

Report summary for parents and carers on Rhydypenau Primary School

Date of inspection: June 2025

Summary

Leaders at Rhydypenau Primary School set high expectations and create a highly inclusive, and caring learning environment. As a result, pupils feel a strong sense of belonging and pride in their school, and staff share a clear vision for preparing pupils for lifelong learning. Governors play an active and supportive role, providing appropriate challenge and maintaining a secure oversight of school finances. Leaders, governors and staff establish and maintain a secure culture of safeguarding.

The school has a successful track record of improving pupils' well-being and learning outcomes. Nearly all pupils develop into ambitious and aspirational learners. Staff monitor progress carefully and adapt provision to reduce barriers and support equitable experiences for pupils experiencing poverty. The school's arrangements to support pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) are a notable strength, ensuring that these pupils make effective progress. Relationships with external partners enhance support for pupils' specific individual needs.

The school's curriculum is broad, rich and engaging. Teachers plan experiences that support nearly all pupils to make effective progress across areas of learning. Pupils develop a strong understanding of values, identity and social justice through learning that includes religion, values and ethics (RVE), and work on human rights and diversity. The school's work to promote anti-racism and Welsh culture contributes well to pupils' respect for others and their sense of belonging. However, plans to develop pupils' Welsh language skills are at an early stage and pupils make limited progress in this area.

Most teaching is effective, with high expectations, clear explanations and helpful feedback. In the most successful lessons, pupils reflect, question and build on their learning. Where teaching is overly adult-led, pupils' independence and creativity are restricted. Most pupils make exceptional progress in literacy and mathematics, and many develop suitable digital and expressive arts skills. Pupils become conscientious digital citizens with a clear awareness of online safety.

Recommendations and next steps

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

R1 Address the variability in teaching to ensure that all pupils develop as curious, creative, independent learners

R2 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills

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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