

Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Cefnlllys

Date of inspection: 02/03/2026

This report is also available in Welsh

Summary

Ysgol Cefnlllys is a caring and ambitious school at the heart of its community. Leaders place pupils' well-being at the centre of their work while maintaining clear expectations for learning. As a result, most pupils feel safe, supported and ready to learn. Governors work closely with leaders and provide effective support and challenge. They are involved in monitoring the school's work and ensure that funding, including the pupil development grant, is used carefully to support pupils' progress and reduce the impact of poverty.

The recently formed senior leadership team works well together and shares a clear vision for the school. Leaders evaluate the impact of their work thoughtfully and place strong emphasis on national priorities such as inclusion and the development of Curriculum for Wales. Professional learning is purposeful and helps staff improve their practice and develop leadership skills. The school's provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is a particular strength. Staff know pupils well and create a calm and inclusive environment where pupils with ALN, including those in the specialist classes make positive progress and develop confidence and independence.

The school's work to support vulnerable pupils, including care experienced and recently adopted pupils, is a strength. Leaders work closely with families and external agencies to ensure pupils receive the care and support they need to engage in learning. Safeguarding arrangements are strong and staff understand their responsibilities well.

Teaching across the school is effective. Teachers provide clear explanations and plan engaging learning experiences that help pupils develop their literacy and numeracy skills. The school has a strong reading culture, and pupils develop exceptionally well as independent learners. Pupils gain a good understanding of Welsh culture and heritage, and many develop confidence in using the Welsh language.

Leaders recognise the need to continue to develop the school's curriculum to provide pupils with to make progress across a broader range of learning experiences that reflect Curriculum for Wales. In addition, although leaders work closely with agencies to support pupils with complex needs, attendance and exclusion rates remain too high.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Improve attendance and reduce exclusion
- R2 Continue to strengthen the school's curriculum to provide greater breadth of experience and to further support pupils' skills development

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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