



Report summary for parents and carers on Brackla Primary School

Date of inspection: January 2024

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

Overview

Brackla is a happy and welcoming school, where pupils and staff feel cared for and thrive. Over many years the headteacher has fostered a successful learning culture where pupils and staff feel proud to be members of the school community and want to do their best.

The headteacher and school leaders work purposefully alongside the governing body to secure improvements for the school. Together, they understand school strengths and areas for development and plan accurate strategic actions to secure improvement. Leaders have developed a culture where staff are keen to develop their own skills and teaching. Leaders work closely with partners to measure the success of initiatives. They take a sensible and considered approach to change and, as a result, the quality of teaching across the school is consistently good.

School leaders have worked hard to develop the learning environment to ensure it meets the needs of the pupils well. They have developed the outdoors and make good use of small rooms and corridors to create break out rooms where pupils can develop their independent and collaborative skills well.

The school's curriculum takes account of pupils' interests and reflects the Curriculum for Wales successfully. Teachers and support staff are skilful and support pupils to develop a range of skills successfully. A strong feature of the school is how teachers ensure that pupils apply the skills they have in other areas of learning purposefully.

Teachers and support staff plan together effectively. They provide a wide range of interesting learning activities and provide good opportunities for pupils to explore their own thinking and how they can approach a problem successfully. However, teachers' feedback does not always challenge pupils to improve their work sufficiently.

Staff place a strong emphasis on supporting the well-being of all. Leaders and staff work closely with pupils and families to ensure that they tailor the support they need to individual circumstances. As a result, most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN), engage well in their learning, make good progress and achieve well.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve the quality of feedback to ensure that pupils understand what they do well and what they need to do to improve

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Brackla Primary School
Local authority	Bridgend County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	336
Pupils of statutory school age	247
Number in nursery classes	44
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 23.7%)	27.8%
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 13.2%)	1.5%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.9%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	8.1%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2012
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/06/2016
Start date of inspection	29/01/2024

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