

A report on

Brynmorgan Villa

**Upper Cwmtwrch
Ystalyfera
Swansea
SA9 2XG**

Date of inspection: June 2025

by

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

About Brynmorgan Villa

Name of provider	Brynmorgan Villa
Proprietor status	Springboard Education and Care
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Independent special
Residential provision?	Yes
Number of pupils on roll	3
Pupils of statutory school age	2
Date of previous Estyn visit	20/05/2024
Start date of visit	16/06/2025

School context:

Brynmorgan Villa is a small independent special school for children and young people between the ages of 11 to 18 years. The school caters for pupils who have complex needs and learning difficulties consistent with social, emotional, and mental health difficulties. Pupils that attend the school are resident in the children's home that shares the school site.

The school is situated in a semi-rural area in Neath Port Talbot. It is administered by Springboard Education and Care. There are currently three pupils at the school. These pupils are placed by local authorities in Wales.

At the time of the May 2024 inspection, the school did not comply fully with Standard 3 of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations; the welfare, health and safety of pupils.

The Welsh Government asked the school to produce a post-inspection action plan to address the areas of non-compliance. To comply fully with these requirements, the school was required to address the issues identified below for each standard.

Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

In order to comply fully with the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024, the proprietor should:

- Ensure a written policy to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils is drawn up and effectively implemented (6b)
- Ensure all staff, supply staff, volunteers and pupils receive appropriate training in the independent school's safeguarding policy in accordance with any guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers in relation to safeguarding (10a)

A team of HMI visited the school in, November 2024 and March 2025 to discuss the school's progress against their action plan. Subsequently, HMI visited the school in June 2025 to evaluate the school's compliance with the previously non-compliant standards.

Main findings

Since the last inspection in 2024, leaders and staff have worked collaboratively to further enhance and embed a very robust culture of safeguarding. Building positive relationships and keeping pupils safe are at the core of everything the staff in the school do.

Leaders have embedded thorough safeguarding training for all staff which includes regular opportunities to review and discuss current national safeguarding themes, discuss serious case reviews and reflect upon practice. Further, the school has recently strengthened the safeguarding team through additional staff members completing designated safeguard person training.

Leaders have ensured that all policies prioritise and promote the ethos of safeguarding in the school. Policies are accessible and practical which take in to account the bespoke nature of the school. Through transparent and collaborative leadership, nearly all staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities linked to safeguarding, including at director level.

Safeguarding leads at the school maintain comprehensive and detailed records which enable them to analyse patterns in behaviours and incidents. As a result, staff can swiftly put in appropriate interventions and adapt the curriculum, where required to support pupils on important topics. For example, in key areas such as how to stay safe online, what is a healthy relationship, consent and alcoholism and drug use.

Through monthly senior leaders' meetings and termly director meetings, the wider leadership team have a clear understanding of practice within the school. Further, directors provide support and challenge, demonstrating a culture of curiosity.

Leaders in both the school and within the residential home communicate effectively on a daily basis at handover points. As a result, there is clear collaboration between residential and school staff which positively impacts upon the well-being and safety of pupils.

Brynmorgan Villa has made significant progress and there is no evidence that the school does not comply with the Independent School Standards.

Recommendation for action

- Continue refining and implementing key policies, procedures and training to ensure consistency and long-term effectiveness

Compliance with the standards for registration

Independent school inspections are governed by the Education Act 2002 and related regulations: the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. These regulations require an independent school to meet an appropriate standard in the following areas:

The quality of education provided by the school

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

The suitability of proprietors and staff

This standard was not considered on this visit.

Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The provision of information

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The manner in which complaints are to be handled

This standard was not considered on this visit.

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (<http://www.estyn.gov.wales>)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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