Dros ddysgwyr, dros Gymru
For learners, for Wales

A report on

Cardiff Montessori School

Golden Gate
73 Ty Glas Ave
Llanishen
CF14 5DX

Date of inspection: October 2026

by

Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education

and Training in Wales

About Cardiff Montessori School

Name of provider	Cardiff Montessori School
Proprietor status	Private limited company
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Independent
Residential provision?	No
Number of pupils on roll	111
Pupils of statutory school age	95
Date of previous Estyn visit	06/05/2026
Start date of visit	06/10/2026

School context

Cardiff Montessori School is a co-educational, independent school for pupils from 3 to 16 years of age, located in Llanishen, Cardiff.

The school is organised into four sections: the Toddler Community, for children aged 2 to 3 years, the Children's House (ages 3 to 6), Elementary (ages 6 to 12), and Secondary (ages 12 to 16). There are currently 111 pupils on roll, with 95 pupils of statutory school age.

The current headteacher is the proprietor and founded the school in 2016. The school aims to foster its stated values of kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility through the Montessori approach to education.

The school was last inspected in May 2026. Whilst the inspection identified a wide range of strengths in the school’s provision and pupils’ outcomes, the school did not fully meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

The Welsh Government required the school to produce a post-inspection action plan (PIAP) to address the areas of non-compliance. To comply fully with these requirements, the school was required to address the following issues:

Standard 4: Suitability of proprietors, staff and supply staff

Although the school meets almost all of the regulatory requirements for this standard, the school should, in relation to members of staff at the school:

- where an individual is registered with the DBS up-date service, check the individual's certificate status at least every three years **[23(a)(i)]**
- where an individual is not registered with the DBS up-date service, apply for a DBS certificate in respect of that individual at least every three years **[23(a)(ii)]**

In October 2026, an HMI engaged with the school to undertake an evaluation of the school's progress towards implementing the actions identified in their PIAP.

Main findings

Since the monitoring inspection in May 2026, the school has taken purposeful steps to strengthen processes to ensure that DBS checks are updated every three years. As a result, the school has implemented and embedded the actions detailed in their post inspection action plan successfully.

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to suggest that the school does not meet the regulatory requirement for Standard 4 (suitability of proprietors and staff) of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Compliance with the standards for registration

Independent school inspections are governed by the Education Act 2002 and related regulations: the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. These regulations require an independent school to meet an appropriate standard in the following areas:

The quality of education provided by the school

This standard was not considered on this visit

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit

The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

This standard was not considered on this visit

The provision of information

This standard was not considered on this visit

The manner in which complaints are to be handled

This standard was not considered on this visit

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (http://www.estyn.gov.wales)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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