

Report summary for parents and carers on St Mary The Virgin C.I.W. Primary School

**Date of inspection: November
2025**

Summary

Saint Mary the Virgin Church in Wales School lies at the heart of the local area and is a focal point of its diverse community. Leaders, governors and staff work hard to build strong relationships with the school family and a wide range of external partners. A notable strength of this highly inclusive school is the positive well-being and family ethos where all staff and pupils feel happy and safe. Effective safeguarding and thoughtful nurturing practices support a culture that celebrates diversity and enables all pupils to flourish academically, socially and personally.

Teachers and support staff build strong relationships with pupils and understand their needs well. In many classes the quality of teaching ensures that many pupils, including those with additional learning needs and those with barriers to learning, make good progress from their starting points.

School leaders and teachers work collaboratively to design an inclusive and authentic inquiry-based curriculum that provides pupils with suitable learning experiences across all areas of learning. Most pupils engage well in lessons and are keen to talk about their learning. However, on occasions provision does not always support pupils to apply their skills across the curriculum well enough.

Communication with families is open and effective and staff work closely with parents. Leaders are visible at key times during the school day and parents trust that the school is doing the best for all pupils and considers their views. Overall, the school works hard to build trust with all families and provide a broad range of effective interventions to support all pupils across the school.

Leaders, staff and governors understand the community well, consequently they ensure the school provides and delivers the best opportunities to meet the diverse needs of all pupils. Leaders and governors work well together and identify key priorities to improve the school. However, their evaluation of the areas for improvement do not always focus sharply enough on the quality of teaching, including the variability in its effectiveness, and on outcomes for all pupils.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Improve the consistency of teaching across the school so that all pupils experience high-quality learning
- R2 Ensure that teachers provide beneficial learning opportunities to support pupils to apply their skills progressively across the curriculum, especially in Welsh oracy and numeracy
- R3 Strengthen self-evaluation processes to focus more sharply on pupil progress and the impact of teaching on learning outcomes

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](#)

© Crown Copyright 2026: This report may be re used free of charge in any format or medium provided that it is re used accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright and the title of the report specified.

Publication date: 08/01/2026