

Holy Name V.R.C. School
Vergam Tce
Fishguard
Pembrokeshire
SA65 9DF

04/11/2025

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: October 2025

A team of inspectors visited Holy Name Catholic 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

Develop independent learning

- Nearly all pupils enjoy participating in the activities on offer to them in the indoor and outdoor environments. They have suitable opportunities to access the provision independently and show positive attitudes to learning and play.
- Nearly all pupils develop their personal independent skills well. Many pupils tidy up resources and prepare them for the next group of pupils independently, demonstrating a strong sense of responsibility.
- The school has developed an approach that provides pupils with worthwhile opportunities to take responsibility for leading their own learning. This includes time for them to apply their skills and knowledge through independent activities linked to their termly topics
- Most pupils across the school take an increasing responsibility for planning and reflecting on their own learning. They have appropriate opportunities to apply their knowledge and understanding to new contexts through their independent learning tasks.

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

- Teachers of younger pupils plan a rotation of activities that include a balance of adult-led tasks and opportunities for independent exploration in both the indoor and outdoor environments.
- While this approach supports independent learning, the stopping of tasks during the rotation to move pupils on at times interrupts learning for a few pupils who are highly engaged in their tasks.
- Teachers of the older pupils plan regular opportunities for independent learning, which are mostly connected to the class theme. Although pupils engage positively in these activities, teachers do not always consider carefully enough the prior learning pupils need to have obtained to be fully successful in these tasks.

Provide opportunities to apply numeracy skills to problem-solving activities in real-life contexts

- Across the school, pupils demonstrate positive attitudes towards mathematics. They engage with their learning happily and many talk about their work confidently, using appropriate and relevant mathematical vocabulary.
- The school is developing a systematic approach to the teaching of mathematics that is helping most pupils to develop and refine their skills and understanding well.
- Teachers make effective use of concrete apparatus to clarify and deepen pupils' mathematical understanding where needed, helping pupils of all ages to learn through useful, hands-on experiences.
- Throughout the school, teachers are beginning to provide pupils with purposeful ways to apply their mathematics skills, supporting, enhancing and enriching their learning across the curriculum. This is helping pupils of all ages to gain a valuable understanding of how mathematics is important in all aspects of life.
- Pupils have increasing opportunities to apply their mathematical skills independently in meaningful contexts. However, in a few instances, they lack the necessary skills or knowledge to access the tasks fully, which limits their ability to succeed.
- There is an increasing range of problem-solving activities that challenge pupils suitably and help to develop their thinking and creative skills. In general, pupils enjoy these and tackle challenges with positivity and perseverance.

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/6683311>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director