

St Illtyd's R.C. Primary School  
Jersey Road  
Bonymaen  
SA1 7DG

19/06/2026

Dear leaders and staff

**Interim visit:** June 2026

A team of inspectors visited St Illtyd's R.C. Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with 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

#### Improve pupils' Welsh speaking skills.

- The Welsh language has a strong profile across the school, supported by a shared commitment among pupils and staff to learning and using Welsh.
- There is appropriate progression in pupils' Welsh language skills as they move through the school.
- Most staff act as positive role models for the language. They use Welsh regularly during lessons and at less formal times of the day. This reinforces pupils' language skills, strengthens their confidence and promotes the use of Welsh effectively.
- Across the school, pupils demonstrate positive attitudes towards learning and using Welsh. They greet visitors gleefully using a range of relevant phrases and

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)

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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)

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questions. In general, they respond accurately to questions in Welsh, with older pupils extending their answers appropriately.

- Most teachers provide pupils with interesting activities that enable them to practise and deepen their prior learning and apply it in meaningful contexts. High-quality resources and texts support pupils' language development effectively.
- Teachers use a range of purposeful questions, prompts and reminders to support pupils understanding, broaden their vocabulary and sharpen their pronunciation.
- The Criw Cymraeg plays an active and enthusiastic role in the school's approach to the Welsh language. Members act as positive role models, using and promoting Welsh confidently. They also play an active role in evaluating and developing the school's Welsh language provision.

**Ensure that learning experiences enable all pupils to improve their creativity and problem-solving skills and to develop as independent learners.**

- Leaders and staff have developed a shared understanding of the importance of creativity, problem-solving and independent learning. Beneficial professional learning has helped teachers to refine their practice and provide pupils with more opportunities to think for themselves and work independently.
- Through an appropriate range of open-ended activities, teachers encourage pupils to explore ideas, solve problems and develop solutions independently. As they engage in these activities, most pupils persevere when tackling unfamiliar tasks.
- Teachers provide increasing opportunities for pupils to make decisions about their learning and how they present their work. This helps them to take greater ownership of their learning and develop confidence in working independently.
- Where most effective, teachers use skilful questioning to extend pupils' thinking and encourage them to explain and justify their ideas. This improves pupils' understanding and helps them to refine their thinking.
- Teachers plan worthwhile outdoor learning experiences that encourage pupils to experiment, explore and develop their ideas. These experiences promote creativity and encourage pupils to explore different approaches to learning.

- Most pupils approach learning confidently and engage purposefully in independent tasks. They make suitable choices about their learning, and show increasing confidence in thinking for themselves. Overall, pupils rely less on teacher direction.
- In the youngest classes, staff use pupils' interests well to plan engaging opportunities for play and exploration. Pupils respond enthusiastically and develop increasing independence and curiosity in their learning.

The school's/PRU's latest 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/6703305>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director