

Ysgol y Borth
Menai Bridge
Anglesey
LL59 5DS

08/05/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: April 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ysgol y Borth 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

Reduce the use of ready-made worksheets to enable pupils to develop their writing skills further, particularly those who are more able

- Leaders have a clear vision to improve pupils' writing skills, including providing purposeful opportunities for them to record and present their work with increasing independence.
- Teachers work together purposefully to ensure that pupils develop their writing skills through a series of small steps, which supports pupils to understand the main features of a range of writing genres. This ensures that pupils have increasing confidence when writing for different purposes across the areas of learning.
- Pupils use the working walls purposefully to support the development of their writing skills. This strengthens their understanding of key vocabulary within their themes. They refer to this material purposefully when refining and expanding their written work.
- In the best practices, teachers use digital software purposefully to model writing genres and provide feedback to move learning forward. Through this, pupils,

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particularly those who are more able, have a good understanding of what they achieve effectively and how to improve their work further.

- Over time, teachers have reduced the use of ready-made worksheets. They now encourage pupils to make choices about how to present their work with increasing independence. This has a positive effect on the development of pupils' writing skills as they move through the school.
- Leaders acknowledge that the next step is to ensure consistency in provision across the school.

Expand opportunities for pupils to make independent choices about how they complete tasks and present their work

- Through effective co-operation, leaders and staff have created a clear vision to develop pupils' independent learning skills. This includes ensuring that there is a clear plan in place, based on ensuring consistency in best practices across the school.
- Teachers have high expectations and encourage pupils to take responsibility for their learning. Where teaching is at its best, they facilitate learning effectively by encouraging pupils to think and make choices with increasing independence.
- In the school's youngest classes, teachers provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to work together in their learning areas. Pupils develop their confidence and thinking skills successfully by making choices about how to interpret learning within the areas and how to present their work.
- The oldest pupils are given purposeful opportunities to develop a range of skills effectively by working together across a range of learning activities. They choose challenges that are appropriate for them and consider what they need to do to complete their work to the best of their ability. Staff ask probing questions that engage pupils to develop their thinking skills independently.
- Teachers provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to use a good range of resources and equipment to present their work in a variety of ways. This is effective in supporting pupils to take responsibility for their work.
- On the whole, the school has made good progress against the recommendation. Leaders acknowledge the need to continue to ensure consistency in best practices across the school.

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/6602175>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

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