

**Report summary for parents  
and carers on Craigfelen  
Primary School**  
Date of inspection: October 2025

# Summary

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Leaders demonstrate a strong commitment to creating an inclusive and caring school where pupils feel valued, safe and respected. The headteacher shares a clear vision that promotes a strong sense of community and belonging. This helps to ensure that pupils enjoy coming to school, behave well and show positive attitudes to learning.

Leaders and staff work closely together to improve teaching and learning. They share responsibilities effectively and make good use of professional discussions to reflect on their practice. This collaborative approach helps staff to develop their skills and contribute purposefully to school improvement. Leaders monitor the quality of teaching carefully and ensure consistency across the school. However, they do not always evaluate sharply enough how well teaching impacts on pupils' progress.

The school's creative provision is a notable strength. Pupils take pride in performing through dance, drama and music, which helps them to work together and to grow in confidence. Pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) benefit from well-planned support and strong partnerships with specialist professionals. The school's community hub, The Cwtch, provides valuable opportunities that promote pupils' well-being and aspiration successfully.

Teachers plan a broad and engaging curriculum that stimulates pupils' curiosity and creativity. In the most effective lessons, activities build well on pupils' previous learning and capture their interest. These lessons encourage pupils to think deeply and work independently. In a few lessons, activities do not match pupils' needs closely enough, which limits opportunities for them to develop their ideas or to solve problems for themselves. Younger pupils enjoy exploring indoors and outdoors, but staff do not always make the most of these experiences to extend their learning further.

Teachers use their strong subject knowledge to model language clearly and support pupils to become confident speakers and writers. Teachers promote pupils' use of Welsh through regular sessions that develop their vocabulary and pronunciation effectively. Pupils make good use of digital tools to research and present their work, although their skills in coding and control technology are still developing.

# Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1. Strengthen the evaluation of teaching and learning to focus more sharply on pupil progress
- R2. Match teaching more closely to pupils' needs so that all pupils make strong, independent progress
- R3. Ensure that independent activities for younger pupils support them to reinforce and extend their learning effectively

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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