

# **Report summary for parents and carers on Pennard Primary School**

Date of inspection: 02/02/2026

# Summary

---

Leaders at Pennard Primary School set high expectations. They have worked thoughtfully to shape an ambitious vision to nurture pupils' well-being and enthusiasm for learning. The school fosters respectful relationships ensuring all pupils feel safe, valued and supported. Leaders promote clear and consistent teaching approaches. Staff know their pupils well and build successfully on pupils' prior learning and skills. This supports pupils to make good progress as they move through the school.

The school has created an exciting, authentic and purposeful curriculum with pupil-led enquiry at its core. Teachers model language to support learning carefully and support pupils to talk about their progress purposefully. They use clear assessment approaches that ensure that pupils reflect on and improve their learning.

In most lessons, teachers provide suitable challenge and use questioning skilfully to extend pupils' thinking. Many pupils work independently and take increasing responsibility for their learning. Staff ensure that play-based learning for the youngest pupils helps them to be curious and develops their independence well. Opportunities to extend these approaches as pupils move on from the youngest classes is at an early stage.

Staff model communication skills effectively. This helps pupils to develop as confident speakers and listeners. Staff teach reading systematically and most pupils apply a range of strategies successfully when engaging with different texts. They provide good opportunities for pupils to develop their writing purposefully, and many pupils produce meaningful extended pieces, incorporating ambitious vocabulary appropriately. In mathematics, pupils develop secure number understanding and apply skills well in suitable problem-solving contexts. Pupils' digital competence develops well as they move through the school. Older pupils demonstrate increasing confidence in their use of digital tools and show a mature awareness of online safety and the responsible use of artificial intelligence.

There is a strong culture of ongoing reflection and review in nearly all aspects of school life. Leaders use self-evaluation well to identify priorities and drive improvement. They provide staff with valuable professional learning that supports the school's strategic direction. Governors are developing a more constructive approach to challenge leaders about the school's work.

# Recommendations and next steps

---

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

R1 Further develop opportunities to provide all younger pupils with access to a rich learning environment that promotes experiential learning.

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](#).

---

© Crown Copyright 2026: This report may be re used free of charge: (a) in any format or medium; and (b) may be translated by or on behalf of an education and/or training provider in respect of which this report relates into any language, in each case provided that it is re used and/or translated accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must, in each case (including in the case of a translation) be acknowledged as Crown copyright and the title of the report specified.

Publication date: 08/04/2026