



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Y Dderi

Date of inspection: March 2023

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

Overview

Ysgol Y Dderi is a happy, caring, and homely community. The enthusiastic headteacher and dedicated staff are very effective in creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for pupils.

The effect of the robust leadership can be seen across the school. All staff have a close and warm relationship with pupils. They treat pupils with kindness and respect and provide stimulating and exciting experiences that engage the interest of nearly all pupils. They work together exceptionally well to support pupils' well-being, social and emotional needs and plan the next steps in their learning. The school's curriculum provides a wide range of stimulating activities across all areas of learning and experience. Across the school, the positive ethos within the classrooms encourages effective and purposeful learning communities. Although teachers use a suitable range of teaching methods in their classes, provision does not support pupils to make increasingly independent choices about their learning. Teachers also do not always provide enough incisive feedback for pupils to reflect on their work and make improvements.

Most pupils make good progress across the school, including those with additional learning needs. Most pupils develop sound literacy and numeracy skills and use technology confidently to support their learning. During their time at the school, most pupils make strong progress from their starting points. A strong feature is their use of the Welsh language, with most using their skills confidently in different contexts. Most build progressively on their writing skills by using an increasing range of rich vocabulary in their work and achieve good standards across the school.

The school has responded creatively and innovatively to the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales. Outdoor learning provides rich opportunities for pupils across the school to apply their skills practically and creatively. Pupils are extremely enthusiastic and persevere exceptionally well during these activities. The school curriculum has been established firmly in its rural locality, just a stone's throw from Lampeter. Pupils learn about the area's heroes, history, legends, and culture and this enriches their learning exceptionally well.

Recommendations

- R1 Strengthen opportunities for pupils to make independent choices about how they learn
- R2 Strengthen teachers' feedback and opportunities for pupils to reflect on their work so that they know what to do to improve

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, to be disseminated on Estyn's website, on its work in relation to the effectiveness of the school's use of natural resources, which enhances learning and pupils' values to be principled, ethically, informed citizens.



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Y Dderi
Local authority	Ceredigion County Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	
Number of pupils on roll	116
Pupils of statutory school age	93
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	15
Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average <i>(The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%)</i>	11.4%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) <i>(The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%)</i>	21.5%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	29.0%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2010
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	18/05/2014
Start date of inspection	13/03/2023

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