

Report summary for parents and carers on Ynysowen Community Primary School

Date of inspection: October 2025

Summary

Strong leadership, high expectations and a caring ethos enable pupils at Ynysowen Primary School to thrive. Nearly all pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN) in mainstream classes, those in the schools' learning resource base and those experiencing poverty, make at least good progress from their starting points. Leaders, staff and governors share a clear understanding of the school's strategic direction and work purposefully to improve provision, well-being and pupil outcomes. Governors know the school and its community well, provide good support and offer useful challenge to leaders.

The school has a strong track record of improvement over time. Its current priorities stem from rigorous self-evaluation which involves members of the whole school community. The school's approach to professional learning for staff is a notable strength. Staff access a wide range of professional learning purposefully linked to the school's priorities for improvement and regularly collaborate with local schools. This approach deepens professional understanding for staff and governors and enables older pupils to contribute to cluster-wide transition work.

Pupils develop confidence, independence and positive attitudes to learning. They engage enthusiastically in the school's broad, stimulating and cohesive curriculum, which is enriched by many opportunities for pupils to share their views. Recent work to strengthen outdoor learning is enhancing the curriculum and improving engagement and well-being but is not yet fully embedded.

Teaching is consistently strong, and staff create an inclusive learning environment where all pupils have the opportunity to shine. Pupils develop secure literacy, numeracy, digital and Welsh language skills through authentic, purposeful experiences. The school's effective whole-school approach to developing pupils' oracy and reading skills enhances pupils' enjoyment and achievement.

The school is a safe, nurturing community with highly effective systems for supporting pupils' well-being and additional learning needs. Early identification, tailored interventions and strong tracking ensure that most pupils, including those in the learning resource base, make strong progress.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made one recommendation to help the school continue to improve:

R1 Continue to build on the opportunities pupils have to use the outdoor learning environment to enhance their learning experiences 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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