Estyn



Report summary for parents and carers on Evenlode C.P. School

Date of inspection: April 2024

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

Overview

Evenlode Primary School is a caring and inclusive environment with positive relationships between pupils and staff. This creates a friendly and supportive atmosphere where pupils feel valued. The school offers strong support for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN), including effective provision for emotional and social well-being. All staff have clear expectations for pupils, and this ensures that they behave well and engage purposefully in lessons. As a result, most pupils make strong progress during their time at school.

Leaders and governors are effective, demonstrating a clear vision and a strong commitment to improving standards. The school reflects continuously on its work and ensures that robust processes are in place to monitor pupil progress. Teachers work well together to create an engaging and balanced curriculum that encourages pupils' curiosity.

Pupils are confident speakers and attentive listeners. From a young age, they eagerly share their ideas and express themselves clearly. As they progress, they collaborate effectively and articulate their thoughts and ideas with growing sophistication. Across the school, many pupils read a variety of texts well, with increasing fluency and confidence. Their writing skills are well developed, with older pupils using language thoughtfully and creatively. The school is working hard to improve its provision for teaching Welsh, but overall, pupils' language skills do not progress quickly enough. Pupils are developing as confident mathematicians and are beginning to apply their skills effectively. However, opportunities to deepen and extend these skills independently across the curriculum are underdeveloped.

The school uses its resources effectively. Classrooms are well equipped and the outdoor learning areas are stimulating and engaging. Staff know their pupils well and use a range of strategies to engage them in their learning. A particular strength is the nursery, and early foundation learning, where staff engage the youngest pupils in thoughtful, guided activities that promote independence and curiosity.

The school develops strong partnerships with parents, actively involving them in school activities and decision-making processes. This collaboration ensures that parents are well informed and contribute to a supportive community that improves the educational experiences for all pupils.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve opportunities for pupils to apply their maths and numeracy skills independently
- R2 Improve pupils' skills in speaking Welsh

What happens next

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

Estyn will invite the school to prepare a case study on its work in relation to its approach in developing a reflective culture across the school community, for dissemination on Estyn's website.



School context

Name of provider	Evenlode C.P. School
Local authority	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	496
Pupils of statutory school age	358
Number in nursery classes	79
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%)	3.1%
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%)	3.1%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	1.4%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	3.6%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/01/2021
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/03/2015
Start date of inspection	29/04/2024

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