



# Report summary for parents and carers on Birchgrove Primary School

**Date of inspection: February 2024**

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

# Overview

Birchgrove Primary School is a happy and inclusive learning community. Pupils enjoy school and have a positive attitude towards their learning. Pupils understand the importance of good attendance and are punctual in the morning. The behaviour of nearly all pupils is excellent and leaders and other staff ensure a strong culture of care and understanding. Nearly all pupils develop and use their literacy, numeracy and digital skills well and apply these effectively and enthusiastically across a broad range of learning experiences.

Teachers plan a wide range of authentic and stimulating experiences for pupils as part of an engaging curriculum. This includes a wide choice of interesting extra-curricular activities and a variety of educational visits that enrich the curriculum. However, there are limited opportunities for pupils to develop their skills as independent learners and to engage in learning in the outdoors.

Most pupils have a good understanding of how to keep healthy and enjoy walking or cycling to school. Staff provide timely and skilful support for pupils with social and emotional difficulties and meet the needs of pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) well. Pupils take on a range of leadership roles and undertake them diligently. For example, the 'Digidudes' help to develop the digital skills of other pupils.

The headteacher provides strong leadership, and she is well supported by staff and governors. They share a clear vision for the school based on preparing pupils for their future lives and community focused learning. The governing body has a good understanding of the strengths of the school and works effectively with the headteacher, staff, pupils and parents to support ongoing improvement.

# Recommendations

- R1 Improve the provision for outdoor learning
- R2 Develop pupils' independent learning skills

## What happens next

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



# School context

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Name of provider   | Birchgrove Primary School |
| Local authority  | Cardiff Council           |
| Language of the provider   | English                   |
| Type of school   | Primary                   |
| Number of pupils on roll   | 401                       |
| Pupils of statutory school age   | 401                       |
| Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in Primary is 23.7%) | 9.76%                     |
| Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary is 13.2%)               | 4.3%                      |
| Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home   | 2.3%                      |
| Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language  | 16.4%                     |
| Date of headteacher appointment  | 01/09/2012                |
| Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)  | 01/06/2016                |
| Start date of inspection   | 26/02/2024                |

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