



# **Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael**

**Date of inspection: October 2023**

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

# Overview

Leaders have a clear and robust vision for the school, which is based on develop pupils' well-being and Welsh language skills. They share this vision successfully with everyone in the school community. Other leaders support the headteacher effectively and there is a strong sense of working together as a team.

The headteacher has a sound understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. This has recently led to the use of effective methods to raise the standards of reading of nearly all pupils across the school. The headteacher is supported by governors who contribute appropriately to the school's vision and work. However, the governing body does not undertake its role effectively enough as part of the school's self-evaluation processes. As a result, it does not have a sound enough understanding of the most recent development.

Teachers plan a curriculum that provides a range of purposeful experiences for pupils across all areas of learning and experience. The pupil's voice is an important part of the process of planning activities and, as a result, most pupils apply themselves enthusiastically to their learning. There is a positive environment in the classrooms and they are hard-working learning communities. On the whole, teachers use a suitable range of effective teaching techniques. However, in a minority of lessons, teachers have a tendency to over-direct learning. This limits pupils' ability to make choices about how they present their work and the resources they would like to use.

One of the school's strongest features is the provision that is provided for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN). Staff identify these pupils quickly and provide them with purposeful support to enable them to make sound progress in their skills over time.

Most pupils enjoy their time at the school, which is friendly, caring and supportive. They behave well and treat others with respect and courtesy. Most make sound progress in developing their skills across the areas of learning and experience. One notable strength is the way in which staff promote the Welsh language and Welsh culture in the school's life and work. As a result, nearly all pupils' Welsh language skills and their awareness of Welsh culture and traditions are developing soundly.

# Recommendations

- R1 Extend purposeful opportunities for pupils to make decisions about their learning with increasing independence
- R2 Ensure that members of the governing body participate fully in self-evaluation processes to identify all strengths and areas for improvement

## What happens next

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



# School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael
Local authority	City of Newport Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	194
Pupils of statutory school age	150
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	24
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>	21.2%
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>	10.7%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	9.0%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2022
Start date of inspection	23/10/2023

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Publication date: 27/12/2023

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