

Report summary for parents and carers on Montgomery C.I.W. School

Date of inspection: 23/02/2026

Summary

The headteacher provides strong, compassionate leadership that fosters an inclusive ethos where pupils, staff and families feel a deep sense of belonging. Staff know pupils well and prioritise their well-being, helping to create warm, respectful relationships across the school. Governors engage actively in monitoring and have a secure understanding of the school's strengths.

The school has a systematic approach to teaching reading. This helps most pupils to develop as enthusiastic, fluent readers by the time they leave school. However, the approach to teaching writing is less consistent, and this limits how well pupils build their skills over time. Pupils' digital competence is a strength, with nearly all older pupils applying their skills confidently across the curriculum. The recently introduced mathematics scheme is beginning to improve progression and consistency in the quality of teaching and learning. This ensures that many pupils develop secure early mathematical skills. However, they do not build on these skills consistently well over time. While many teachers plan engaging learning activities and use questioning well to encourage pupils to explain their thinking, they do not provide sufficient opportunity for pupils to use and apply these skills.

Pupils benefit from a rich and authentic range of learning experiences that promote strong creative skills and deepen their understanding of Welsh culture. Work with local and Welsh artists, alongside the prominent celebration of pupils' achievements, fosters a strong sense of pride and belonging. The school promotes Welsh consistently well. Purposeful opportunities led by a confident pupil voice group ensure that, by the end of year six, most pupils develop secure and confident Welsh oracy skills.

Provision for pupils with additional learning needs is a strength. Skilled staff provide tailored support that helps pupils to overcome barriers to learning.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made two recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Strengthen self-evaluation and school improvement processes to focus more precisely on the quality of teaching and its impact on learning
- R2 Ensure that teaching provides appropriate challenge and enables pupils to apply their literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum
- R3 Ensure that provision supports the progressive development of pupils' skills in mathematics and writing

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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Publication date: 29/04/2026