



## Report summary for parents and carers on Awel Y Môr Primary

**Date of inspection: June 2024**

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

# Overview

The headteacher at Awel Y Mor provides strong, considerate leadership and knows the school well. He is ably supported by dedicated staff, who together form an effective team. The school, including the Pupil Inclusion Centre (PIC), is an inclusive, welcoming, and happy learning community, which promotes well-being effectively.

The headteacher works diligently with staff and governors to plan school improvement. However, monitoring and evaluation processes do not always focus well enough on the most important areas for improvement such as the quality of teaching.

Leaders and staff know pupils well and use this information to ensure that all pupils are well cared for. Pupils are secure in their relationships with staff and, as a result, their behaviour is good. Pupils and their families have a strong sense of pride in their school and nearly all pupils feel safe and enjoy coming to school. Leaders and staff keep in close contact with the wider school community and build positive relationships with parents.

The school's curriculum takes account of pupils' interests. Staff offer pupils a variety of learning experiences, which help keep pupils engaged in their learning. As a result, most pupils including those with additional learning needs (ALN) and those in the PIC, engage well with their learning, make strong progress and achieve well. Teachers support pupils to build on their learning suitably. They ask appropriate questions in class to check pupils' understanding and to move learning forward. However, teachers sometimes over-direct learning and this hinders pupils' independence, including knowing how to improve their own work. Teachers plan purposeful opportunities to develop literacy, numeracy, and digital skills. However, pupils' Welsh language skills are less well developed.

Provision for outdoor learning experiences is effective and focuses on improving pupils' skills through a range of stimulating learning activities.

# Recommendations

- R1 Strengthen leadership and focus self-evaluation, monitoring and improvement planning on the areas most in need of improvement
- R2 Address the inconsistencies in teaching
- R3 Strengthen the provision for pupils to develop their Welsh language skills

## What happens next

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



# School context

Name of provider	Awel Y Môr Primary
Local authority	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	368
Pupils of statutory school age	323
Number in nursery classes	45
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 Primary is 23.7%)	61.4%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary is 13.2%)	17%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	3.3%
Date of headteacher appointment	04/09/2017
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	20/06/2016
Start date of inspection	01/07/2024

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