Estyn



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Owen Jones C.P.

Date of inspection: September 2024

by Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Ysgol Owen Jones is a nurturing and community-focused school where most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN), make effective progress. The staff create a calm, supportive environment that fosters trust and collaboration, enabling pupils to feel safe and valued. This positive ethos encourages nearly all pupils to engage eagerly in their learning, developing both independence and enthusiasm.

The school is inclusive, supporting pupils with ALN successfully through robust identification and monitoring systems. This support extends to families via initiatives like family maths sessions, which aids pupils' learning at home. The well-being of pupils is a notable strength, with staff establishing positive relationships with pupils and addressing barriers to learning through highly effective nurturing support.

The school's purposeful inquiry-based curriculum effectively supports the development of pupils' skills and allows them to contribute their ideas about what and how they learn. However, activities and resources do not always sufficiently challenge pupils, extend their learning or meet the needs of the more able. The school proudly promotes the Welsh language and local heritage, integrating it throughout the curriculum. This supports most pupils to develop effective Welsh speaking skills.

Provision for the teaching of literacy and numeracy skills is effective. Overall, most teachers provide suitable opportunities for pupils to improve their writing skills. However, opportunities for pupils to write creatively and at length are limited.

Most teachers ask an effective range of questions to check pupil understanding and move learning on. They provide effective feedback to pupils supporting them well to identify their next steps in learning.

The headteacher and senior leaders foster a vision for academic and social development and provide diverse learning opportunities beyond the classroom, such as clubs and educational trips. Governors play a worthwhile role and support the headteacher well to promote a positive culture of safeguarding.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made two recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Further develop provision to challenge and extend learning, particularly for the most able pupils
- R2 Improve pupils' ability to write creatively and at length

The school will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the <u>full report</u>.



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