

A report on
Coleg Llanymddyfri

**Queensway
Llandovery
Carmarthenshire
SA20 0EE**

Date of inspection: September 2025

by

**Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

About Coleg Llanymddyfri

Name of provider	Coleg Llanymddyfri
Proprietor status	Charitable company limited by guarantee
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Independent all age
Residential provision?	
Number of pupils on roll	215
Pupils of statutory school age	119
Date of previous Estyn visit	17/03/2025
Start date of visit	18/09/2025

School context

Coleg Llanymddyfri, known as Llandovery College, is a co-educational independent boarding and day school that was established in 1848. It is situated in the town of Llandovery in Carmarthenshire. The school caters for pupils aged from 3 to 18 years.

There are currently 215 pupils on roll. There are 30 pupils in the preparatory school. In the secondary school, there are 185 pupils, including 91 in the sixth form. Around three-fifths of pupils at the school are boys, although the balance varies in different age groups across the school.

Most pupils come from the wider local area stretching from Llanelli, Ammanford and Lampeter into Carmarthenshire and towards Pembrokeshire. Around half of pupils are boarders and are drawn from Wales, other parts of the United Kingdom and overseas. Llandovery College educates pupils with a broad range of abilities.

The current Warden was appointed in 2019 and recently there have been changes in staff across a range of senior leadership roles.

At the time of the monitoring inspection in March 2025 the school did not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. The Welsh Government asked the school to produce a post-inspection action plan to address the

areas of non-compliance. To comply fully with these requirements, the school was required to address the issues identified below:

The suitability of proprietors and staff

The proprietor should ensure that:

- staff who plan, deliver, assess or report on the education of pupils are registered with the EWC [20(2)(c)]
- all staff have a DBS check within the last three years [23(a)]
- all required pre-employment checks are completed ahead of a person's appointment [20(3)]

A team of HMI visited the school in September 2025 to discuss the school's progress against their action plan.

Main findings

Since the monitoring inspection in March 2025, the school has embedded a robust system to ensure that all required pre-employment checks are undertaken ahead of a person's appointment. This process concludes with verification by two senior leaders adding additional layers of oversight and safety.

At the time of the visit, the registration of all staff who are required to be registered with the Education Workforce Council (EWC) was verified. Equally, enhanced Disclosure and barring Service (DBS) checks dated within the past three years for all staff were verified.

As a result, the school has implemented and embedded the actions detailed in their action plan successfully.

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to suggest that the school does not meet the regulatory requirement for the Standard 4 (The suitability of proprietors and staff).

Compliance with the standards for registration

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

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The provision of information

This standard was not considered on this visit.

The manner in which complaints are to be handled

This standard was not considered on this visit.

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (<http://www.estyn.gov.wales>)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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