

Report summary for parents and carers on Roch Community School

Date of inspection: 18/05/2026

Summary

The school is a close community where pupils feel safe and well supported. They behave well and demonstrate positive attitudes to learning. Most pupils work well together and engage positively in learning. They take on leadership roles and contribute to school life beneficially.

Provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development supports pupils' personal growth. The school's nurturing ethos ensures that nearly all pupils feel secure and confident that adults will support them.

Nearly all pupils listen well and communicate clearly. Older pupils speak confidently using an increasingly varied vocabulary. Many develop their Welsh language skills suitably.

Most pupils make suitable progress in reading, although younger pupils do not consistently develop a secure knowledge of phonics, which limits their ability to decode unfamiliar words. Many pupils make appropriate progress in developing their writing skills, but do not write at length well or often enough.

Many pupils develop their mathematics skills well. However, there remain limited opportunities for pupils to apply this to solve problems. Most pupils also develop appropriate digital skills and demonstrate a strong understanding of online safety.

The curriculum provides pupils with a broad range of engaging learning experiences. Nevertheless, it lacks sufficient structure and coherence to ensure pupils' knowledge and skills build systematically over time.

Teaching is effective, with well-paced lessons and appropriate challenge. Teachers support pupils' learning well with helpful and constructive feedback. Pupils benefit from effective opportunities to work independently and collaboratively.

Provision for additional learning needs is effective. Targeted interventions, including nurture support, help pupils to develop their literacy skills and improve their well-being successfully.

The headteacher leads with a clear vision. Leadership is increasingly collaborative, with a wider range of staff contributing to school improvement and professional learning. Leaders have suitable systems for self-evaluation and for identifying priorities for improvement. In general, these have a positive impact on pupils' learning. However, persistent absence remains too high and is increasing.

Recommendations and next steps

We have made three recommendations to help the school continue to improve:

- R1 Strengthen the curriculum to ensure that it develops pupils' knowledge and skills systematically and progressively across all areas of learning and experience
- R2 Improve pupils' phonics and writing skills
- R3 Reduce the proportion of pupils who are persistently absent

The school will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.

Full Report

If you would like to read more about Estyn's evaluation of the school, please follow this link to the [full report](#).

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