



Report summary for parents and carers on St Cadoc's Primary School

Date of inspection: October 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

St Cadoc's Primary School is a welcoming, happy school where leaders and staff develop positive relationships with pupils and foster a strong sense of community. This ensures that most pupils feel safe, enjoy their learning and behave exceptionally well.

The headteacher provides strong and assured leadership. She has developed a clear vision for the school based on a firm moral purpose and positive values. Leaders focus well on developing effective teaching and have high expectations of pupils. As a result, teaching is effective across the school.

In most lessons, teachers share learning intentions well and provide clear instructions for pupils. Most teachers use questioning techniques successfully to evaluate pupils' understanding or move learning forward. They are encouraging to pupils and support them to become thoughtful, reflective learners. As a result, most pupils, including those eligible for free school meals, those from low income households and those with additional learning needs (ALN), make good progress in developing their knowledge and skills.

Relationships between pupils are a particular strength of the school. Staff value the importance of this and provide regular opportunities for older pupils to work with pupils lower down the school. For example, they help them with reading and drawing skills or encourage them to play games in the playground.

The school focuses well on the development of pupils' literacy skills and overall pupils make effective progress in reading and writing. They make particularly good progress in developing their oracy skills. Leaders have identified a need to improve the rate of progress younger pupils make in literacy. In response, they have adapted approaches to teaching and purchased new resources.

Overall, the curriculum is broad and balanced and enables most pupils to make strong progress in most areas. For example, they develop their numeracy, Welsh language and digital skills well. However, opportunities for pupils to develop their creative thinking both within the expressive arts and other areas of the curriculum are underdeveloped.

A newly refurbished outdoor play area supports the physical development of the youngest pupils successfully. However, from Nursery to Year 2, areas of continuous provision to support child-initiated learning, both indoors and out, are at an early stage of development.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Ensure that the curriculum supports the effective development of pupils' creativity, including opportunities to be innovative, develop their own ideas and express themselves through the arts
- R2 Further improve provision for foundation learning, including the teaching of early literacy skills, to ensure that pupils make effective progress

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 [full report](#).



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