



## Report summary for parents and carers on Blaenbaglan Primary School

**Date of inspection: June 2023**

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

# Overview

Blaenbaglan Primary School is a happy, caring and inclusive school, that places high priority on the well-being of its pupils. The school is a highly supportive learning environment, where pupils develop very positive attitudes towards their learning. Pupils feel safe in school, and value the support they receive from staff. They show high levels of interest in their lessons and participate enthusiastically in a range of pupil voice groups. There are strong relationships between pupils and staff.

Across the school, pupils' behaviour is exemplary. They are polite and courteous to adults and show kindness and care for one another. They listen carefully to instructions and respond in an articulate fashion. Pupils in the school make strong progress in their learning, including those in the school's learning support centres (LSCs). However, the quality and organisation of the learning environment across the school do not always allow pupils to develop their independent skills well enough.

The staff feel valued, and work well together to plan a broad and balanced curriculum. The school provides a range of worthwhile opportunities for staff to build their professional expertise, and as a result, the school is making suitable progress towards curriculum and additional learning needs (ALN) reform. The school has recently implemented a programme to raise pupils' standards in literacy. However, the effectiveness of teaching and assessment across the school is too variable.

The school has a well-established team of leaders, including proactive governors, that have high expectations of pupils. They place a high priority on safeguarding and carry out self-evaluation processes to improve the school's work. However, the school's evaluation processes do not always identify important aspects that require improvement, for example the need to improve consistency in the quality of teaching and assessment.

# Recommendations

- R1 Sharpen self-evaluation processes to ensure that monitoring identifies all significant aspects for improvement
- R2 Improve the consistency of the quality of teaching and assessment across the school
- R3 Develop the quality and organisation of the learning environment to promote pupils' independence

## What happens next

The school will draw up an action plan to show how it is going to address the recommendations.



## School context

Name of provider	Blaenbaglan Primary School
Local authority	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	302
Pupils of statutory school age	222
Number in nursery classes	45
Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in Primary is 23.0%)	11.6%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary is 16.1%)	24.3%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	0.0%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2019
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/02/2015
Start date of inspection	12/06/2023

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