

# Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Castell

Date of inspection: 23/02/2026

# Summary

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Ysgol Gymraeg y Castell is a warm and welcoming community where pupils' wellbeing and progress is central to its work. Leaders provide a clear direction for the school, with a strong emphasis on nurturing independent and confident pupils who take pride in their Welshness and identity. The headteacher is supported effectively by a dedicated team of staff and governors who work together closely in the interests of pupils' wellbeing and learning.

Most pupils, including those with additional learning needs and those from low-income households, make sound progress in their skills. Staff use successful arrangements to identify and support pupils in a timely manner. Close cooperation with families and specialist agencies contributes positively to their learning.

Staff create an environment where respect, kindness and cooperation are prominent features. Most pupils show positive attitudes to their learning, work together productively and persevere in the face of challenge. Almost all develop sound oral skills. They contribute to class discussions purposefully and converse with their friends naturally during less formal periods. Pupils enjoy reading, and recent actions have strengthened their interest in Welsh books. Pupils' writing skills develop strongly, although there are few opportunities for them to write at length. Pupils' standards of mathematics are strong and they apply their numeracy skills confidently in various learning contexts. Their digital skills develop consistently.

Leaders have led staff skilfully to plan a curriculum that is relevant and stimulating to pupils, including experiences that connect pupils with their local area and its rich heritage. Staff's professional learning is a clear strength in the school which, in turn, contributes positively to the quality of teaching. In the practices where teaching is strongest, teachers ensure a purposeful pace to the sessions and a suitable challenge that supports pupils to make good progress. Staff's effective questioning methods extend pupils' understanding and independence successfully. They offer timely feedback and regular opportunities for pupils to improve their work. However, these practices are not consistent across the school.

Leaders foster a culture of trust and cooperation in which staff take active responsibility to strengthen provision over time.

The school considers parents' opinions and suggestions carefully and shares clear information about their children's progress through regular communication. This helps parents understand their child's strengths and the next steps in their learning, and strengthens the partnership between the home and school.

# Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Ensure that effective teaching practices are consistent across the school

R2 Extend opportunities for pupils to write at length

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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