



Report summary for parents and carers on St Athan Primary School

Date of inspection: October 2024

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

Summary

At St Athan Primary School, staff create a nurturing and supportive environment where pupils feel a sense of belonging. The school's senior leaders have a clear vision for an inclusive school with a strong sense of community in which all pupils are happy, engaged and develop a love of learning.

Staff support pupils' moral and social development well. As a result, most pupils work alongside each other in a spirit of collaboration and cooperation well. Leaders have ensured that the extensive space within the school is used appropriately to meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable pupils. For example, sensory spaces like the indoor woodland or the developing lunchtime café area support pupils to be calm and ready for learning.

Leaders and staff have worked well together to develop the school's curriculum. They have carefully considered the skills and experiences that will support pupils to make progress in their learning. However, the quality of teaching across the school is variable and staff do not always use the learning environment purposefully to enhance learning. As a result, a few pupils do not always make the progress they should.

The school's provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is strong. Staff put pupils at the centre of their work, and skilled teaching assistants support pupils' needs effectively, enabling most pupils to make good progress towards their personal targets.

Leaders generally evaluate the school's strengths and areas for improvement well. They generally use this information effectively to develop aspects of the school's work, such as improving pupils' skills in and reading and writing. However, leaders do not always focus improvement carefully enough on important aspects that need improving.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made one recommendation to help the school continue to improve:

R1 Address the inconsistencies in the quality of teaching

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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