government.

89 secondary schools took part in the 2015 PISA-Based Tests.

- 2) The results of the "PISA-based tests" administered by the NFER and delivered in early 2015 on behalf of the Welsh Government. I would like a comprehensive breakdown of the results, including by individual score and school where possible.

The PISA-Based Test for schools is not an assessment of the education system in the same way as the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA), which is an international benchmarking exercise. The PISA-Based Test is an individual school assessment designed to support school improvement. It is therefore a school improvement tool which enables schools to assess their own strengths and weaknesses.

Each school that sat the PISA-Based Test received a detailed report which assessed each area tested and signposted to research on areas which the schools could develop. The school owns that report and the data, and Welsh Government has not seen the reports for individual schools. This was explicitly agreed at the beginning of the process and is a contractual obligation because the tests are not an accountability measure for schools. The reports do not provide an assessment of individual pupils.

- 3) All correspondence between the Welsh Government and OECD - between March 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016 - regarding specifically the international PISA 2015 tests sat by Welsh pupils in November 2015, the results of which are due for publication in December 2016.

There has been no correspondence between the Welsh Government and OECD between March 1 2016 and June 30 2016, regarding PISA 2015 sat by Welsh pupils in November 2015. As you know, the results will be published in early December 2016.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely