

Report summary for parents and carers on St Joseph's Catholic Infant School

Date of inspection: 05/05/2026

Summary

The school is a caring and inclusive community where pupils feel safe, happy and respected. Leaders, staff and governors work together well to create a positive environment with high expectations for pupils' well-being and progress. Staff build strong relationships with families that help pupils to settle quickly and feel confident in school. They monitor the progress of pupils skilfully to ensure that learning experiences inspire and challenge them successfully. Nearly all pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN) and those eligible for free school meals, enjoy learning and make strong progress in their literacy, numeracy and digital skills during their time in the school.

The school provides a broad variety of stimulating learning experiences that meet the needs of nearly all pupils successfully. Teachers plan activities that match pupils' interests well, helping them to become motivated and resilient learners. They create learning environments that engage and support pupils to work together positively. Provision for the youngest pupils is particularly imaginative and helps them to make rapid progress in developing their physical, social and independent learning skills.

All pupils benefit from valuable opportunities to work with local businesses and community groups. These activities support pupils to apply their literacy, numeracy and social skills to meaningful tasks and to develop as thoughtful and caring citizens.

Staff model language effectively and support pupils, including those learning English as an additional language, to develop confidence in English and Welsh. They use regular story time to promote pleasure in reading successfully. However, teachers do not always provide enough opportunities for pupils to write creatively or to develop a suitable range of artistic skills.

Leaders know the school well and use self-evaluation to identify and drive improvements effectively. Governors support the school diligently, ensuring that pupils and staff feel safe and well supported. Attendance has improved steadily, and pupils understand the importance of attending school regularly.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Improve opportunities for pupils to write creatively

R2 Provide suitable opportunities for pupils to develop their artistic skills

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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Publication date: 08/07/2026