



# Report summary for parents and carers on Stepaside C.P. School

**Date of inspection: June 2024**

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

# Overview

Stepaside C.P. school is a happy place where pupils feel safe and are eager to learn. Leaders focus on providing a welcoming, calm and purposeful learning environment and this contributes to the school's nurturing ethos. Staff make good use of the extensive outdoor areas to enhance the curriculum and to provide opportunities for pupils to keep fit and healthy.

Most pupils make good progress in their learning, although those who do not attend regularly do not always make the progress of which they are capable. Over the past few years, teachers have worked diligently to develop a suitable curriculum in line with the requirements of Curriculum for Wales. This work has been effective, and the curriculum is broad and balanced and takes good account of the school's locality. The work to ensure that there is suitable progression across all areas of learning is at an early stage of development.

Teachers and support staff develop positive working relationships with pupils. They extend pupils' learning through effective questioning and provide good quality feedback to pupils as they work. Systems for pupils to assess their work are developing appropriately. When pupils work independently, the level of challenge is not always matched well enough to their ability or stage of development.

Pupils have good opportunities to take on lead roles and to influence the life and work of the school. They take these roles seriously and are proud of their achievements.

The headteacher has a clear vision for the school and shares this effectively with staff, pupils and parents. He has high expectations of staff and pupils and has implemented a range of changes to improve teaching and learning effectively. Governors provide a good level of support and challenge to the school and are actively involved in monitoring activities and bringing about improvements.

# Recommendations

- R1 Develop a shared understanding of progression to ensure that pupils make progress across all areas of the curriculum
- R2 Ensure that independent learning experiences provide sufficient challenge for all pupils and support them to develop suitably as independent learners

## What happens next

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



# School context

Name of provider	Stepaside C.P. School
Local authority	Pembrokeshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Not applicable
Number of pupils on roll	116
Pupils of statutory school age	91
Number in nursery classes	11
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%)	23.0%
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%)	4.0%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	10.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2022
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	19/04/2016
Start date of inspection	24/06/2024
Around 30% of pupils come from the local Gypsy Traveller community	

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Publication date: 27/08/2024

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