5 November 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0041

Thank you for your request which I received on 13 October. You asked for the information as listed at Annex 1.

Our response

In relation to parts 1 and 2 of your request, the data is attached with this response.

In relation to the remainder of your request, we do not hold any information.

Next steps

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 e-mail: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

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

Website: www.ico.org.uk

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

Yours sincerely
Annex 1

1. Annual pupil transfers (2015–2026)

For each academic year from 2015–16 to 2025–26, please provide:

- The number of pupils transferring from Welsh-medium to English-medium schools.
- The number transferring from English-medium to Welsh-medium schools.
- The figures broken down by each of Wales's 22 local authorities.
- The total number of transfers nationally in each direction.

2. Transfers by age and educational stage

Please provide the figures broken down by year group, particularly identifying:

- Pupils transferring during primary education.
- Pupils transferring between Years 6 and 7.
- Pupils transferring during secondary education (Years 7–11).

3. Pupil retention rates

Please provide any existing statistics, reports or analyses showing:

- The proportion of pupils who begin Welsh-medium primary education but subsequently transfer to English-medium education.
- The proportion who continue from Welsh-medium primary into Welsh-medium secondary education.
- Any trends in retention or transfer rates identified between 2015 and 2026.

4. Reasons for transferring

Please provide any information, research or reports held by the Welsh Government examining why pupils transfer from Welsh-medium to English-medium education.

In particular, I would be interested in any recorded findings concerning language difficulties, academic progress, additional learning needs, parental preferences or concerns about educational provision.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

Please confirm whether the Welsh Government routinely monitors pupil transfers between the two sectors as part of its evaluation of Welsh-medium education expansion.

If such monitoring takes place, please provide copies of any existing reports or analyses examining transfer patterns and their implications for Welsh-medium education policy.

6. Existing data and previous disclosures

I understand that, in response to Senedd Written Question 85545, the Welsh Government previously provided figures identifying pupils transferring from Welsh-medium to English-medium schools in South Wales Central during 2019–2022.

This suggests that relevant information can be extracted from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC).

I would therefore appreciate clarification of whether equivalent national figures have already been produced or are held in an accessible format.