

# **Report summary for parents and carers on Gwenllian Education Centre**

**Date of inspection: June 2025**

# Summary

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Gwenllian Education Centre is a highly welcoming, calm and nurturing environment which provides a bespoke and personalised curriculum for every pupil.

The well-being and care for pupils and staff is a significant strength of the school.

Teaching at Gwenllian Education Centre is characterised by well-paced, structured sessions that prioritise individual engagement and progress. Nearly all staff demonstrate high levels of expertise in using bespoke communication strategies. This is a significant strength of the school.

Leaders effectively deploy staff to meet the additional learning needs (ALN) of nearly all pupils. Nearly all staff know the needs of pupils extremely well. As a result, pupils make strong progress from their individual starting points.

The school has well-embedded assessment processes. These are used highly effectively to inform planning and next steps. Nearly all staff use a wide range of feedback well, including a blend of verbal, visual, signed and symbol-based to support pupils' understanding and reinforce their learning.

The school has a strong and embedded culture of safeguarding. However, whilst the school's safeguarding culture is highly effective in practice aspects of safer recruitment documentation do not allow leaders to easily determine whether all required pre-employment checks have been completed successfully.

The school's behaviour team are successfully integrated into the life of the school and are highly effective. The behaviour team are highly analytical in their approach which aids in early identification of pupil behaviours and enables responsive support.

Most pupils display strongly positive attitudes to learning. Staff foster a calm, consistent environment with the skilful use of prompts, praise, and patience. Pupils' understanding of expectations is evident through their ability to sustain attention and transition smoothly between activities.

Pupils' attendance at Gwenllian Education Centre is significantly above the national average.

Opportunities for developing leadership skills and personal responsibility are woven into daily routines and personalised learning activities. Pupils are supported to share their views and have an appropriate understanding of responsibility. Pupils feel that their opinions are valued at the school.

While the school promotes the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), due to the complex needs of the pupils, explicit references to the convention are limited. As a result, pupils' awareness of the UNCRC itself is underdeveloped.

The school offers exceptional support to parents and carers through training programmes, tailored behaviour support and detailed and regular communication. This is a notable strength of the school.

Leaders foster a collaborative culture across the school. Nearly all staff highly value the support offered by leaders.

The proprietors are highly committed and have sound strategic foresight in guiding the school's direction. Their involvement in wider initiatives, such as a day centre and restaurant, demonstrates their holistic approach to education and positively impacts on the opportunities for pupils.

## Compliance with the conditions for registration

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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**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

### **The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

### **The suitability of proprietors and staff**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

### **Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

### **The provision of information**

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

## The manner in which complaints are to be handled

On the basis of this inspection, there is no evidence that the school does not comply with this Standard.

# Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Strengthen record keeping, particularly in relation to safer recruitment checks and strategic leadership in this area

R2 Fully embed the United Nations Convention Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into the curriculum

Estyn advises the proprietor to amend its current development plan to show what actions the school intends to take in response to the recommendations. It is also advisable to circulate this plan, or a summary of it, to all parents/carers at the school.

## 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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Publication date: 04/08/2025