

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

Date of inspection: 29/06/2026

Summary

Leaders, staff and governors ensure that St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a welcoming and caring environment through their clear commitment to high levels of inclusion and well-being. Nearly all pupils are friendly and polite and enjoy coming to school, where they feel valued and cared for.

Younger pupils benefit from engaging and purposeful learning experiences that are adapted to meet their needs and develop their independence. In classes for older pupils, too often, teaching lacks pace, purpose and challenge, and lessons do not move pupils' learning forward well enough. A minority of pupils do not engage with their learning as it does not meet their needs and interests, and low-level disruption emerges. Feedback is inconsistent and does not enable pupils to improve their work or identify the next steps in their learning. This means that too many pupils do not make the progress of which they are capable. Leaders do not address the inconsistencies in the quality of teaching and learning for older pupils sufficiently through self-evaluation and professional learning.

Nearly all pupils are articulate and talk clearly and thoughtfully. Most pupils read confidently with good understanding. Younger pupils develop their knowledge of letters and sounds effectively and many older pupils show a good understanding of more complex texts. However, inconsistencies in the teaching of writing mean that a minority of pupils do not make good enough progress.

Many staff model the Welsh language effectively and most pupils are able to ask and answer a range of questions well. Most pupils' make good progress in their digital skills and many pupils' numeracy skills develop suitably as they move through the school. Opportunities for pupils to apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum are limited.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Ensure that senior leaders focus on improving the quality of teaching, particularly in the classes for older pupils
- R2 Ensure that leaders' use of self-evaluation and monitoring activities bring about necessary improvement in pupils' standards
- R3 Ensure that teaching and provision supports pupils to develop their skills progressively as they move through the school
- R4 Ensure that teaching and assessment challenges pupils at a suitable level and that feedback helps them to make progress with their learning

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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