

Coed-Y-Brain Primary School
School Street
Llanbradach
CF83 3LD

17/10/2025

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: October 2025

A team of inspectors visited Coed-Y-Brain Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from its previous core inspection. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with pupils and staff, consider documentation, and look at samples of pupils' work. Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

Focus of visit

Improve pupils' digital skills

- Leaders have established a clear vision for developing pupils' digital skills and have strengthened staff subject knowledge through purposeful professional learning.
- The whole-school focus on the 'tool of the term', supported by shared teaching resources and bespoke guidance from the digital lead, has increased teachers' confidence in planning for the development of pupils' skills.
- Leaders monitor the impact of teaching on digital learning effectively, enabling them to identify strengths and areas for further improvement.
- Pupils use a range of digital tools to enhance their learning effectively. Across the school, pupils use spreadsheets, presentation software and video editing to record and present their work creatively.
- Younger pupils create imaginative pieces of digital art, while older pupils build on these early skills to produce more detailed self-portraits and digital landscapes that represent local features.

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd,
CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446
ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru
www.estyn.llyw.cymru

Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth.

Estyn, Anchor Court, Keen Road,
Cardiff, CF24 5JW Telephone: 02920
446446 enquiries@estyn.gov.wales
www.estyn.gov.wales

Estyn welcomes correspondence in both English and Welsh. Correspondence received in either language will be given equal priority.

- Older pupils are beginning to engage in increasingly sophisticated tasks using coding software and programmable devices to control models and structures that they create.
- Leaders and staff are beginning to develop engaging opportunities for pupils to learn about technological advances including computer-aided design and 3D printing.
- Staff work well together to plan a coherent approach to digital learning across the school. Leaders recognise the need to build on this strong collaborative practice to ensure that learning experiences enable pupils to revisit and deepen their learning over time.

Develop the outdoor provision for pupils under seven years old

- Leaders, staff and community partners have collaborated purposefully to ensure that the school's outdoor areas provide a safe and stimulating environment that supports pupils' learning and well-being effectively.
- Teachers generally plan outdoor learning that builds on pupils' previous knowledge and experience. They use suitable resources to enable pupils to try out their ideas and to solve problems independently.
- Teachers make purposeful use of the extensive woodland area to provide outdoor experiences that engage most pupils well. They provide valuable opportunities for pupils to explore, to use their senses and to interact creatively with the natural environment.
- Overall, these experiences motivate most pupils' interest and support them to develop their social, physical and communication skills effectively. However, teachers do not always strike a successful balance between enabling pupils to be curious and directing their learning.
- Many teachers and teaching assistants use questioning to assess pupils' understanding and to model and develop their spoken language well. This enhances pupils' knowledge and supports them to use an increasing range of vocabulary correctly.
- Teachers have begun to strengthen their understanding of effective outdoor learning through relevant training and by visiting other schools. They have responded to guidance provided by advisory staff by making worthwhile improvements to the range of experiences the outdoor environment enables.

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

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6762071>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director