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Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta
Central Street
Ystrad Mynach
Hengoed
CF82 7XQ

22/05/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: April 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta recently to consider progress in relation to a recommendation from the previous core inspection, along with one aspect agreed with the headteacher. The inspection team took advantage of the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk to 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

Develop pupils' reading skills

- Through appropriate planning, relevant professional learning and effective monitoring activities, leaders develop a consistent approach to teaching pupils' reading skills.
- Staff are given beneficial professional learning opportunities, including successful co-operation with other schools to share effective practice and to develop and refine their methods of teaching reading. This, in turn, has a positive effect on pupils' reading skills.
- Teachers plan purposeful daily opportunities for pupils to develop their reading skills, including their higher-order reading skills, successfully. Through this, pupils develop an understanding of a range of reading strategies and use them to break down and build unfamiliar words, to analyse and summarise texts they read.
- The youngest pupils develop a successful understanding of letter sounds and apply this knowledge skilfully to read and write simple words. As they move through the

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school, they begin to build on this appropriately to spell unfamiliar words and write with increasing confidence.

- Older pupils develop reading skills with increasing fluency in Welsh and English. They have a thorough awareness of Welsh authors and literature and discuss fiction and non-fiction texts knowledgeably. They gather information effectively and discuss the feelings and intentions of characters with mature intelligence.
- The school works effectively with parents to develop pupils' reading skills, including sharing expectations in terms of pupils' learning and resources for them to support their children at home.

Ensure that all teachers have high and shared expectations to support pupils to apply their extended writing skills to a consistent standard

- Leaders work together purposefully to develop this aspect. They have a clear vision, which has been shared successfully with pupils, staff and parents.
- They organise a wide range of beneficial professional learning activities which, in turn, develop teachers' ability and confidence to provide rich opportunities for pupils to write at length across the areas of learning. They include opportunities to share effective practices with local schools and observe learning lessons within the school.
- In general, teachers provide activities that engage pupils' interest successfully and develop their knowledge and understanding effectively.
- Provision supports the youngest pupils to acquire early writing skills purposefully; for example, they experiment with making marks by using a range of appropriate media and develop fine motor skills, which supports their skills successfully. They build on these skills consistently and, by Year 2, they write confidently across a range of appropriate contexts.
- The oldest pupils write confidently across a good range of genres. They make imaginative choices in terms of vocabulary and consider the audience purposefully when producing text.
- On the whole, staff use a good range of probing questioning methods that support learning purposefully. They recall previous learning regularly and encourage pupils to consider and interpret the context of texts to support their extended writing skills.
- Pupils use resources such as 'Y Wal Wella' to support their extended writing with increasing independence; for example, they choose introductions that have been displayed to enrich the text.
- Over time, effective teaching supports most pupils to make good progress in their writing skills.

The school's most recent 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/6762368>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director