

David Burrows  
Blaenbaglan Primary School  
Maes-Ty-Canol  
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07/04/2025

Dear David Burrows

**Interim visit:** March 2025

A team of inspectors recently visited Blaenbaglan Primary School to consider how the school has progressed in addressing a sample of the recommendations from the most recent core inspection. Below is a summary of progress.

### **Focus of visit**

#### **Sharpen self-evaluation processes to ensure that monitoring identifies all significant areas for development**

- Leaders have embedded an effective cycle of self-evaluation to monitor the quality of teaching and learning across the school rigorously and regularly. They ensure that all staff and governors contribute purposefully to self-evaluation. Together, they identify the school's strengths and areas for further development accurately and use this information to inform focussed school improvement priorities.
- Senior leaders provide effective, individual support for staff development with a sharp focus on improving teaching. Whole school staff performance management targets align appropriately with current improvement priorities and have resulted in notable improvements.
- School leaders work successfully with other local schools to consider the quality of their curriculum and the impact of teaching on learning. This work further strengthens the schools' evaluation of its performance.

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### **Improve the consistency of the quality of teaching and assessment across the school**

- All staff promote high expectations for pupils' learning. They consider a range of assessment information carefully to ensure that learners are challenged and supported appropriately.
- A systematic and consistent approach to developing pupils' literacy and numeracy skills has been successful. Nearly all teachers plan purposeful opportunities for pupils to apply their literacy and numeracy skills in authentic contexts at an appropriate level.
- Most teachers ensure that the pace of learning in lessons is swift and that learning experiences are relevant and engaging. They provide meaningful opportunities for pupils to make choices about their learning and to develop their independence.
- Most teachers use focussed questioning and observation to assess pupils' progress accurately during lessons. They provide clear verbal and written feedback that helps pupils to understand their next steps in learning. Older pupils respond to feedback maturely, refining their work with purpose and increasing precision.
- Senior leaders monitor pupils' progress over time carefully. They recognise the need for staff to further develop their understanding of progression to strengthen planning and assessment across all areas of learning.

The school's latest core inspection report and further information on the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website: <https://estyn.gov.wales/education-providers/blaenbaglan-primary-school/>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director