



Report summary for parents and carers on Twynyrodyn Community School

Date of inspection: February 2024

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

Overview

All staff and pupils are proud to be a part of Twynyrodyn Community School. Leaders have created a clear vision for the school and work purposefully to create a safe and inclusive environment where pupils and staff feel valued and supported.

The school provides strong support for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN), particularly those in the learning resource base and early intervention class. Learning support assistants work effectively with pupils in small groups, offering valuable individual support for vulnerable pupils. As a result, most pupils make good progress across the school and develop their reading, writing and numeracy skills well. All pupils have strong speaking skills. They confidently talk about their work and school life in general and contribute effectively in lessons. Teachers and support staff provide effective opportunities for pupils to develop a broad range of skills well in their work across the curriculum. However, provision to develop pupils' skills in Welsh is less well-developed.

Staff know pupils well and create warm and supportive working relationships with them. As a result, nearly all pupils behave well in classes and at breaktimes, settling quickly into their lessons. Staff use questioning effectively in their teaching and many teachers plan stimulating lessons that have a clear purpose. These lessons enable pupils to make good progress in their learning from their various starting points, particularly in literacy and mathematics. However, approaches to teaching and assessment do not always enable pupils to develop effectively as independent learners.

The school provides a rich, broad and balanced range of learning experiences. For example, pupils enjoy the range of visits and visitors that enhance their curriculum, but the use of the outdoors is at an early stage of development across the school.

Governors support leaders well. They have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They manage spending diligently and strive to maintain a robust culture of safeguarding. Leaders and governors reflect effectively on what the school is doing well and how it can further improve. Teachers receive useful professional development and support, and the school manages its resources well.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve pupils' Welsh language skills
- R2 Provide pupils with opportunities to develop as independent learners
- R3 Further develop outdoor learning experiences for all pupils

What happens next

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



School context

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| Name of provider | Twynirodyn Community School |
| Local authority | Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council |
| Language of the provider | English |
| Type of school | Primary |
| Religious character | N/A |
| Number of pupils on roll | 315 |
| Pupils of statutory school age | 234 |
| Number in nursery classes | 40 |
| 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%) | 18.9% |
| 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%) | 15.8% |
| Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home | 0.0% |
| Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language | 4.3% |
| Date of headteacher appointment | 12/04/2021 |
| Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) | 13/01/2015 |
| Start date of inspection | 26/02/2024 |

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