

Ysgol Bro Idris
Ffordd Arran
Dolgellau
Gwynedd
LL40 1HY

01/10/2024

Dear Mrs Jano Owen,

Interim Visit: September 2024

Thank you for your support in organising our interim visit to the school. We enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you, your staff and pupils and hear more about the improvement work the school has undertaken since the core inspection.

During our visit, we were given an opportunity to:

- Talk to senior leaders about your improvement work and how you support teachers.
- Talk to pupils in lessons and hear their feedback about the school.
- Visit mathematics, English, geography, science, Welsh, humanities and technology lessons to see pupils and staff undertaking their work.
- Conduct learning walks at all primary sites.
- Conduct joint observations and discuss what was seen.
- Undertake scrutiny activities on a sample of books with a senior leader.
- Talk to literacy, numeracy and digital competence teams about the school's provision to develop pupils' skills.

Focus of the visit

Develop pupils' skills across the school through co-ordinated planning

It is clear that staff have a clear vision to develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital competence skills. There is purposeful joint planning between staff at the different sites. Enthusiastic teams of teachers drive developments forward and share

resources with all staff. It appears that plans are beginning to have a positive effect on pupils' learning experiences and their ability to make progress in skills.

We believe it would be useful for the school to consider:

- How to ensure that all staff plan rich opportunities at an appropriate level to develop the skills of pupils of all abilities across the school.

Improve leadership in order to strengthen self-evaluation and improvement planning processes

It was useful for us to discuss your self-evaluation and improvement planning arrangements. It appears that there are processes and systems in place to ensure that relevant activities are conducted in line with an agreed calendar. These are carried out by leaders at all levels. They focus appropriately on the effect of teaching on pupils' standards. There is a clear link between self-evaluation work and the school's priorities. The school was seen to have introduced urgent improvement plans to respond to specific issues that have been identified.

We believe it would be useful for the school to consider:

- How precise evaluations are in considering pupils' skills. Is the detail there to identify exactly which skills are in need of attention?
- How detailed is planning for improvement to hold leaders to account for their action and its effect on standards
- How to be more proactive considering the information gathered through evaluation activity

We wish you well with your future developments. Thank you once again for all of your help in planning and organising our visit.

The school's most recent core inspection report and further information about the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6615500>

Yours sincerely,



Catherine Evans
Assistant Director