The School Health Research Network: embedding a data and partnership infrastructure for health improvement planning and evaluation at multiple system levels
Network Aims

1. Provide timely and robust health and wellbeing data for national, regional and local stakeholders

2. Co-produce high quality school-based health improvement research for Wales

3. Build capacity for evidence-informed practice in the school health community and facilitate the translation of research evidence into practice
Network growth in 2015/16

115 Member schools

• 53% of all maintained secondary and ‘through’ schools
• 22 local authorities; 5 with full membership
• Mean size
  SHRN  915 students
  National  868 students
• Mean FSM
  SHRN  15.9%
  National  16.5%

Recruitment 2017/18 – 100% secondary schools with WNHSS
School Health Research Network Surveys

Bi annual - based on the HBSC Wales survey with additional questions to reflect school, practitioner and policy-maker priorities, policy changes and emerging health behaviours
The 2015 SHRN survey

- Approximately pupil 35000 responses from 11 to 16 year olds in 87 schools. The largest dataset of its kind in Wales
  - Environment questions from 100 schools
  - 83 schools with both pupil and environment data
- Compares well to nationally representative 2013/14 HBSC data set
  - Gender, age and family affluence
  - Ethnicity
- Large enough for analyses of minority groups and rare behaviours
- Use of school-level prevalence data as a sampling tool for qualitative research
Pupil Survey
School Survey

School and Regional level data to inform local action/evaluation and generate research ideas

Infrastructure to support natural experiments (Future Generations, Violence and Women, Curriculum Review)

Population level data on trends, health need planning and international comparison

Infrastructure to support new studies (recruitment, sampling, baseline/context data)

Practice level data to support WNHSS
Student Health and Wellbeing Reports
Tailored reports of student health and wellbeing provided to each member school. LA pilot report
Papers published from 2013 survey
Network Engagement and Strategic Partnerships

- Network Events in North, South and West Wales
- Termly Newsletter and Webinars and Lay Summaries
- Research Literacy workshops and workforce development
- Briefings for Directors of Education
- Public Health Wales – integration with the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes (WNHSS)
- Strategic Advisory Board – Health and Education