

Report summary for parents and carers on St David's Catholic Primary School

Date of inspection: 26/01/2026

Summary

St David's Catholic School is a welcoming and caring school where every individual is valued. The headteacher has established a clear vision and recently managed significant change skilfully to ensure the school is inclusive. The school celebrates the diverse culture of its community with pride. This culture is evident throughout the school's daily routines and learning experiences that enable pupils to develop a strong sense of belonging. Staff provide a nurturing environment, build strong relationships and have clear expectations for behaviour and learning. These effective strategies ensure that most pupils remain engaged and develop confidence as learners. Most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN) and those new to English, make good progress across the curriculum from their individual starting points.

Most teaching is effective, with appropriate challenge and support provided. Teachers use purposeful planning, effective questioning and consistent approaches to assessment to help pupils understand how to improve their work and to foster positive attitudes to learning. They use the environment well to develop pupils' independence, although outdoor learning and play-based approaches are at an early stage of development.

The school's provision for literacy is a strength. There are frequent opportunities for pupils to develop their speaking and listening, reading and writing skills and to apply them in their work across the curriculum. Pupils make good progress in developing their Welsh language skills and benefit from learning to speak a few international languages and to embrace a diverse range of home languages.

Mathematics is taught well with flexible approaches enabling most pupils to make good progress in developing their understanding over time. Pupils have regular opportunities to apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum, supporting purposeful learning, but opportunities for independent problem-solving are at an early stage of development.

Most pupils' well-being and behaviour are good. Staff display nurturing and respectful attitudes towards pupils to ensure pupils feel safe, happy and ready to learn. Leadership is highly effective and leaders have a clear vision for the school. Staff work well as a team and the robust systems in place to secure continuous improvement result in positive outcomes for pupils.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1. Provide meaningful outdoor learning opportunities for older pupils and further develop play-based learning for younger pupils.

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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