

Deighton Primary School
Stockton Way
Tredegar
Blaenau Gwent
NP22 3ES

15/04/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: March 2026

A team of inspectors visited Deighton Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with 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

Ensure that improvement processes and professional learning drive improvements to the quality of teaching and assessment to meet pupils' learning needs

- The school's arrangements for professional learning are relevant and flexible. Staff contribute to identifying priorities and engage in personalised and collaborative research to refine their practice. This promotes a shared culture of professional learning and supports ongoing improvement in teaching.
- Leaders link professional learning directly to outcomes of monitoring activities. They use this information to identify clear priorities for development and plan worthwhile training. This enables staff to address agreed areas for improvement more effectively. For instance, ongoing training to develop pupils' writing skills has led to sustained progress over time.
- Teachers and support staff capture their ongoing professional development using digital 'learning journals'. This enables them to reflect on their work, celebrate strong practice and refine areas for improvement.

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

- The school is developing a clear whole-school teaching and learning strategy that identifies the key features of effective practice. Leaders have worked with staff to establish shared teaching and learning expectations.
- The school's self-evaluation processes focus sharply on the impact of teaching on pupils' learning. Leaders use a wide range of evidence, including pupils' work, assessment data and progress meetings, to identify priorities for improvement and plan appropriate actions.
- Leaders use a range of collaborative strategies to evaluate and improve the quality of teaching. These include triads, where small groups of teachers observe lessons and discuss practice.

Improve pupils' writing skills

- Leaders have a clear and purposeful vision for developing writing across the school, with a strong focus on consistency and progression. They plan professional learning effectively to support shared approaches to teaching writing. This helps pupils to develop their skills securely over time.
- Across the school, teachers provide meaningful writing opportunities for a range of purposes and audiences. This helps pupils to understand the relevance of writing beyond school.
- Teachers model high expectations for writing and assess pupils' work carefully for accuracy and quality. During lessons, they use strategies such as 'pit-stops' to share effective examples. This enables pupils to improve their work and understand how to do so.
- The school has refined its approach to teaching phonics, and this is having a positive impact on pupils' spelling accuracy. In the early years, a language-rich environment provides regular opportunities for pupils to hear, recognise and use sounds. This supports the development of their vocabulary well.
- Most pupils make good progress in writing from their starting points. As they move through the school, they develop an increasing awareness of how to improve their writing, for example through editing and drafting their work.
- Across the school, there is a positive culture for writing. Teachers regularly celebrate pupils' success in writing, which supports pupils' engagement in lessons. Most pupils show a keen interest in writing and take pride in the quality and presentation of their work.

The school's latest 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/6772072>



Dros ddysgwyr, dros Gymru
For learners, for Wales

Yours sincerely

L. Miles

Liz Miles

Assistant Director