Report summary for parents and carers on Mount Stuart Primary

Date of inspection: March 2025

This report is also available in Welsh.

Summary

Mount Stuart Primary is a welcoming and inclusive school with a clear vision that brings staff, pupils, and parents together. Its strong values of respect, resilience, and creativity help pupils develop confidence and a love of learning. Staff build positive relationships with pupils and families, creating a strong sense of community. Because of this, nearly all pupils engage enthusiastically in their learning and make good progress.

The school provides a diverse and engaging curriculum that meets pupils' needs well. Pupils enjoy a wide range of experiences, including exciting opportunities in the arts. The curriculum successfully connects Welsh culture with global influences, helping pupils appreciate both their local heritage and the wider world. Learning experiences reflect diversity and promote fairness, equality, and respect. A key strength is the school's commitment to anti-racism and diversity. Staff receive high-quality professional learning in these areas and then share their expertise with other schools.

Leaders have high expectations for pupils' language and communication skills. Staff model multiple languages, creating a supportive environment, which helps most pupils to develop confidence in speaking. A structured approach to literacy ensures that most pupils make strong progress in reading and writing. Teachers provide suitable opportunities for pupils to develop their mathematical skills. Most make good progress in number work but have fewer chances to apply their understanding to problem-solving or across the curriculum. Younger pupils learn basic Welsh vocabulary, while many older pupils use the language to ask and answer simple questions.

The youngest pupils thrive in a high-quality, well-structured environment that nurtures their independence and curiosity. Pupil voice groups actively support the school's work, enabling most older pupils to promote issues they care about.

Most pupils confidently use digital programs to support their learning. However, there are limited opportunities to explore a wider range of technology, reducing their ability to develop more varied skills.

While the school monitors attendance carefully, current strategies have not yet reduced absences effectively.

Governors have a clear and insightful understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. They provide well-informed support and challenge to leaders. Leaders, including governors, use school funding purposefully to improve outcomes for targeted pupils.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Ensure that pupils apply their numeracy skills purposefully and at an appropriate level across the curriculum

R2 Ensure that pupils develop a broader range of digital skills

R3 Improve attendance

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 full report

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