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Ysgol Gynradd Llanrug
Caernarfon
Gwynedd
LL55 4AL

04/03/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: February 2026

A team of inspectors visit Ysgol Gynradd Llanrug recently to consider progress in relation to a recommendation from the core inspection, along with one aspect agreed with the headteacher. 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 visit.

Focus of visit

Improve pupils' reading skills

- The school's ethos for developing provision and reading skills through a stimulating culture is sound.
- Leaders have a good vision and understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development in improving reading provision and developing pupils' enjoyment of reading. They track pupils' reading progress carefully against a range of purposeful criteria. This enables staff to provide useful reading support in a timely manner.
- Staff have a thorough knowledge of pupils' ability and learning needs. They plan a range of purposeful activities to encourage the development of pupils' reading skills.
- Staff support the youngest pupils to develop their early reading skills successfully. Through this, pupils build words confidently and begin to read different texts for specific purposes. By Year 2, they use a good range of strategies effectively to read less familiar words and discuss a range of texts confidently.

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

- Older pupils develop reading skills with increasing fluency in Welsh and English. They discuss fiction and non-fiction texts knowledgeably. They gather information effectively and discuss characters' feelings and intentions with mature intelligence.
- Staff ensure that pupils undertake valuable leadership roles. They encourage and support their peers to practise their reading skills regularly, including valuable opportunities for the oldest pupils to read with the youngest pupils.
- The school works effectively with parents to develop pupils' reading skills, including sharing expectations about pupils' learning and sharing reading packs so that they can support their children at home.

Improve opportunities for pupils to develop their independent learning skills

- The headteacher has a sound vision for developing pupils' independent skills. As part of the self-improvement processes, leaders identify strengths in provision and specific areas for improvement. They use this information effectively to create a clear timetable of continuous improvements. This includes conducting timely training for staff and developing stimulating learning areas that provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to develop as increasingly independent learners.
- Recently, the school has had a number of new staff. Leaders recognise the need to ensure that these staff receive purposeful and timely professional learning to ensure consistency in the most effective teaching practices across the school.
- The school has invested significantly in developing attractive outdoor areas for the youngest pupils, which promote independent learning successfully. The improvement plan places a clear priority on developing the older pupils' outdoor areas to provide them with purposeful opportunities to develop their independent skills outdoors.
- In the best practices, pupils make decisions independently about what they learn, including which resources and equipment they would like to use. In developing provision further, leaders recognise the need to ensure that the level of challenge responds purposefully to the learning needs of all pupils so that they develop all of their skills with increasing independence over time.

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/6612006>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director