



Report summary for parents and carers on

Miskin Primary School

Date of inspection: December 2022

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

Overview

This is a school at the heart of its community. Staff know their pupils and their families well. They provide a high level of care, support and compassion, particularly for those pupils and their families experiencing difficult circumstances. As a result, pupils feel safe and well looked-after, and enjoy coming to school.

Most pupils make steady progress from low baselines during their time at the school. By the time they leave most can read well and write appropriately. They speak confidently and generally listen carefully. This is because their teachers plan systematically to ensure that pupils develop their literacy skills well. However, when teachers over-direct tasks, pupils do not always have enough opportunities to work independently. Most pupils enjoy learning Welsh and make strong progress. They are proud to be Welsh and are effective ambassadors for the Welsh language. However, inspectors identified that too many pupils do not make the progress they could in mathematics, particularly in developing their mental arithmetic skills.

The headteacher leads the school well. Leaders monitor the school's work robustly, for example to check that everyone complies with the agreed procedures, but their monitoring does not always focus tightly enough on the impact of the provision on improving pupils' outcomes.

The staff work together as a team to provide pupils with the opportunities and challenges that they need to succeed in life. The range of trips, visits and memorable experiences that staff plan for their pupils is particularly noteworthy and helps to broaden pupils' horizons and raise their aspirations. The school makes worthwhile use of the school grounds, for example developing an allotment garden and wildlife pond, and creating a dedicated area for STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) activities.



Recommendations

- R1 Improve pupils' independent learning skills
- R2 Improve pupils' achievement in mathematics
- R3 Ensure that monitoring, evaluation and review focus tightly on pupils' outcomes and progress
- R4 Ensure that the school complies with the Welsh Government's requirements for healthy eating and drinking

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	Miskin Primary School
Local authority	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Number of pupils on roll	104
Pupils of statutory school age	82
Number in nursery classes	13
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%)	35.0%
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%)	11.0%
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	January 2011
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	14/01/2014
Start date of inspection	05/12/2022

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