

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg
Minister for Education and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-261
Ein cyf/Our ref JMEWL/01010/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN
Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

26 May 2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 10 May, requesting additional information on schools or local authorities experiencing slow internet connectivity speeds.

Education technology (EdTech) is a key priority area, and my officials continue to work closely with all local authorities to ensure all maintained schools have at least superfast broadband connectivity as a component of the wider digital portfolio in Education.

All local authorities have an EdTech lead, whose responsibilities include monitoring school's connectivity to ensure it is not only sufficient but remains future proofed. All schools in Wales benefit from superfast connectivity and there is a simple path to upgrade via the PSBA network as and when required. Through significant Welsh Government investment in the PSBA network, all the broadband connections are 'uncontended', meaning they are exclusively used by each school only.

To demonstrate the continuously evolving picture of connectivity within Wales, a further 12 schools, in conjunction with their local authority, have now upgraded to a 1Gbps service since our last correspondence, resulting in most secondary schools now receiving 1Gbps broadband services.

My officials will continue to monitor the speeds being received by schools, in conjunction with local authority colleagues, to ensure that all maintained schools in Wales have adequate broadband connectivity in accordance with the [connectivity strand](#) of the Education Digital Standards.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

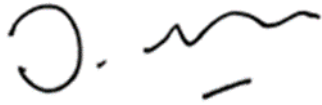
Gohebiaeth.Jeremy.Miles@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jeremy.Miles@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

It is essential that we continue to encourage schools to work with their respective local authority EdTech leads, who can help ensure digital is viewed as a priority and a fundamental aspect of school development plans and support schools to maximise the transformational benefits which digital and technology can have on education.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of wavy lines and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg
Minister for Education and Welsh Language