



Report summary for parents and carers on St Brides Major C.I.W. Primary School

Date of inspection: December 2023

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

Overview

St Brides Major C.I.W. Primary School is a highly inclusive and happy school where pupils treat each other, staff and visitors with politeness and respect. Pupils behave well and make visitors feel welcome.

The headteacher has developed a team that places pupil well-being and high standards at the centre of its work. Leaders ensure that all staff are involved in identifying areas of strengths and areas to develop. However, improvement plans are not focused enough. As a result, improvement plans do not prioritise what actions will have the biggest impact on teaching and learning. Staff at all levels work closely together and there is a strong sense of teamwork. Daily acts of collective worship are highly inclusive and successfully reinforce that everyone is part of the St Brides family.

Teachers know their pupils well. They have developed a broad and balanced curriculum and plan engaging topics that the pupils enjoy. Teachers use the experiences and skills of local people to bring the curriculum alive. Teachers have high expectations of pupils' learning and progress. However, as pupils progress through the school, teachers over-direct the learning and as a result limit pupils' opportunities to develop as independent learners.

Most pupils make at least good progress in their learning during their time in school. The school is a language rich environment, where careful planning for international languages ensures that pupils are exposed to many languages from an early age. They are challenged to continuously add to their growing vocabulary. This is a strength of the school.

The headteacher and governors are committed to creating a school environment that makes pupils feel valued and nurtures their learning and well-being.

Recommendations

- R1 Focus improvement precisely on the aspects of teaching and learning that are most in need of improvement
- R2 Ensure that older pupils take more responsibility for their learning and develop their independent learning skills

What happens next

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



School context

Name of provider	St Brides Major C.I.W. Primary School
Local authority	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	St Brides Major is a voluntary aided Church in Wales Primary School
Number of pupils on roll	241
Pupils of statutory school age	176
Number in nursery classes	35
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 23.7%)	3.6%
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 13.2%)	10.2%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	7.4%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2014
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/06/2015
Start date of inspection	04/12/2023

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