

Report summary for parents and carers on Maesycwmmer Primary School Date of inspection: February 2025

Summary

Maesycwmmer Primary is a highly inclusive, happy, safe and successful school. The headteacher provides thoughtful, committed leadership and a dedicated team of staff and governors support him well. Leaders and staff have high expectations for all pupils' learning and well-being. Pupils feel safe and thoroughly enjoy school life. They are interested and engage eagerly in a wide range of exciting learning experiences. Behaviour is commendable and most pupils attend school regularly.

There are strong and purposeful working relationships across the school and this enables pupils to learn in a caring and positive learning environment. Teachers and support staff know pupils well and plan a range of engaging activities that support their well-being and learning needs successfully. This means that most pupils, including those with additional learning needs (ALN) make at least good progress from their individual starting points.

The school has worked diligently alongside local schools to design and refine an interesting curriculum that provides pupils with a wide variety of authentic learning experiences. Pupils enjoy learning outdoors, school trips and the many interesting visitors that attend the school who deepen their understanding of their own locality and the world of work.

Teachers plan effectively to ensure pupils develop their literacy, numeracy and digital skills well over time and they ensure that they apply these skills thoughtfully in meaningful contexts. Opportunities for pupils to learn outdoors are exceptional and used successfully to support pupils' emotional well-being, creative and expressive skills. Overall, teaching is strong through the school, but occasionally, teachers miss opportunities to ensure there is enough challenge in activities to stretch pupils of all abilities.

Leaders have a very good understanding of what the school does well and what needs to improve. Work to develop pupils' Welsh speaking skills, and feedback to pupils has been particularly successful and a keen focus on well-being has led to tangible improvements in pupils' attendance. The school's relationships with parents and wider community is a strength. Parents and carers trust the school and value the useful 'open doors' sessions that enable them to support their child's learning at home.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made one recommendation to help the school continue to improve:

R1 Provide an appropriate level of challenge to all pupils

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

Full Report

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the <u>full</u> <u>report</u>

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