



Report summary for parents and carers on Coed-Y-Brain Primary School

Date of inspection: July 2023

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

Overview

Leaders and staff at Coed-y-Brain Primary School work with dedication to create a positive and caring learning community. The pupils thoroughly enjoy coming to school and are encouraged to be proud of themselves and celebrate who they are. This develops a strong mutual respect between all pupils and staff. Pupils feel safe in school and are confident that they can speak to staff if they are concerned or worried.

During their time in school, most pupils make good progress including those with additional learning needs (ALN) and those who attend the specialist resource base (SRB). All staff support them successfully to develop positive attitudes to learning and, as a result, pupils' collaboration in class activities and around the school is a notable feature. Pupils' oracy skills across the school are a strength. Most pupils make good progress in developing their literacy and numeracy skills and use them confidently in other areas of learning. Pupils' progress in developing their Welsh oracy skills is appropriate but they do not develop their digital skills well enough as they move through the school.

The whole-school approach to plan and deliver the Curriculum for Wales is successful. Staff provide pupils with interesting opportunities to build on their knowledge and understanding. Teachers plan interesting lessons to engage nearly all pupils. However, teaching on the whole, is over directed and there are limited opportunities for pupils to become independent learners. In addition, opportunities to develop the curiosity and creativity of many of the younger pupils in the outdoor environment are underdeveloped.

Most pupils behave well in lessons and around the school. They show respect to their friends and staff. There is a strong culture of inclusion across the school, where pupils are given equal opportunity to be involved in all aspects of school life.

There is a strong sense of teamwork at the school, and the headteacher, senior leaders, staff and Governors work together positively. Leaders have placed well-being at the heart of the school.

Recommendations

R1 Improve pupils' digital skills

R2 Develop pupils' independent skills

R3 Develop the outdoor provision for pupils under seven years old

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	Coed-Y-Brain Primary School
Local authority	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	204
Pupils of statutory school age	173
Number in nursery classes	16
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%)	25.4%
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%)	25.4%
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	05/09/2016
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	12/01/2015
Start date of inspection	03/07/2023

© Crown Copyright 2023: This report may be re used free of charge in any format or medium provided that it is re used accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright and the title of the report specified.

Publication date: 05/09/2023

Please note that the photographs displayed may not be of the school that is the subject of this report.