



Report summary for parents and carers on Gladstone Primary

Date of inspection: November 2022

by Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Overview

Gladstone Primary School is a caring and inclusive school, which encourages pupils to learn in a positive atmosphere and to be happy. Pupils enjoy the activities and tasks provided and use a wide range of strategies and resources to learn effectively. Pupils' readiness to learn during lessons is good and this is due to the purposeful working relationships that exist with their teachers and other staff.

Even though extensive restoration of the building restricts the use of the outdoors, the staff provide beneficial learning opportunities both indoors and in the open air. Where learning is particularly successful the teaching is engaging and purposeful and staff have high expectations of pupils. However, the quality of teaching and the impact of teachers' feedback on the next steps in pupils' learning is inconsistent across the school.

All staff provide a high level of support and care for pupils in all aspects of school life. This encourages pupils to take responsibility for their own learning and well-being. Pupils' behaviour is very good, and they are determined to persevere and learn successfully. As a result, they develop strong literacy and digital skills across the curriculum; however, their application of numeracy skills in real life situations is underdeveloped.

The headteacher provides effective and purposeful leadership. She is determined to succeed for the benefit of pupils and the community. The senior leadership team, the staff and the governors share a clear vision. They work together well to ensure that the school is an inclusive learning community that promotes positive opportunities for pupils.

The headteacher shares responsibilities effectively among staff. This creates a positive whole-school focus, where staff and pupils feel valued for their contributions to school life. Leaders evaluate the school's work to plan for improvements thoroughly, using robust self-evaluation processes. These monitoring practices lead to worthwhile training for staff to develop their skills through effective professional learning opportunities.



Recommendations

- R1 Ensure that teachers use learning time effectively, in all classes, to challenge pupils and support their progress
- R2 Ensure that teachers improve provision to develop pupils' numeracy skills
- R3 Ensure that the quality of teachers' feedback targets the next steps in pupils' learning consistently across the school

What happens next

The school will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.



School context

Name of provider	Gladstone Primary
Local authority	Cardiff Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Not applicable
Number of pupils on roll	220
Pupils of statutory school age	150
Number in nursery classes	47
Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in Primary is 23.0%)	30.2%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary 16.1%)	7.3%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	61.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2018
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	24/04/2014
Start date of inspection	21/11/2022
The school is in the middle of extensive restoration work on the school building, which restricts the use of the school's outdoor areas considerably.	

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