



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Tŷ Monmouth

Date of inspection: January 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Ysgol Tŷ Monmouth is a school where staff develop particularly effective working relationships with pupils based on a secure understanding of their emotional and additional learning needs. Through valuable professional learning, staff develop valuable skills, which help support pupils to self-regulate, develop their social skills and manage their behaviour. Pupils respond positively to this, and over time settle well into the school and feel safe and secure.

The structure of classes across the school into stages rather than year groups helps to ensure personal and developmental compatibility between pupils. Class sizes are small, with a maximum of four pupils supported by a minimum of one teacher and one teaching assistant. These small class sizes mean that teachers and teaching assistants are able to provide a high degree of beneficial support for individual pupils. However, the level of challenge provided by staff to support pupils' progress is not consistent across the school.

The school has strong leadership that oversees the implementation of an appropriate curriculum and sound teaching. Leaders are in the early stages of further developing the curriculum to meet the needs of older pupils as they prepare for their next stages in work or education. As a result of the quality of teaching and learning experiences at the school, nearly all pupils make sound progress in their literacy, numeracy and digital skills. A notable feature is the strong progress most pupils make in their social skills and in improving their attendance and engagement in learning. However, there is a limited focus on teaching and learning within quality assurance processes and professional learning for staff.

The school meets all of the Independent School Standards (Wales) 2003 to maintain its registration.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made three recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Refine processes for quality assurance and improvement planning to focus more on teaching and pupil progress**
- R2 Continue to develop the curriculum and vocational learning opportunities to support pupils to follow their desired learning pathways**
- R3 Ensure that learning activities consistently challenge all pupils to make good progress**

Estyn advises the proprietor to amend its current development plan to show what actions the school intends to take in response to the recommendations. The school must also provide a copy of this report or a summary of it to all parents/carers at the school.

Compliance with the regulations for registration

Independent school inspections are governed by the Education Act 2002 and related regulations: the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003. These regulations require an independent school to meet an appropriate standard in the following areas:

The quality of education provided by the school

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

The suitability of proprietors and staff

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

The provision of information

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

The manner in which complaints are to be handled

The school meets the regulatory requirements for this standard.

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the [full report](#).

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