

This letter is also available in Welsh

Ysgol Y Lawnt  
Surgery Hill  
Rhymney  
NP22 5LS

06/02/2026

Dear leaders and staff

### **Interim Visit:** January 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ysgol y Lawnt recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. The inspection team took advantage of the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk to pupils and staff, consider documentation and look at samples of pupils' work. Below is a summary of the findings from the inspection.

### **Focus of visit**

#### **Improve pupils' Welsh reading skills**

- Leaders have set a clear priority to develop pupils' Welsh reading skills, in addition to providing beneficial opportunities for them to apply their skills across the curriculum.
- Leaders have worked with staff to establish a robust culture of promoting pupils' enjoyment and interest in reading. They have arranged for pupils to visit the local library regularly and for the oldest pupils to support the youngest pupils successfully as 'reading peers'.
- Leaders plan purposeful professional learning opportunities to develop staff's knowledge and understanding of a range of methods for developing reading skills.
- Teachers provide daily reading periods which ensure regular opportunities for pupils to refine and improve their reading skills. This includes a purposeful combination of individual reading, digital reading, group reading and reading with a member of staff. Together, this ensures valuable opportunities for pupils to read for a purpose and broaden their knowledge and understanding.

---

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd,  
CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446  
[ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru](mailto:ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru)  
[www.estyn.llyw.cymru](http://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](mailto:enquiries@estyn.gov.wales)  
[www.estyn.gov.wales](http://www.estyn.gov.wales)

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

- The youngest pupils enjoy listening to familiar stories. They have a good knowledge of the sounds letters represent and begin to combine them successfully to build simple words. They are familiar with choosing books in the class reading area and are beginning to enjoy a variety of texts.
- As pupils move through the school, they read in Welsh with increasing confidence. On the whole, pupils have an appropriate understanding of the text and discuss the content of books within their experience sensibly.
- The oldest pupils demonstrate a sound understanding of the fundamental features of books and interpret the text appropriately. However, their awareness of Welsh authors and writers is limited.

### **Share best practice in teaching across the school**

- Leaders monitor teaching and learning within the school regularly. They identify good practices in teaching and ensure regular opportunities for teachers to share these in professional development sessions.
- Leaders organise triads of staff to work together on specific aspects of pedagogy on a regular basis. They observe each other teaching. They identify good practices and aspects for development. This leads to beneficial discussions in relation to strengthening teaching across the school.
- Leaders use their leadership time effectively. They benefit from these opportunities to work with individual teachers to refine their teaching skills.
- All staff provide an inclusive learning environment across the school, which supports pupils' learning needs effectively. There is clear consistency in the organisation of classes, with teachers and assistants using the stimulating and engaging environment to support learning successfully.
- Teachers have a sound understanding of what is expected of them to ensure consistency in the most effective pedagogy across the school.

The school's most recent 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/6762309>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director