



Report summary for parents and carers on Prestatyn High School

Date of inspection: February 2023

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

Overview

Prestatyn High School provides a positive and engaging learning environment where nearly all pupils develop as happy, kind, and respectful individuals. The school is an inclusive learning community where pupils and staff work closely and effectively as a team and these relationships form the heartbeat of the school. Through its 'Engagement Centre', well-being room and partnerships with outside agencies, the school provides strong and well-considered support for pupils' well-being. As a result, most pupils feel safe and know who to turn to for support.

The school's curriculum is designed thoughtfully with the needs of pupils at its heart. Leaders have a deep understanding of the community they serve, and their commitment to ensuring that the school both supports and shapes that community is notable. Complementing the formal curriculum is a vibrant enrichment and extra-curricular offer, sometimes shaped and delivered by pupils themselves. Although areas such as the planning for the progressive development of pupils' skills is at the early stages of development, the school provides an inclusive curriculum, which offers something for every pupil, regardless of their background.

Where teaching is at its strongest, pupils make good progress. However, in a minority of instances, there is too much inconsistency in how well teachers plan to develop pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding over time and pupils are not challenged well enough. This limits the progress that pupils make.

The headteacher and his senior team have worked well to establish a culture of high expectations for all and shared well their vision that the whole-school community take positive responsibility for their actions and decisions. Governors, leaders, and staff care about their locality and strive to ensure that their school supports the community to thrive. Leaders gather a range of evidence to evaluate the school's work and generally have a clear understanding of the strengths and areas for improvement. Although leaders evaluate the quality of teaching, this is not precise enough to meet all their aspirations and plan for improvement.

Recommendations

- R1 Strengthen evaluation and improvement processes so that leaders have a more precise understanding of the impact of their work, particularly the impact of teaching on learning
- R2 Ensure that teaching supports all pupils to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding progressively
- R3 Strengthen the provision for the progressive development of pupils' skills

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Prestatyn High School
Local authority	Denbighshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Secondary
Number of pupils on roll	1448
Pupils of statutory school age	1196
Number in sixth form	221
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 Secondary is 20.2%)	25.5%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Secondary is 17.8%)	25.1%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	1.9%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	1.6%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2016
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/10/2014
Start date of inspection	06/02/2023

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Publication date: 12/04/2023

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