

Report summary for parents and carers on Rhydyfro Primary School

Date of inspection: 09/03/2026

Summary

Rhydyfro School is a caring and nurturing school where most pupils behave well and are polite and considerate of each other. All staff act as positive role models and create an effective learning environment. They foster respectful working relationships with pupils and each other, and pupils develop good attitudes towards their learning. Leaders and staff manage pupils' behaviour well. Leaders work effectively with governors to promote a strong culture of safeguarding. Most pupils feel safe and many enjoy their time in school. Parents appreciate the engaging learning experiences and the caring and nurturing ethos the school provides. Although the school takes a systematic approach to raising attendance, overall attendance remains too low, particularly for pupils eligible for free school meals. Teachers have worked hard to develop a curriculum that successfully develops pupils' thinking skills. However, it does not always meet pupils' needs well enough to secure strong pupil progress in all areas of learning. Teachers plan real-life learning opportunities that interest pupils and engage them well. These experiences help to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills appropriately, in a range of contexts.

Many pupils, including those from low-income households, make effective progress in their skills, knowledge and understanding. However, pupils do not make sufficient progress in writing or have enough opportunities to plan their responses to feedback. This includes making decisions about how they will work, or how they will present or express their thinking. Teaching assistants are highly skilled at meeting pupils' individual learning and well-being needs. They support pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) effectively and many make good progress towards their individual targets.

Governors play an active role in school life and make worthwhile contributions to the self-evaluation process. Together with leaders, they focus on identifying and addressing areas for improvement suitably. Despite this, leaders' self-evaluation does not always draw heavily enough on the progress pupils make because of the improvement actions the school implements.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made four recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Improve attendance
- R2 Sharpen self-evaluation processes to focus on pupil progress
- R3 Ensure curriculum design supports effective pupil progress.
- R4 Improve pupils' writing

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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