



Report summary for parents and carers on Bryncoch C.I.W. School

Date of inspection: October 2024

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

Summary

Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary School is a welcoming and inclusive school where staff know the pupils well and provide high levels of care and support. Pupils are friendly and kind to each other and they enjoy coming to school. As a result, nearly all pupils attend school regularly, attitudes to learning are positive and behaviour is good. Most pupils, including pupils affected by disadvantage and those with additional learning needs (ALN), make good progress in their learning and well-being during their time at the school.

The school has effective arrangements in place to support pupils with ALN. Staff maintain a close and supportive relationship with parents and outside agencies to meet the needs of pupils successfully. Overall, relationships between parents and the school are positive and productive.

The school curriculum provides worthwhile opportunities for pupils to learn about their local area, Wales and the wider world. Staff make good use of the local church, external providers and educational visits to enrich learning experiences. However, work to ensure that skills, including literacy and numeracy, are developed progressively is at an early stage of development.

In most classes, teachers plan activities that have a clear purpose, promote independence and provide an appropriate level of challenge. However, teachers have a tendency over-direct learning, limiting pupils' independence. Most teachers pose suitable questions to ensure understanding and use feedback to support and extend learning during lessons. However, this feedback is not always specific enough to ensure that pupils know what they need to do to improve their work.

Leaders undertake a range of evaluation activities with members of the governing body, who play a full role in monitoring the impact of initiatives and provision. As a result, the headteacher has gained good understanding of the strengths of the school and the areas in need of improvement, in a short period of time,

Members of the governing body are very supportive of the school and bring a range of experience and professional expertise to the role. They provide a good balance of support and challenge to the headteacher and fulfil their role as a critical friend well. Governors deploy the school budget and grants effectively to secure improvements for all pupils.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Strengthen curriculum planning to ensure that pupils develop their skills progressively over time
- R2 Provide regular opportunities for pupils to develop their independent learning skills
- R3 Ensure that feedback clearly identifies next steps for learning

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 [full report](#).



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