



Report summary for parents and carers on Abergwili Voluntary Primary School

Date of inspection: May 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

The executive headteacher is a skilful and insightful leader who sets high expectations for herself and her staff. A strong emphasis is placed on supporting pupils' well-being and ensuring that the school is a core part of its local community, including the church. A strong feature of the headteacher's work is the way in which she encourages staff from both of the schools under her leadership to work together and support each other to strengthen and improve provision.

Leaders use effective self-evaluation arrangements to highlight strengths and areas for improvement. Leaders and members of the governing body play an active part in the process, which supports their understanding of the school's priorities well. They promote a robust culture of safeguarding and manage the budget carefully to reduce the current deficit.

The caring, inclusive and familial nature of the school promotes good behaviour among pupils and encourages them to take care of, and respect, each other. Pupils show strong attitudes to learning, work together appropriately on practical tasks and develop their independent learning skills, Although pupils build increasingly on these skills, there are very few opportunities for older pupils to respond to teachers' feedback to improve their own work.

Teachers provide an interesting curriculum based on the local area. During their time at the school, many pupils make sound progress in their learning. Considering that most pupils are new to the Welsh language, many of the youngest pupils communicate with increasing confidence. Although most of the older pupils use the Welsh language appropriately, they do not always use polished spoken language regularly enough when communicating. Overall, many of the older pupils build appropriately on their secure early writing skills. However, teachers do not provide regular enough opportunities for pupils to apply their skills and write at length across the curriculum.

Over time, many pupils make suitable progress in their numeracy skills. However, there are very few opportunities for older pupils to develop the full range of skills and understanding in line with their ability and stage of development. There are also very few opportunities for them to practise and apply their skills in other areas of the curriculum. Provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is sound.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Strengthen pupils' Welsh language skills
- R2 Ensure that learning experiences challenge pupils regularly to support them to achieve to the best of their ability and in line with their stage of development
- R3 Plan purposeful opportunities for pupils to develop and apply their literacy and numeracy skills purposefully over time

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

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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Publication date: 10/07/2024

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