



Report summary for parents and carers on Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary

Date of inspection: February 2024

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

Overview

Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School is a positive, community focused learning environment where the well-being and safeguarding of pupils and staff is a priority. School leaders and staff work to promote a vision that focuses on striving to ensure that all pupils are happy, healthy, and safe. As a result, pupils have high levels of well-being across the school. Nearly all pupils behave well in class and at playtimes and they are proud of their school. The working relationships between pupils as well as with staff demonstrate strong levels of trust and mutual respect.

Senior leaders work well to evaluate the school's strengths and identify areas for improvement. Senior leaders and staff work collaboratively to improve the quality of teaching and learning experiences and to ensure that pupils make progress. The school provides effective support for pupils' social and emotional needs.

Leaders monitor the impact of the school's work and work with staff to ensure that pupils successfully engage in school life and learning. However, assessment and progress information are not used effectively enough to identify and plan for next steps in all pupils' learning.

Most pupils make good progress in developing their speaking and listening, reading, writing and mathematical skills. They talk enthusiastically about their learning. Teachers provide suitable feedback that encourages pupils to respond to questions or correct their work. However, pupils have limited opportunities to improve their work or influence what and how they learn. Generally, most lessons are teacher led and do not support pupils to become independent and reflective learners.

The school makes good use of its extensive outdoor areas. Teachers provide many opportunities for pupils to take part in physical activity. The school offers an inclusive and extensive range of after-school clubs, which are well attended by pupils of all ages.

Recommendations

- R1 Further develop a whole-school shared understanding of progression to ensure that teachers' planning and feedback meet the needs of all pupils
- R2 Improve pupils' independent learning skills, including opportunities for them to reflect on and make decisions about their learning, and use teacher feedback appropriately to understand their next steps in learning

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary
Local authority	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	614
Pupils of statutory school age	463
Number in nursery classes	78
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%)	13.5%
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%)	14.9%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/01/2015
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/05/2014
Start date of inspection	05/02/2024

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