



Report summary for parents and carers on Saltney Ferry CP School

Date of inspection: September 2022

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

Overview

Saltney Ferry Primary School is a caring and supportive learning environment where pupils develop positive attitudes and an effective understanding of important characteristics for lifelong learning, such as independence and perseverance. All adults at the school care for pupils considerably and thoughtfully. They place a high value of developing pupils' well-being and treat all with respect.

Nearly all pupils make a highly positive start at the school and begin to develop knowledge and skills quickly. However, their progress through the school is inconsistent. While teachers provide pupils with engaging learning experiences, they do not always build well enough on their knowledge and understanding. As a result, pupils do not develop well in some important areas of learning, such as their reading, writing and digital skills.

Staff plan and deliver a broad range of opportunities for pupils to help them learn about and empathise with the needs of others, and to understand diverse viewpoints on important worldwide issues, such as global warming. They provide a useful range of targeted support for pupils with identified additional needs. However, at present leaders do not evaluate the effect this provision well enough.

The school has a new headteacher, who has quickly developed a constructive relationship with staff and with pupils. He sets a positive example and has begun to set in place the foundation for needed improvements. However, at present the school does not evaluate itself nor plan for improvement robustly enough. As a result, it does not always address shortcomings in teaching and in learning effectively.



Recommendations

R1 Improve pupils' reading and writing skills

R2 Improve pupils' Welsh language and their digital skills

R3 Ensure that teachers maintain high expectations, and challenge all pupils to achieve consistently

R4 Implement effective procedures to evaluate the work of the school and address identified areas for improvement robustly

R5 Ensure that planned learning experiences build on pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding systematically

What happens next

In accordance with the Education Act 2005, HMCI is of the opinion that this school is in need of significant improvement. The school will draw up an action plan to show how it is going to address the recommendations. Estyn will monitor the school's progress about 12 months after the publication of this report.



School context

Name of provider	Saltney Ferry C.P. School
Local authority	Flintshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	134
Pupils of statutory school age	91
Number in nursery classes	26
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 the Primary sector is 21.3%)	38.3%
Percentage of 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 22.2%)	25.3%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	5.5%
Date of headteacher appointment	05/09/2022
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	20/01/2014
Start date of inspection	26/09/2022

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