



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Y Borth

Date of inspection: May 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Overview

Ysgol y Borth provides a happy, inclusive and homely environment where all pupils are respected and develop as well-rounded and responsible individuals. Across the school, pupils are extremely caring towards each other, treat adults with respect and demonstrate excellent behaviour. A distinct Welsh feel permeates the school and staff plan valuable opportunities for pupils to develop as proud citizens who are knowledgeable about their local area and their national heritage.

One of the school's most prominent qualities is the way in which staff take care of pupils' health and well-being, ensuring a well-rounded education for them with great success. The very supportive working relationship between adults and pupils builds confidence and empowers pupils' positive attitudes to learning successfully. As a result, they persevere well with their tasks and enjoy learning.

Over time, most pupils make strong progress in a wide range of skills from their various starting points, particularly in their digital skills. Staff identify pupils' needs well and work together effectively to plan broad and interesting learning experiences for them. Provision to support pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) is robust. Overall, across the school, over-use of ready-made worksheets slows pupils' progress in fostering their writing skills further across the areas of learning, particularly those who are more able.

An excellent feature of the school's work is the way in which staff plan valuable opportunities for pupils to foster their entrepreneurial skills successfully through a valuable range of interesting experiences, which also promote the importance of sustainability skilfully. Pupils' welcome leadership roles, undertake numerous responsibilities and influence the school's life and work regularly.

An obvious strength in provision is the way in which staff use the building and extensive outdoor areas to create a stimulating learning environment for pupils. They provide a rich curriculum that includes the pupil's voice regularly about what they would like to learn. However, at times, opportunities for pupils to make independent decisions about how to complete and present their work are inconsistent.

The headteacher provides caring leadership and is completely dedicated to the school. He is supported skilfully by a dedicated governing body that has a sound understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. The parent teacher association is active and contributes regularly to enriching provision, for example by investing purposefully in specialist digital equipment to nurture pupils' inquiry skills.

Recommendations

- R1 Reduce the use of ready-made worksheets to enable pupils to develop their writing skills further, particularly those who are more able
- R2 Expand opportunities for pupils to make independent choices about how they complete tasks and present their work

What happens next

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

Estyn will invite the school to prepare a case study on its work in relation to providing valuable experiences to nurture pupils' entrepreneurial skills, to be disseminated on Estyn's website.



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Y Borth
Local authority	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	225
Pupils of statutory school age	181
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	14
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>	14.2%
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>	8.3%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	47.5%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2013
Start date of inspection	13/05/2024

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