

Ysgol Gynradd Pentrefoelas
Pentrefoelas
Betws y Coed
Conwy
LL24 0LE

13/04/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: March 2026

A team of visitors inspected Ysgol Gynradd Pentrefoelas recently to consider progress in relation to recommendation from the previous core inspection. The team took advantage of the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk to pupils and staff, scrutinise documentation and look at samples of pupils' work. Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

Focus of visit

Improve pupils' writing skills

- The headteacher has a clear vision for improving pupils' writing skills.
- He organises purposeful professional learning sessions for staff, such as providing opportunities for them to work with local schools. This, in turn, supports staff's ability to provide more opportunities for pupils to write purposefully across a range of interesting contexts. However, these opportunities do not always support pupils to develop the full range of writing skills across the areas of learning.
- Recently, staff have begun to use purposeful resources such as 'working walls' to support pupils with their writing work. The headteacher is aware that these practices need to be developed further.
- When they are given an opportunity to do so, most pupils make appropriate progress in their writing skills. For example, Year 2 pupils write a letter to a friend and demonstrate a sound understanding of simple punctuation and spelling. By the top of the school, most pupils use adjectives and verbs sensibly, such as when writing an argument about the advantages and disadvantages of playing digital

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games. Staff use ready-made writing sheets excessively for pupils and, in a few cases, tasks are not challenging enough. In general, this hinders pupils' ability to develop their writing skills independently and achieve better over time.

- Staff have adapted the feedback policy and respond appropriately to work. Pupils are beginning to show a sound understanding of the marking code and, at times, use feedback from staff to improve their work.

Provide activities that challenge all pupils to apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum

- The headteacher has an appropriate vision for developing this aspect and supports staff to gain suitable professional learning to improve provision.
- On the whole, teachers present a suitable range of learning experiences that support pupils to make appropriate progress in their mathematics skills over time. The youngest pupils count confidently and, by the time they reach the top of the school, they use a range of calculation methods confidently.
- Teachers model mathematical language purposefully and pupils respond positively to their activities.
- In general, the over-use of worksheets provided by staff hinder opportunities for pupils to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills independently.
- When they are given an opportunity to do so, pupils apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum appropriately. However, staff do not provide these opportunities regularly enough to challenge pupils and support them to make sound progress.
- The headteacher recognises the need to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their numeracy skills with increasing independence and coherence across the areas of learning.

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/6622270>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

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