

Holy Family R.C. Primary School
Beechley Drive
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3SN

25/09/2025

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: September 2025

A team of inspectors visited Holy Family R.C. Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two recommendations from the previous core inspection. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with pupils and staff, consider documentation, and look at samples of pupils' work. Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

Focus of visit

Provide opportunities for all teachers to share their curriculum knowledge and expertise with colleagues

- Since the core inspection, the school has considered ways to develop its curriculum in line with the ethos of Curriculum for Wales. Leaders have developed contexts for learning, such as Welsh myths and legends, that provide a focus across an appropriate range of skills and experiences.
- Many curriculum contexts engage pupils effectively, although a few are not sufficiently meaningful or authentic for pupils.
- Leaders have enabled staff to share their expertise to support their colleagues in a few areas. This has helped to ensure that pupils' benefit from purposeful learning experiences in Welsh and music.
- Leaders focus the curriculum strongly on subjects, such as mathematics, science and digital skills. This helps many pupils to make effective progress in these areas. However, the school's work to develop a more integrated approach to learning across the Areas of Learning and Experience is at an early stage.

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Estyn welcomes correspondence in both English and Welsh. Correspondence received in either language will be given equal priority.

- The school is exploring ways to use its grounds effectively, such as teaching pupils about growing fruits and vegetables in the edible garden. Younger pupils spend time learning in the outdoors appropriately, however, opportunities for older pupils to benefit from the outdoor environment are underdeveloped.

Improve opportunities for pupils to influence the school's plans to develop provision

- Senior leaders have begun to consider how they can consult pupils about a few decisions affecting the school. They involve pupils in selecting resources or deciding which charities will benefit from the funds they raise. However, overall, leaders are at an early stage in providing opportunities for pupils to influence the wider work of the school.
- Teachers are beginning to involve pupils in enhancing the curriculum. They invite pupils to contribute a few ideas to what and how they will learn within each topic and provide simple choices within lessons.
- In younger classes staff provide pupils with appropriate opportunities to make decisions and lead their own learning through play and exploration. However, at times, activities within learning areas are too narrow to enable pupils to follow their interests and develop their own ideas.
- The school provides opportunities for pupils to join a few pupil leadership groups which influence the life of the school suitably. The healthy eating group encourages pupils to eat healthy snacks at playtimes, and this is having a positive impact.
- Higher up the school, digital leaders support their peers within their own class and beyond to develop their digital skills. Pupils take their roles seriously and show pride in the work they do.

The school's latest core inspection report and further information on the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6813354>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director