Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Bro Idris

Date of inspection: 21/09/2026

This report is also available in Welsh

Summary

Ysgol Bro Idris is an inclusive and caring all age community where well-being, respect and a strong sense of belonging are at the heart of the school's life. Positive relationships between staff and pupils are a notable strength and most pupils behave very well and treat others with respect. They feel safe at school and trust the staff to respond promptly to any concerns. The school's safeguarding arrangements are sound, and staff know their pupils very well, providing effective support to those who need it. Staff promote the importance of good attendance and suitable support is in place to support pupils to attend school regularly. However, these interventions do not always have enough of an effect on improving the attendance of secondary-age pupils, in particular.

Many teachers provide well-organised sessions with clear instructions and appropriate resources that help pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN), to make suitable progress. In the best sessions, teachers set very high expectations, use interesting and relevant contexts and develop pupils' independence effectively. However, in a minority of lessons, the level of challenge is not suitable and too much guidance by teachers limits opportunities for pupils to think and work independently.

Many pupils develop appropriate listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Many read confidently in Welsh and English and demonstrate a good understanding of what they read. The school promotes reading for pleasure effectively through specific reading plans, effective use of the library and workshops with local authors and poets. Many pupils' numeracy and digital skills also develop appropriately. However, there are not enough opportunities across the curriculum for pupils to develop their advanced reading skills, their extended writing and their more sophisticated numeracy and digital skills progressively over time.

The curriculum places a strong emphasis on Welsh identity, local heritage and pupils' personal development. A wide range of visits, visitors and work experiences enrich learning and connect the curriculum to the wider world. Pupils are given valuable opportunities to influence the school's life through different pupil-led committees.

The headteacher leads Ysgol Bro Idris with a clear vision and a strong commitment to well being, respect and inclusion, ensuring that the school is a happy and supportive community across the six sites. With the support of an enthusiastic leadership team, there is a strong sense of teamwork across all sites and the school operates effectively as one all-age organisation. Leaders work together regularly to evaluate and improve provision. However, self-evaluation and improvement planning processes do not always focus specifically enough on the effect of provision on pupils' progress and skills. Successful emphasis is placed on promoting the Welsh language, supporting pupils' well being and reducing the effects of poverty. Strong relationships with families help pupils to take full advantage of the school's opportunities.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Strengthen and ensure consistency in specific aspects of teaching highlighted in the report

R2 Ensure that pupils develop their skills progressively over time

R3 Improve attendance, particularly the attendance of secondary-age pupils

R4 Strengthen self-evaluation and improvement planning to focus more closely on the effect of provision on pupils' standards.

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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