

Report summary for parents and carers on Merllyn C.P. School

Date of inspection: March 2025

Summary

Merllyn C.P school is a happy, caring school, where the headteacher leads a team of staff effectively to secure exceptional support for pupils' well-being and learning. This, together with a rich and engaging curriculum, ensures that most pupils, including those from low-income households and with additional learning needs (ALN), make strong progress.

Pupils with identified ALN as well as those in need of additional support, benefit from the expertise of motivated and knowledgeable staff who provide high quality interventions. As a result, these pupils access their leaning effectively and make significant progress.

Teachers work diligently to plan rich and meaningful activities to engage and challenge pupils' thinking. However, planned activities in the continuous provision for younger children do not always support or challenge them to develop their skills or independence.

Most pupils develop a range of skills effectively and make strong progress. They use their mathematical knowledge and skills successfully in real-life situations. Most younger pupils develop a secure understanding of phonics. This helps them to make good progress as readers and supports them to begin to write independently. Most older pupils read fluently and confidently and write articulately for a variety of purposes and audiences. However, most pupils' Welsh language skills are at an early stage of development.

Teachers use questioning effectively to assess pupils' understanding and provide valuable feedback to help them to improve their work. They support pupils effectively to learn how to evaluate their own work and plan their next steps.

The Pupil Parliament actively contributes to school improvement by influencing whole-school decisions. Involvement in the groups that make up the parliament contributes positively to pupils' development of essential leadership skills.

The school excels in sharing information promptly, ensuring that parents are well-informed about school life and their children's progress. This is particularly evident during regular pupil-led meetings, which actively engage parents in understanding their child's progress. This contributes to a strong partnership between the school and families.

Recommendations and next steps

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

- R1 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills
- R2 Improve continuous provision for younger 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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