

Report summary for parents and carers on Blessed William Davies School Date of inspection: June 2025

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Blessed William Davies Primary School provides a caring and inclusive environment that celebrates the diverse nature of the school community well. Nearly all pupils develop a strong sense of belonging, they enjoy school and feel safe.

Leaders have a good understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. The professional development of staff has resulted in improvements in key areas of the school's work, for example in developing pupils' Welsh language skills. The school's engaging curriculum, firmly centred around strong values and beliefs, provides many beneficial opportunities for pupils to develop their confidence and creativity. The authentic and inclusive curriculum ensures that all pupils are represented.

Teachers and teaching assistants provide highly effective support for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) and those new to English. As a result, these pupils make strong progress from their starting points. By the time they leave school, most pupils make good progress with their literacy and numeracy skills. They develop fluency in reading and write maturely for a range of purposes. Teachers plan effectively to ensure the progressive development of pupils' understanding of mathematical concepts. Most pupils develop strong digital skills and use a range of technology to support their learning across the curriculum.

A majority of lessons have good pace and teachers use suitable questioning to deepen and extend learning. However, in a minority of lessons teachers do not challenge pupils well enough to maximise their learning and activities are often over directed by staff, which limits the opportunities to develop their independent learning skills. Most pupils have good attitudes to learning and engage well in their lessons. Pupils have regular opportunities to review their learning, and most pupils know how well they are doing and what their next steps are.

Governors provide strong support and hold the school to account effectively. Senior leaders and governors monitor rates of attendance well. However, while most pupils attend regularly, persistent absence remains an issue for a minority of pupils. The school has developed strong relationships with parents and engages well with the local community.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Provide more opportunities for pupils to make independent choices in their learning
- R2 Ensure that activities and focused tasks are suitably challenging and enable all pupils to make the best progress they can
- R3 Continue to improve attendance

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

Full Report

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

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