

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Evan James  
Rhondda Road  
Pontypridd  
CF37 1HF

12/05/2026

Dear leaders and staff

### **Interim Visit:** April 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Evan James recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. 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**

#### **Refine self-evaluation processes**

- Since the core inspection, leaders have refined their self-evaluation processes diligently. The headteacher and deputy headteacher have attended beneficial professional learning courses and re-established useful monitoring, evaluation and review cycles.
- They have ensured that their processes lead to more purposeful monitoring reports which focus carefully on pupils' progress rather than descriptions of activities. They identify strengths and areas for improvement usefully. Leaders use this information to set detailed and clear targets from pupils and teachers.
- Leaders have high expectations of themselves and all staff. They ensure that there are sensible arrangements in place to re-visit specific areas that were in need of further attention to check progress and plan additional steps, if necessary.
- There is now a wide range of self-evaluation procedures in place regularly, with leaders sharing their findings with staff in a timely manner. This supports them to adapt and refine provision as necessary, which has a positive effect on pupils' achievement.

---

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd,  
CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446  
[ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru](mailto:ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru)  
[www.estyn.llyw.cymru](http://www.estyn.llyw.cymru)

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.

Estyn, Anchor Court, Keen Road,  
Cardiff, CF24 5JW Telephone: 02920  
446446 [enquiries@estyn.gov.wales](mailto:enquiries@estyn.gov.wales)  
[www.estyn.gov.wales](http://www.estyn.gov.wales)

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

## Share effective teaching practices across the school

- Leaders have addressed the recommendation by ensuring consistency in effective teaching practices. They have created specific teaching guidelines and ensured consistency in provision to develop pupils' skills.
- By sharing effective teaching practices, leaders have ensured that they support pupils to develop and apply their skills purposefully in rich activities by adopting an enquiry method.
- Leaders have created a positive culture and ethos to promote and support professional learning in the enquiry method. They empower teachers to conduct action research and experiment with different approaches in developing pupils' independence.
- They promote an environment of continuous professional learning and encourage teachers to share best practices with each other purposefully. This contributes firmly to the school's ethos as a learning organisation.
- As a result of the enquiry method and sharing practices, pupils throughout the school make independent decisions about what they learn and how to present their work. They discuss their work enthusiastically and make independent choices confidently.

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/6742362>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director