



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant

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 Gymraeg Dewi Sant is a successful learning community that celebrates Welshness, courtesy and respect well and provides valuable experiences for pupils. The headteacher, with the effective support of the deputy headteacher, provides clear leadership that contributes to a well-rounded education for pupils. Staff are committed to providing a high quality of care and well-being for pupils across the school in a homely and supportive learning environment. This has a strong influence on pupils' attitudes towards each other and adults. Pupils' pride in their local area and Wales is an obvious strength.

Most pupils develop knowledge, understanding and skills that are appropriate for their age and stage of development successfully. They make sound progress in their communication skills and, by the end of their time at the school, they speak both Welsh and English confidently. Most of the oldest pupils read books intelligently in both languages and with increasing fluency. Provision to support the learning skills of pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is good. As a result, most make consistent progress over time against their targets and previous achievements.

Where teaching is most effective, pupils make strong progress. In these examples, they apply their skills in activities that provide a challenge to support them to make sound progress in independent learning activities. Where teaching is not as good, there are very few purposeful opportunities for pupils to undertake their learning independently which, in turn, slows their progress.

Self-evaluation arrangements and planning for improvement are thorough. Members of the governing body support the headteacher and staff effectively. They have a sound awareness of the school's strengths and priorities for improvement and provide an appropriate balance of support and challenge.

Maintaining a proactive relationship with all families is a priority for the headteacher and staff. As a result, the lively and effective culture of co-operation contributes significantly to the school's welcoming and inclusive ethos.

Recommendations

- R1 Ensure an appropriate challenge to support pupils to make progress in their skills in independent learning activities
- R2 Disseminate the strongest teaching practices across the school

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 Dewi Sant
Local authority	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	223
Pupils of statutory school age	177
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	29
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 23.7%)</i>	8%
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 13.2%)</i>	15%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	15%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	April 2020
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	January 2016
Start date of inspection	29/01/2024

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