



Report summary for parents and carers on Mynydd Cynffig Primary School

Date of inspection: November 2024

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

Summary

Leaders and staff share a strong commitment to supporting the well-being and progress of all pupils effectively. They establish positive relationships with pupils and families and provide a stimulating range of learning experiences that motivate pupils to achieve well. Because of this, nearly all pupils participate enthusiastically in lessons, co-operate readily and behave considerately towards adults and their peers.

Teachers set clear goals for pupils' learning that take account of their prior knowledge and experience. For example, they organise the learning environment for younger pupils to support them to explore independently and to nurture their curiosity beneficially. Staff monitor pupils' progress well and make useful additional provision to extend and support their learning when needed. As a result, most pupils make strong progress in developing their communication, numeracy and digital skills as they move through the school. Overall, however, older pupils have too little opportunity to develop their learning outdoors or to make choices about what and how they learn.

Staff foster pupils' creativity well. They provide a rich variety of activities, including through music, dance and drama, which enable nearly all pupils to feel confident to express themselves imaginatively. The school provides appropriate opportunities for pupils to take on leadership roles. For example, the 'Playground Peacemakers' play a valuable role in helping pupils to feel safe at break times. In general, however, pupils' involvement in decision-making is over-directed by adults. This means that pupils do not take as much responsibility, or have as much influence, as they could.

Leaders give clear and principled direction to the work of the school. They have established the trust of pupils, staff and the wider school community through their firm resolve to promoting fairness and ambition for all. Leaders and staff show a good understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. They take well-considered, timely action to bring about worthwhile improvements. Governors show strong support for the school. However, until very recently, their role in evaluating the work of the school and in holding leaders to account has been limited.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Strengthen the role of the governing body in evaluating the school's performance
- R2 Provide greater opportunity for older pupils to direct their own learning and to contribute purposefully to whole-school improvements
- R3 Improve opportunities for pupils to develop their skills through outdoor 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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