

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Castellau
Castellau Road
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CF38 2AA

This letter is also available in Welsh

11/05/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: April 2026

A team of inspectors visit Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Castellau recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. During the visit, we had an opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk to leaders, 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

Provide comprehensive opportunities for pupils to develop all aspects of the Digital Competence Framework

- Since the core inspection, leaders have taken advantage of purposeful professional learning by working with neighbouring schools and the local secondary school to develop a shared understanding of the digital framework.
- They have mapped purposeful opportunities to support pupils to develop a full range of digital skills consistently over time.
- Through regular monitoring activities, leaders evaluate how effectively teachers introduce all of the necessary skills to pupils consistently, to the expected standard.
- Teachers work together purposefully to share good practices. This fosters teachers' ability and understanding to use and present a wide range of digital software effectively. This supports pupils to develop their digital skills effectively in a range of contexts and across the areas of learning and experience.

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Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth.

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

- The school arranges for external providers to deliver specialist sessions for pupils. These promote pupils' digital skills positively.

Ensure regular and suitable opportunities for pupils to develop their independent learning skills

- Since the core inspection, leaders have addressed the recommendation appropriately.
- They provide purposeful professional learning for staff to support them to develop provision across the school. This allows pupils to use their independent learning skills more effectively in a variety of contexts.
- Leaders have developed a shared vision with staff, along with an expectations charter and procedures to promote and develop independence in the classroom. This promotes consistency in terms of understanding and shared expectations to promote pupils' independence across the school.
- Following purposeful professional learning activities, the youngest pupils' staff provide stimulating areas for pupils to learn independently and apply their skills successfully both inside and outside the classroom.
- The oldest pupils' teachers have experimented with different approaches to promoting pupils' independent skills. Teachers ensure that pupils are supported purposefully by applying their skills alongside increasing pupils' independence.
- Leaders and teachers now work to ensure consistency in provision across the school to develop pupils' independent learning skills fully in all classes.

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/6742359>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director