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

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Ysgol Gynradd Y Felinheli
Felinheli
Gwynedd
LL56 4TZ

20/11/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim Visit: November 2026

During the visit, we had an opportunity to visit classes, scrutinise pupils' work and talk to pupils, staff and leaders. We looked at what the school is doing to ensure an appropriate level of challenge for pupils and to provide purposeful feedback that helps them to improve their work.

Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

Focus of visit

Ensure an appropriate level of challenge to support pupils to develop their skills to the best of their ability

- The school has made some progress in strengthening its approach to planning to provide appropriate levels of challenge for pupils.
- In the best practices, teachers plan purposefully to provide activities that offer an appropriate level of challenge, along with valuable opportunities for pupils to make choices, apply their skills and work independently. This is particularly evident in mathematics activities with older pupils, for example.
- Older pupils explain their rationale for choosing a specific level of challenge within their activities confidently. They value opportunities to challenge themselves, along with opportunities to choose how to respond or present their work. In the most effective practices, teachers also encourage pupils to re-select an appropriate level of challenge if they choose an activity that does not challenge them purposefully enough. This is beginning to give pupils more responsibility for their learning.
- However, in a few classes, learning activities do not always challenge pupils consistently enough and, in these cases, opportunities for pupils to think and work with sufficient independence are limited.

- Leaders recognise the need to improve this aspect of provision further to ensure that pupils are challenged appropriately and develop their independent learning skills more consistently across the school.

Provide purposeful feedback so that pupils improve their work in a timely and effective manner

- Teachers use a range of appropriate methods to provide pupils with feedback.
- In the most effective practice, timely and purposeful oral feedback, along with skilful questioning by teachers, helps pupils to understand what they have done well and support them to improve their work appropriately.
- Some pupils, particularly at the top of the school, use success criteria, valuable feedback from peers and suggestions from teachers purposefully to re-draft and refine their work successfully.
- However, the quality of feedback is not consistent enough across the school. In a few classes, feedback is too superficial and does not provide purposeful enough opportunities for pupils to extend, restructure or deepen their work effectively.

The school's most recent 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/6612127

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles
Assistant Director

This document has been translated by Trosol (Welsh to English).

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd, CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446
ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru
www.estyn.llyw.cymru

Estyn, Anchor Court, Keen Road, Cardiff, CF24 5JW Telephone: 02920 446446 enquiries@estyn.gov.wales
www.estyn.gov.wales

Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth.

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