



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Rhiw Bechan

Date of inspection: January 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Overview

Ysgol Rhiw Bechan is a happy and caring school. The headteacher leads with enthusiasm and compassion and knows the pupils, staff, and families well. There is a strong team ethos within the school ensuring that pupils across both language streams have similar learning experiences. Staff, pupils and parents cooperate successfully to create an ethos of one inclusive school.

Staff have effective working relationship with pupils which nurtures their well-being successfully. This fosters a supportive environment which contributes well to pupils' enjoyment of learning. Pupils are friendly, polite, and happy in school and contribute fully to school life. Teachers work diligently to ensure that topics are engaging and relevant to the pupils. However, at times, teachers across the school over-direct the learning, which inhibits the pupils' ability to develop their skills independently.

Throughout the school, staff create a welcoming learning environment. Leaders have high aspirations and collaborate and communicate effectively with partners to enhance pupils' learning experiences. As a result, many pupils make good progress in developing their literacy, numeracy, and digital skills. However, opportunities to develop and apply pupils' skills in the outdoor area are limited.

The headteacher provides strong leadership. The school's current priorities for improvement are appropriate and leaders work purposefully, alongside the governing body, to secure improvements for the school. Together, they understand most of the school's strengths and areas for development. However, leaders do not distribute all roles and whole school responsibilities robustly enough across the senior leadership team. As a result, not all areas for development are identified or actioned upon effectively enough following monitoring processes.

Recommendations

- R1 Sharpen self-evaluation processes and planning for improvement
- R2 Refine provision to enable pupils to become more independent in their learning
- R3 Improve opportunities for pupils to develop and apply their skills in the outdoor area

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Rhiw Bechan
Local authority	Powys County Council
Language of the provider	Welsh and English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	169
Pupils of statutory school age	122
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 23.7%)	8.5%
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%)	37.7%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	6.6%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/05/2016
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/09/2015
Start date of inspection	22/01/2024

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