



Report summary for parents and carers on Forden C.I.W. School

Date of inspection: September 2022

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

Overview

Forden Church in Wales Primary School is a nurturing place for pupils and staff alike. There is an overall feeling of inclusivity and a strong sense of belonging in the school. The headteacher, teachers and support staff take very good care of the pupils and want them to thrive in learning and in life. Well-being is placed at the heart of the school's ethos. All pupils and their families receive a genuine welcome and pupils enjoy coming to school and being part of such a reassuring learning environment. Teachers and support staff are there to help when needed. They offer pupils a range of learning opportunities, all of which help to keep pupils interested in their learning. However, these do not consistently provide sufficient challenge to pupils to ensure their progress and the development of their skills as independent learners.

Pupils are proud of Forden School and exhibit very positive attitudes to learning. Pupils know that staff expect them to respect everyone in the school community and to behave well. The engagement of pupils in their learning is a notable strength of the school. The school grounds offer a stimulating environment to extend pupils' learning. However, the school does not always make best use of this learning opportunity.

The headteacher provides considerate leadership and generally knows the school well. She has correctly identified important areas of the school's work that she wants to improve. These include pupils' extended writing and mathematics; nevertheless, evaluation and improvement processes require further honing. The headteacher values the opinions of staff, pupils, parents and governors, and uses these to improve the school. School staff trust each other and work well together to provide good support for each other and pupils.



Recommendations

- R1 Improve the quality of teaching, including formative assessment, to ensure that pupils are challenged consistently**
- R2 Strengthen self-evaluation and improvement planning processes to accurately identify and bring about necessary development**
- R3 Utilise the outdoors through the planning of purposeful learning experiences**

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.



School context

Name of provider	Forden C.I.W. School
Local authority	Powys County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Church in Wales
Number of pupils on roll	60
Pupils of statutory school age	60
Number in nursery classes	0
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 21.3%)	7%
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 22.2%)	12%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2017
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	26/11/2013
Start date of inspection	26/09/2022

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