

Coedcae School
Trostre Road
Llanelli
Carmarthenshire
SA15 1LJ

15/10/2024

Dear Tracy Senchal

Interim visit: September 2024

Thank you for your support with the interim visit to the school. We enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you, your staff and pupils and hear more about the improvement work that the school has carried out since the core inspection. It was pleasing to see the way in which your staff embraced the process, and the openness they showed during discussions.

During our visit, we had the opportunity to:

- Hold discussions with senior leaders about your improvement work, your work to improve pupils' attendance and how you are supporting teachers to improve the feedback they provide to pupils.
- Talk with pupils and hear their feedback about the school.
- Visit lessons in a variety of subjects to see pupils and staff undertaking their work.
- Scrutinise a sample of pupils' work.
- Speak with middle leaders about their work and hear about the challenges they are experiencing and how they are facing these challenges.
- Undertake work scrutiny and lesson observation activities with senior leaders and discuss the main findings from these activities.

Focus of visit

How successful is the school's work to improve attendance?

We found it helpful to discuss your approaches to improving attendance and the challenges you are facing. It was good to see that the school is giving this work a high priority, is trialling different approaches and regularly evaluating the impact of it's work in this area.

We think it would be helpful for the school to consider:

- Whether the school use communication strategies well enough to show parents and pupils the impact of regular attendance on pupils' attainment.

How robustly does the school evaluate teaching / skills provision and how precisely do leaders plan for improvement and use this information to inform professional learning?

Leaders have established a strong culture of self-evaluation in the school, and it was pleasing to see that the practice observed during the core inspection in this area has been maintained. Leaders set high expectations of both staff and pupils and share them effectively with staff. Leaders at all levels understand the strengths and areas that need developing further within their areas of responsibility and plan comprehensively for improvement.

We think it would be helpful for the school to consider:

- How might an increased focus on learning help middle leaders to be even more precise in their evaluations?

What is the quality of feedback provided by staff, and how much impact does it have on pupils' work?

The school shared how their work to improve the quality of feedback is effective and how leaders have utilised a sensible approach where each department has trialled approaches to maximise the impact that feedback has on pupils' learning. Staff work well together to share good practice in this area.

We think it would be helpful for the school to consider:

- Is there consistent support across all subjects to help pupils make progress as a result of responding to written feedback?

Thank you again for all your help to plan and arrange our visit.

The school's latest core inspection report and further information on the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6694050>

Yours sincerely



Catherine Evans
Assistant Director