



## Report summary for parents and carers on Hengoed Primary School

**Date of inspection: June 2023**

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

# Overview

Pupils enjoy learning and are enthusiastic during lessons and in activities around the school. This is mainly due to the positive working relationships that they have with their teachers and other staff. There is a very caring and inclusive atmosphere at the school and staff ensure that pupils are the integral element of daily school life.

The school environment promotes successful learning opportunities. Learning is promoted well in classrooms and in the outdoors and this provision is equitable across the school. Learning is particularly successful where the teaching is purposeful and consistent, and challenges pupils to perform at their best.

Where teaching is most effective, it helps pupils to make strong progress in developing their literacy, numeracy and digital skills, and they achieve well from their starting points. However, staff do not always allow pupils to use their independent skills often enough.

All staff promote a positive ethos of support and care for pupils in all areas of the school. This encourages pupils to take responsibility for their own well-being and behaviour extremely well. The school helps pupils to build confidence in themselves as individuals, while also developing strong respect for the feelings of others. As a result, pupils support each other, develop resilience and persevere with challenging tasks.

Leaders evaluate the school's work to plan for improvements thoroughly and the strategic leadership of the governing body is satisfactory. The executive headteacher provides strong and effective leadership, with a determination to succeed for the benefit of pupils and the community. The senior leadership team and the staff share his purposeful vision, and they work together well to ensure that the school is successful.

The executive headteacher shares responsibilities effectively among staff and provides strong opportunities for professional learning, such as improving inconsistencies in the quality of teaching. This contributes to a thriving whole-school ethos, where staff and pupils feel valued for their contributions to school life.

# Recommendations

- R1 Ensure that the new leadership practices improve the consistency and effectiveness of teaching across the school
- R2 Provide better opportunities to promote pupils' independent skills
- R3 Improve the strategic leadership of the governing body

## What happens next

The school will draw up an action plan to show how it is going to address the recommendations of the inspection.



## School context

Name of provider	Hengoed Primary School
Local authority	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Not applicable
Number of pupils on roll	176
Pupils of statutory school age	133
Number in nursery classes	21
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 23.0%)	39.6%
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 16.1%)	20.3%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	2.8%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2021
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/10/2014
Start date of inspection	05/06/2023
The executive headteacher is the headteacher of a nearby school.	

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