

Ysgol Christchurch  
Ernest Street  
Rhyl  
Denbighshire  
LL18 2DS

08/06/2026

Dear leaders and staff

**Interim visit:** May 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ysgol Christchurch recently to consider progress in relation to one recommendation 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 the strategic leadership of teaching and assessment to ensure improvements to the quality of teaching and learning, particularly in mathematics and writing.**

- Leaders and staff collaborate well to evaluate the quality of teaching across the school. They regularly share good practice and provide staff with clear ways forward. They have developed a set of key teaching principles with a clear focus on improving the progress of pupils. Overall, these are applied well across the school.
- Staff engage in valuable professional learning opportunities that develop their understanding of effective pedagogy successfully. Teachers have a clear understanding of how to plan for progression in pupils' mathematics and literacy skills across all areas of learning.
- Leaders and staff ensure that pupils across the school benefit from a broad mathematics curriculum that develops their skills systematically.

Estyn, Llys Angor, Heol Keen, Caerdydd,  
CF24 5JW Ffôn: 02920 446446  
[ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru](mailto:ymholiadau@estyn.llyw.cymru)  
[www.estyn.llyw.cymru](http://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](mailto:enquiries@estyn.gov.wales)  
[www.estyn.gov.wales](http://www.estyn.gov.wales)

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

- Staff provide a range of practical resources that help many pupils to solve mathematical problems successfully. This is particularly effective in classes for younger pupils, where it strengthens their understanding of mathematical concepts effectively.
- Staff plan valuable opportunities for pupils to develop their mathematical reasoning skills across the curriculum and in real-life contexts. This enables pupils to make useful connections between what they learn in mathematics lessons and the numeracy within their topics.
- All staff prioritise the development of pupils' oracy skills and vocabulary. They understand that pupils benefit from talking about their learning before recording their ideas. This has improved pupils' confidence and willingness to write successfully.
- Teachers plan purposeful lessons that enable learners to develop their writing skills progressively. Most pupils make good progress in their writing and write for a wide range of purposes.
- Leaders have prioritised improvements to pupils' handwriting and presentation. The quality and standards of handwriting are improving across the school, although leaders recognise that this is an aspect that needs further development.
- Leaders and staff use a wide range of assessments to evaluate pupil progress. They use these effectively to plan and adapt learning activities that meet the needs of pupils well.
- In most classes, teachers provide pupils with useful success criteria and clear verbal feedback. This supports many pupils to self-assess their work and know what they have done well.

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/6632038>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director