

Albany Primary School
Albany Road
Roath
CF24 3RR

22/10/2025

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: October 2025

A team of inspectors visited Albany 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

Ensure that senior leaders robustly monitor and evaluate learning and teaching to identify necessary areas for improvement

- Since the core inspection, leaders have revised monitoring and self-evaluation approaches so that they are more inclusive. Teachers now participate in a range of activities that support them to reflect on teaching and learning progress. This has helped to create a culture of continuous improvement.
- There is an appropriate monitoring, evaluation and review cycle that involves a suitable balance of consideration of first-hand evidence, data analysis and time for reflection. Overall, this has given leaders a clearer understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement, such as the need to improve the quality of questioning across the school.
- Leaders are beginning to use the outcomes from self-evaluation activities to improve teaching and adapt provision when the rate of pupil progress is too slow.
- The headteacher is beginning to work effectively alongside the newly appointed deputy head teacher to refine the school's monitoring and self-evaluation processes further so that they focus more sharply on the aspects of teaching and learning in need of most attention.

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

- Teachers have benefited from a range of professional learning activities including opportunities to observe practice in other schools. This has helped teachers to sharpen their practice especially in relation to provision for the youngest pupils.

Ensure that the curriculum builds pupils' skills systematically as they move through the school.

- Leaders have maintained a purposeful focus on reviewing and refining the curriculum's breadth, depth and quality. As a result, the curriculum is becoming increasingly relevant and engaging for pupils. Leaders and teachers are developing a shared and more secure understanding of what progress in skills and learning should look like as pupils move through the school.
- Professional learning has strengthened staff understanding of progression, particularly in literacy and mathematics. This is beginning to have a positive impact on pupils' skills. Leaders recognise that the consistency of teaching to develop pupils' skills across sequences of lessons remains variable.
- Curriculum provision for reading has been a whole-school priority. Teachers now create inviting reading areas and provide books that are engaging, reflect pupils' interests and represent the diversity of the local community. This work has started to foster a stronger culture of reading across the school.
- Leaders are developing a more systematic approach to the teaching of reading. Professional learning has strengthened staff knowledge and confidence, which is beginning to support a more progressive development of pupils' reading skills over time.
- Teachers now make more effective use of the outdoors to enhance the curriculum. Following targeted professional learning, staff plan outdoor learning opportunities more confidently and more frequently. However, ongoing building works continue to limit the consistency of this practice.

The school's arrangements for safeguarding pupils do not give any cause for concern.

The school's arrangements for site management give cause for concern and have been brought to the attention of the local authority.

The school's/PRU'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/6812005>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Acting Assistant Director