



## Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Penrhyn Dewi

**Date of inspection: October 2022**

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

# Overview

Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Penrhyn Dewi VA has a caring and supporting ethos and a clear focus on the personal development and well-being of its pupils and staff. This ethos is underpinned by strong Christian values. The school provides very strong and well-considered support for pupils' well-being, physical, cultural and moral needs as well as their learning needs. As a result, most pupils are happy and enthusiastic about coming to school. They feel safe and know who to turn to with any concerns.

Leaders ensure that all pupils are included in its activities. Pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds are able to participate fully in all aspects of school life by way of sensitive and discrete support. Most pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) play a full part in the school and are well supported to ensure that they can take on leadership roles and responsibilities.

There are very good working relationships between staff and pupils. In the primary phase, the quality of teaching is consistently high, but this is more variable in the secondary phase. Most pupils in nursery and reception make strong progress from their starting points. Many pupils across the school make suitable progress while the majority of pupils have a sufficiently good understanding of relevant prior learning and can apply this well to new contexts. While many pupils display appropriate standards of literacy, numeracy and digital skills, the planning for progression of pupils' skills across the school is not co-ordinated well enough. In addition, as pupils progress through the school there is little opportunity for them to practise and develop their Welsh language skills outside the Welsh lessons.

Staff make excellent use of the outdoor spaces, the surrounding local area and community to develop engaging real-life learning experiences. Pupils benefit fully from the wide range of experiences offered in a unique location.

The headteacher and new leadership team are conscientious in their approach to leading the school. The headteacher is passionate in her desire to provide pupils with the best education. She supports the well-being of staff and pupils well.

Leaders have established suitable processes to evaluate the school's work and plan for improvement appropriately. However, leaders do not always identify areas for improvement precisely or evaluate teaching by its impact on pupil outcomes well enough. A few health and safety issues were identified during the inspection.

# Recommendations

- R1 Improve co-ordination of planning for progress in pupils' skills including development of pupils' Welsh speaking, reading and writing skills across the school**
- R2 Improve the quality of teaching, to match the best practice seen in the school**
- R3 Strengthen quality assurance processes to consider the impact of the school's work on pupils' standards and sharpen improvement planning**
- R4 Address the health and safety issues identified during the inspection**

## What happens next

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

Estyn will invite the school to prepare a case study on its work in relation to the school's use of the wider outdoor environment and community (Cynefin) to enhance pupils' learning experience, for dissemination on Estyn's website.



## School context

Name of provider	Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Penrhyn Dewi VA
Local authority	Pembrokeshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	All Age
Religious character	Church in Wales
Number of pupils on roll	613
Pupils of statutory school age	555
Number in nursery classes	38
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 All Age schools is 20.4%)	10.7%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in All Age schools is 22.3%)	24.9%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	7%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2022
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	
Start date of inspection	24/10/2022
<p>The school is a lead school for initial teacher education.</p> <p>This is the school's first inspection.</p>	

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