



## Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Y Gorlan

**Date of inspection: January 2023**

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

# Overview

Ysgol y Gorlan is a happy, caring and family community. One of the school's most effective features is that staff support the emotional well-being of all pupils and provide them with a well-rounded education successfully. They work together effectively to provide a friendly and inclusive ethos where pupils behave politely and respectfully. Nearly all pupils treat their peers, staff and visitors with care. Most pupils show a positive attitude to learning and make sound progress from their starting points.

Most pupils have a say in school life and work effectively with each other and adults when planning rich learning experiences. They make sound progress during lessons and activities that inspire them to do their best. However, pupils do not develop their extended numeracy skills as they move through the school. Pupils across the school develop their digital and creative skills well and older pupils develop a sound understanding of the culture, history and geography of their local area or 'cynefin'.

The school's creative vision is to develop the curriculum and the sound emphasis on shared values supports teachers and staff to provide a rich range of interesting learning experiences. This engages and maintains pupils' enthusiasm and meets their needs successfully. The school's provision for the use of the Welsh language is an obvious strength. However, teachers' feedback does not always provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on their work and make increasingly challenging improvements to their learning.

The headteacher and leaders share a clear vision to provide a well-rounded education based on supporting pupils' well-being and working together for the future. They focus well on ensuring that all staff feel that they are part of the school team. This ensures that everyone understands the school's priorities and work together supportively. However, the school's self-evaluation and planning for improvement arrangements are not effective enough to identify its strengths and areas for improvement. Most governors work well with leaders to support staff and the headteacher on day-to-day arrangements. However, members of the governing body are not involved effectively enough in the school's strategic planning to drive the changes that are needed.

# Recommendations

- R1 Provide regular opportunities for pupils to apply their numeracy skills across the curriculum
- R2 Provide specific feedback for pupils to extend their work to the best of their ability
- R3 Ensure self-evaluation and planning arrangements so that the school can identify its strengths and areas for improvement
- R4 Ensure that governors are involved in the school's strategic planning to drive the changes that are needed

## What happens next

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



## School context

Name of provider	Ysgol y Gorlan
Local authority	Cyngor Gwynedd
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	113
Pupils of statutory school age	84
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	14
Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average  <i>(The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%)</i>	10.7%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a)  <i>(The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%)</i>	16.7%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	73.8%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/04/2014
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	13/05/2014
Start date of inspection	30/01/2023

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