Estyn



Report summary for parents and carers on Gors Community Primary School

Date of inspection: September 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Many pupils start school with skills below the expected level, especially in language, communication, and social skills. Most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN), make strong progress over time. Leaders and staff at the school are committed to improving pupil well-being and raising standards. There is a growing sense of teamwork, with a shared focus on creating a supportive and inclusive environment for all pupils.

Pupils generally make good progress in developing their literacy skills. They develop sound writing skills and older pupils produce well-structured and engaging writing in their work across the curriculum. The school is beginning to establish a more consistent approach to the teaching of reading. However, a minority of pupils do not read well enough, or with suitable fluency and understanding.

Pupils develop their mathematical knowledge and understanding well. By Year 6, they confidently apply their skills in real-life situations. The school offers good opportunities for creative, physical, and digital development, with pupils engaging in coding projects and multimedia work. The school is working well to strengthen Welsh language provision across all year groups, but older pupils lack confidence in speaking Welsh.

Pupils' well-being is a strength of the school, and staff provide a nurturing environment that supports pupils' personal and social development. Behaviour is generally good, but there are some instances of low-level disruption in lessons, which staff do not always manage effectively. Additionally, teaching across the school does not always provide enough challenge to ensure that all pupils make appropriate progress in learning.

Leaders and governors set useful targets for improvement. In a few instances, leaders do not focus rigorously enough on the quality of teaching. However, overall, they work effectively with staff to improve leadership at all levels, which is impacting positively on the direction of the school. Leaders have built strong relationships with parents, providing regular coffee mornings and workshops. The school is further strengthening its communication with parents to ensure all feel informed and involved in school life.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made three recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Sharpen evaluation processes to focus more closely on improving the quality of consistency of effective teaching across the school to ensure that all pupils are sufficiently challenged and are actively engaged in their learning
- R2 Improve approaches to teaching reading across the school to ensure that all pupils develop their skills suitably
- R3 Continue to improve attendance

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

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the <u>full report</u>.



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