



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Llanfyllin

Date of inspection: March 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Overview

Since its formation in 2020, leaders have succeeded in establishing a close knit community and developed an ethos of 'Teulu' Ysgol Llanfyllin, based on being one school. Staff work well together to understand the well-being needs of pupils and in particular, cater suitably for those who are most vulnerable. Most pupils feel well supported and safe as a result of this approach.

Teachers and support staff foster positive working relationships with pupils. In a few cases, where teaching is strongest, teachers ensure an appropriate pace to learning and have high expectations. The majority of teachers plan suitably to meet pupils' needs, give clear explanations and check for progress regularly. In a minority of cases, where teaching is not as strong, teachers do not have high enough expectations or provide suitable challenge. In general, most pupils of primary age make suitable progress in developing their skills and understanding. A majority of secondary aged pupils make appropriate progress. However, in a minority of cases, shortcomings in teaching, particularly in the cyfnod uwchradd, lead to pupils becoming disengaged in their learning and making less progress than they should. Most pupils in the sixth form make sound progress and display extremely positive attitudes towards their learning.

The school offers an appropriately broad and balanced curriculum and generally caters well for individual needs. It has worked constructively on its vision for Curriculum for Wales known as the 'Tyfu' curriculum. This has been shared widely and is well understood by most staff. Recently, the school has strengthened its approach to coordinate the provision for the progressive development of pupils' skills. Currently, this is not embedded well enough across the school.

The headteacher provides assured and careful leadership underpinned by a strong moral purpose. Alongside the senior leadership team, they continue to develop the culture of an all-age school. Leaders have successfully created a strong safeguarding culture across the school and ensured that pupils generally feel safe and supported. However, leadership has not had enough impact on the quality of teaching, particularly in the cyfnod uwchradd. Although leaders have a sound understanding of the main strengths and areas to improve in the school's provision, they do not focus precisely enough on the impact of provision on pupils' learning and behaviour in order to evaluate its impact.

Recommendations

- R1 Address the shortcomings in teaching identified in this report to improve pupils' learning and progress
- R2 Improve the planning for the progressive development of pupils' skills
- R3 Refine self-evaluation processes to focus precisely on the impact of teaching on pupils' progress
- R4 Ensure that staff implement behaviour strategies consistently

What happens next

The school will draw up an action plan to show how it is going to address the recommendations. Estyn will work with the local authority to review the school's progress. This is the lightest touch of follow-up, as it is not statutory.



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Llanfyllin
Local authority	Powys County Council
Language of the provider	Bilingual
Type of school	All age schools
Number of pupils on roll	777
Pupils of statutory school age	653
Number in sixth form	103
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 All age schools is 21.6%)	14.4%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in All age schools is 11.0%)	16.2%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	32.5%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	0.9%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2020
Start date of inspection	11/03/2024
This is the first inspection of Ysgol Llanfyllin following the amalgamation of Ysgol Gynradd Llanfyllin and Llanfyllin High School in September 2020.	

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