

Report summary for parents and carers on St Gabriel's R.C. Primary School

Date of inspection: June 2026

Summary

St Gabriel's Roman Catholic Primary School provides a safe, positive and caring ethos where the learning and achievement and well-being of every pupil matters. Staff build strong relationships with pupils and communicate high expectations for their behaviour and learning. Most pupils behave well in school. They feel safe and happy in the school's nurturing and inclusive environment and treat each other with care and respect.

The school's curriculum provides a broad range of interesting learning experiences that engage most pupils well. The school gives valuable opportunities for pupils to build upon their skills systematically. This enables most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN) and those eligible for free school meals, to make good overall progress in the development of their literacy, numeracy and digital skills. During their time in school, most pupils make very good progress in developing their Welsh language skills.

Teachers use assessment information well to ensure that lessons meet the needs of pupils. They provide valuable feedback to pupils. This supports their learning and helps them to improve their work effectively. Teachers ensure that there are meaningful opportunities for pupils to apply their skills across the curriculum, though too often these lessons are over-directed, and this limits pupils' independent learning.

Leaders have a thorough understanding of the strengths and areas for development of the school and a clear vision and pathway to making improvements, which all staff share and work towards beneficially. School leaders have a good track record of making and sustaining improvements over time, such as the development of a successful curriculum and a highly effective approach to teaching the Welsh language. Despite a sustained focus, pupils' attendance rates remain low. Governors provide worthwhile support and challenge to school leaders.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Improve attendance

R2 Improve pupils' independent learning skills by reducing over direction in teaching

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

.

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