

Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pontybrenin

Date of inspection: June 2025

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Ysgol Gymraeg Pontybrenin is an inclusive community that places a strong emphasis on pupils' well-being and progress. The headteacher has a clear and sensible vision which ensures that pupils have engaging learning experiences in interesting and caring learning environments. This contributes purposefully to positive behaviour and a willingness to learn among pupils. This purposeful vision, which includes beneficial contributions from staff and the wider community, supports the school's improvement practices effectively.

Teachers and assistants work well together to ensure broad and balanced curricular provision. They are skilful language models and concentrate effectively on promoting pupils' care and learning. Staff work diligently with parents and external agencies and identify pupils' needs well, including those with additional learning needs (ALN).

On the whole, the pace of teaching sessions matches pupils' learning well and teachers' feedback to pupils to improve their work is suitable. However, the quality of teachers' teaching and the challenge they pose to pupils is not consistent across the school. At times, staff tend to over-direct learning, which limits pupils' ability to make independent choices about their learning.

Teachers provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to develop their skills across the areas of learning. This leads to good progress in pupils' literacy, numeracy and digital skills considering their starting points. However, pupils are not given enough challenging opportunities to apply their skills at appropriate learning levels across the curriculum.

Staff and pupils forge close and loyal working relationships. Staff encourage pupils to work together and share ideas and feelings successfully, which develops their respect for other people intelligently. Staff ensure that pupils develop beneficial personal, social and creative skills, which create a good awareness of their cynefin, or local area, and a strong cultural appreciation.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Ensure consistency in effective teaching practices and provide beneficial feedback to challenge the learning of all pupils
- R2 Increase opportunities for pupils to apply their skills at appropriate learning levels across the curriculum

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 [full report](#)

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