Estyn | Dros ddysgwyr, dros Gymru
For learners, for Wales

Llanmartin Primary School
Waltwood Road
Llanmartin
NP18 2HB

13/11/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: November 2026

A team of inspectors visited Llanmartin Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with pupils and staff, consider documentation, and look at samples of pupils' work. Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

Focus of visit

Provide more opportunities for pupils to make choices about their learning, developing their independence and creativity

- Leaders have begun to strengthen learning environments to help promote pupils' independence. They have provided teachers with beneficial professional learning, including visits to other schools, and agreed clear expectations about learning environments. Many teachers now create inviting, well-organised and appropriately resourced learning spaces that are beginning to support pupils to learn independently.
- Leaders have provided professional learning to strengthen teachers' approaches to developing pupils' thinking skills. Consequently, many pupils are beginning to develop their creative thinking through open-ended activities. They formulate their own questions appropriately, particularly in mathematics.
- Teachers have revisited the school's curriculum to provide greater opportunities for pupils to make choices, such as following their own lines of inquiry within their topic work. As a result, many pupils are beginning to make thoughtful choices, select appropriate resources and sustain their engagement in learning. Many older pupils organise tasks, manage their time effectively and make suitable decisions about how to approach and complete activities.
- The school is developing a range of appropriate strategies to strengthen pupils' resilience, which are beginning to have a positive impact on their learning. Many pupils are developing the confidence and perseverance to overcome challenges.

- In a minority of lessons, learning activities lack a clear purpose. They do not always provide sufficient challenge to help develop pupils' independence and extend their learning.

Ensure younger pupils have more opportunities to engage in purposeful outdoor learning

- The recent appointment of an executive headteacher has brought a renewed and sharper focus on the purpose and the value of effective outdoor learning. Working with the local authority he has identified strengths and areas for improvement in outdoor learning accurately and is working with staff to improve pedagogy and provision.
- Following the core inspection, leaders provided staff with beneficial professional learning in areas, such as effective outdoor provision and developing learning experiences linked with the seasons. However, staff turnover means that a majority of current teachers did not benefit from this training. To address this, leaders are providing further professional learning, including working with other local schools, to help strengthen teachers' practice.
- Leaders have continued to prioritise the improvement of outdoor provision for younger pupils. This included a helpful community day where parents worked with staff to develop one of the school's outdoor learning areas. This outdoor learning area now offers a broad range of resources and opportunities to support younger pupils' development. A minority of classes' outdoor learning areas remain less well developed.
- Where outdoor learning is most purposeful, it supports pupils' communication skills, teamwork and understanding of the natural world well. For example, activities in the meadow and planting areas help pupils to learn about seasonal change and caring for the environment well. Nevertheless, in a majority of classes, pupils still do not have consistently strong opportunities to access the outdoors freely and activities do not support pupils' skills development well enough.
- Leaders recognise that an important step in their improvement journey is to consider more carefully how outdoor learning can develop pupils' skills systematically as they move through the school.

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The school's/PRU's latest core inspection report and further information on the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website:
http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6802224

Yours sincerely



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