



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Syr John Rhys

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

Ysgol Syr John Rhys is a successful learning community that celebrates Welsh culture, courtesy and respect, and pupils' achievements, exceptionally well. The headteacher provides clear and wise guidance and respects the efforts of everyone who contributes to pupils' well-rounded education. Staff are committed to providing high quality care and pupils' well-being in a homely and supportive learning environment. This has a strong influence on pupils' positive attitudes towards each other and others. The strategic co-operation with two neighbouring schools that are under the headteacher's care has a positive effect on provision and pupils' progress.

Staff work together successfully to plan a range of stimulating play and learning experiences for pupils. They provide a broad curriculum that is relevant to pupils' interests, including studying the history and geography of the school's area. As a result, pupils' pride in their local area is clear.

Most pupils develop knowledge, understanding and oral, numeracy and digital skills that are appropriate for their age and starting points successfully. For example, most develop their English oral and reading skills skilfully, contribute purposefully to class discussions and express their views clearly and maturely. However, pupils' Welsh reading and writing skills do not develop soundly enough, particularly their ability to read aloud and discuss texts confidently.

Provision for supporting the learning skills of pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is effective. As a result, they make good progress over time considering the targets of their individual programmes and their previous achievements.

The school's self-evaluation and quality assurance arrangements are thorough. Members of the governing body support the headteacher and staff purposefully. They have a sound awareness of the school's strengths and improvement priorities and provide an appropriate balance of support and challenge.

The relationship between the school and parents is sound. Parents are very proud that their children attend such a supportive small school which is completely central to the rural community of the Ponterwyd area.

Recommendations

R1 Develop pupils' Welsh reading and writing skills

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Syr John Rhys
Local authority	Ceredigion County Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	22
Pupils of statutory school age	19
Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average <i>(The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.7%)</i>	33.9%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) <i>(The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 13.2%)</i>	23%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	5%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	September 2009
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	28/04/2015
Start date of inspection	11/03/2024

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