

Pantside Primary School
Old Pant Road
Pantside
Newbridge
Newport
NP11 5DE

05/05/2026

Dear leaders and staff

Interim visit: April 2026

A team of inspectors visited Pantside Primary School recently to consider progress in relation to two of the 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

Sharpen self-evaluation processes to focus more clearly on the impact of teaching on learning

- Leaders have broadened and strengthened the range of self-evaluation strategies they use to evaluate the work of the school. They undertake a beneficial range of activities, including regular lesson visits, book reviews, and discussions with pupils.
- Evaluations of teaching are beginning to focus more sharply on identifying the impact of classroom practice on the progress that pupils make. This helps leaders to identify where staff need further professional learning or support to implement pedagogy effectively, such as providing pupils with consistent and purposeful challenge.
- Senior leaders understand the school well. They have a realistic and accurate picture of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. They support and encourage a wide range of staff to undertake evaluation activities, including those who lead areas of learning and experience. In general, these leaders focus on their

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd,
CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446
ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru
www.estyn.llyw.cymru

Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth.

Estyn, Anchor Court, Keen Road,
Cardiff, CF24 5JW Telephone: 02920
446446 enquiries@estyn.gov.wales
www.estyn.gov.wales

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

individual areas suitably. Senior leaders recognise the need to revise guidance and provide professional learning to help staff to focus more sharply and evaluate pupils' learning more consistently and accurately.

- Leaders use the outcomes of their evaluations to prioritise areas for improvement and to target professional learning appropriately. This does not yet lead to improvements in learning and teaching consistently.

Improve teaching to ensure that all pupils are challenged effectively

- Leaders have incorporated actions to address this recommendation into the school's development plan. The impact of these actions remains variable. Improvements in teaching are beginning to emerge but are not yet consistent across all classes.
- Leaders provide a wide range of professional learning opportunities for all staff. They support collaborative sessions that allow teachers to discuss ongoing priorities and classroom practice. This encourages teachers to share ideas and engage in professional dialogue beneficially.
- Many teachers and support staff use questioning appropriately to engage pupils and to promote discussion. They do not always use questioning effectively enough to assess and deepen pupils' understanding.
- Nearly all teachers develop tasks for pupils based on their prior learning. However, planned activities do not support and challenge pupils consistently enough.
- Teachers develop and share success criteria with pupils regularly. A majority of pupils speak confidently about what they are learning and demonstrate an understanding of what is expected of them. Nevertheless, success criteria are not always sufficiently clear or effective to help pupils to make progress. Leaders recognise the need to strengthen teachers' use of success criteria and to increase pupils' involvement in their development. They have identified this as a priority for improvement.

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/6762207>

Yours sincerely



Liz Miles

Assistant Director