

# **Report summary for parents and carers on Barry Island Primary School**

Date of inspection: 05/05/2026

# Summary

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Barry Island Primary School is a welcoming and inclusive school with a strong ethos of aspiration and innovation. Leaders, staff and governors work together purposefully to create a clear vision for pupils' learning and well-being that ensures that nearly all pupils make good progress over time. Positive relationships across the school community help pupils feel safe, supported and confident to participate in school life.

Teachers engage pupils positively in their learning and adapt activities carefully to provide timely support and challenge. The school's innovative curriculum encourages pupils to investigate and solve problems and helps them to apply increasingly sophisticated digital skills across their learning. For instance, older pupils learn to think critically about online information and develop as responsible and discerning digital users.

Across much of the school, pupils develop independence well. In the youngest classes, activities do not always match pupils' interests and developmental needs closely enough, reducing opportunities for play and exploration.

Provision for pupils with additional learning needs is a notable strength. Staff work effectively with families and external agencies to reduce barriers to learning and participation. Throughout the school, pupils benefit from a wide range of opportunities to contribute to school life and undertake leadership responsibilities.

Most pupils develop effective literacy, numeracy and digital skills. They read confidently, write thoughtfully for a range of purposes and apply their mathematical skills successfully through problem-solving activities. Pupils show positive attitudes towards using Welsh, although older pupils do not have enough opportunities to develop their conversational skills in a range of situations.

Governors work closely in partnership with leaders and staff to support the school's ongoing development and provide valuable support and challenge. The school has a strong culture of reflection, where all members of the school community contribute to identifying the school's strengths and areas for further improvement.

# Recommendations and next steps

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**We have made two recommendation to help the school continue to improve:**

R1 Strengthen opportunities for younger pupils to learn through play and exploration

R2 Improve older pupils' conversational Welsh language 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