



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gynradd Brynsaron

Date of inspection: February 2023

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

Overview

The acting headteacher has a thorough knowledge of the school's procedures, understands the needs of all pupils well and uses this to provide it with a firm direction. She has strong support from the governors, the whole staff, pupils and parents, which ensures that a strong sense of family and teamwork continue to be firm elements of school life.

One of the school's main features is its caring, respectful and familial ethos. All members of staff, whatever their role, feel like a core part of the community and are always willing to listen to pupils' concerns and respond appropriately, where necessary. They respond well to the needs of nearly all pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN).

Nearly all pupils are happy, well behaved and take pride in belonging to this school. Most, including those who have been identified as having ALN, make sound progress in nearly all aspects of their learning. However, a minority of pupils' reading strategies, vocabulary and language patterns are limited. This limits their enjoyment of reading, their ability to gather information from print and their ability to express themselves completely fluently in Welsh.

Teachers provide a broad and interesting curriculum for pupils and consider their views sensibly about what they would like to learn in relation to the themes. This gives them ownership of their work and encourages them to give of their best. However, they do not provide enough opportunities for pupils to apply their digital skills across various areas of the curriculum or ensure that they always understand what they need to do to improve their work.

The school promotes pupils' understanding of their Welsh identity, heritage and culture very well. It takes advantage of rich opportunities to encourage pupils to celebrate their Welshness through a range of purposeful activities that nurture their knowledge, understanding and pride meaningfully and effectively. By building on this, it also gives robust consideration to teaching pupils, not only about their local area and Wales, but also about Brynsaron's place in a wider context.

Recommendations

- R1 Raise the Welsh oracy standards of older pupils to enable them to express themselves completely fluently
- R2 Strengthen strategies to enable pupils to better understand what they need to do to improve their work
- R3 Develop pupils' independent reading skills
- R4 Increase appropriate opportunities for pupils to apply their digital skills across various areas of the curriculum

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Gynradd Brynsaron
Local authority	Carmarthenshire County Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	None
Number of pupils on roll	48
Pupils of statutory school age	34
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	0
Percentage of statutory school age 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 the primary sector is 23.0%)	8.3%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%)	32.5%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	44%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	07/11/2022
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	11/02/2014
Start date of inspection	06/02/2023
One of the school's experienced teachers is currently the acting headteacher until the new headteacher takes up the post in a few weeks.	

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