

Report summary for parents and carers on Ponthir Church in Wales School

Date of inspection: 11/05/2026

Summary

Leaders communicate a clear vision that places pupils' well-being, progress and sense of belonging at the heart of the school's work. This vision is well understood across the school community and implemented consistently. Through robust self-evaluation processes and effective use of evidence, leaders identify priorities for improvement and refine provision purposefully. They use funding strategically to support pupils' progress and well-being, including support for those with additional learning needs (ALN). Most pupils engage positively in their learning and make strong progress from their starting points.

A notable strength of the school is its highly inclusive and caring ethos. Leaders and staff foster strong, respectful relationships that create a nurturing environment where nearly all pupils feel safe and valued. Pupils demonstrate exemplary behaviour, show high levels of respect and care for others, and display positive attitudes to learning. Effective provision for emotional well-being supports pupils to build resilience and feel confident in sharing concerns. The school has strong partnerships with parents and carers, who feel well informed and confident that their children are safe and well supported, contributing to its inclusive ethos.

The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum enriched by engaging learning experiences, including effective outdoor learning. These opportunities encourage pupils to think creatively, solve problems and develop independence. Most pupils make strong progress and develop secure literacy, numeracy and digital skills, applying these confidently across contexts. Teachers use questioning effectively and provide clear feedback that helps pupils improve their work and deepen understanding. There are limited opportunities for pupils to develop their Welsh language skills effectively.

Pupil leadership is a strong feature of the school. Through a range of groups, pupils actively contribute to decision-making and help shape school life. This develops their confidence, collaboration skills and understanding of their impact within the school and wider community.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made one recommendation to help the school continue to improve:

R1 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy 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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