



Report summary for parents and carers on Llanfoist Fawr Primary School

Date of inspection: January 2023

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

Overview

The headteacher demonstrates strong leadership and along with other school leaders works well together towards fulfilling their vision to provide a caring, thoughtful, happy and secure environment for pupils. This culture enables most pupils to develop their confidence and self-assurance effectively. They are supported successfully by keen teachers and helpful support staff, who encourage pupils to develop a range of skills appropriately. While most pupils make effective progress in many areas of learning by Year 6, their progress through the school is not strong in all classes.

Llanfoist Primary is a happy school where nearly all pupils treat each other, staff and visitors with politeness and respect. Their behaviour is exceptional and most are eager to undertake their tasks enthusiastically. Staff have a good understanding of pupils' needs and, through joint planning, they prepare interesting activities that engage pupils' interests. However, at times, provision does not always allow pupils to develop their independent learning skills. Most younger pupils make good progress in their language, mathematics and digital skills. They talk confidently to adults about their work and enjoy taking part in a variety of learning experiences. As they travel through the school, most older pupils become very articulate and read well for pleasure and research. Most continue to make sound progress in a range of skills. However, across the school, many pupils do not make the best possible progress in their Welsh speaking skills.

Llanfoist Primary federated with another nearby primary school, Llanfihangel Primary. They share the same governing body and the same headteacher, who splits his time between both sites. The governing body discharges its duties diligently, for example by conducting site visits, and governors have a suitable understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development. As a federation, leaders ensure that there are many opportunities for all staff to collaborate. For example, by working together they are well on their way to implementing a curriculum that is real and reflects the needs of both communities. Overall, leaders keep the work of the school under review appropriately. They evaluate lessons and the pupils' learning in books across both schools. Looking ahead, leaders and staff recognise that by refining their approaches to this work they can focus more sharply on evaluating the difference that teaching makes to pupils' progress and discover what important areas of the school's work need to improve.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve self-evaluation processes across the federation
- R2 Ensure that teaching is consistently good across the federation of schools
- R3 Improve provision to support pupils to become independent learners
- R4 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Llanfoist Fawr Primary School
Local authority	Monmouthshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	202
Pupils of statutory school age	172
Number in nursery classes	0
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%)	15.0%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary is 16.1%)	8.1%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2019
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	07/09/2015
Start date of inspection	23/01/2023

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