



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Penmorfa

Date of inspection: February 2023

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

Overview

Ysgol Penmorfa provides a caring and inclusive environment for its pupils, which encourages them to learn, be happy and participate fully in school life. Pupils take part enthusiastically in the activities provided for them and use resources well to improve their knowledge and understanding, both inside and outside the classroom. The purposeful working relationships that exist with their teachers and support staff promote the school's vision successfully, which is 'Making the Most of Everyone'.

Pupils develop good speaking, listening, reading and numeracy skills. Their artistic, creative, thinking and physical skills are also well established, and they are confident learners. They develop suitable extended writing skills and their application of digital skills across the curriculum is appropriate to their stage of development.

Learning is particularly successful where the teaching is vibrant and purposeful. Additionally, where mutually respectful and positive relationships exist amongst staff, teachers collaborate effectively with each other and support staff to enhance pupils' learning.

Overall, the school environment promotes purposeful learning opportunities and the provision for outdoor learning is highly effective. Staff make outstanding use of the school grounds to provide innovative learning experiences for pupils to learn in authentic and meaningful activities.

Staff provide exemplary support, care and guidance for pupils in all aspects of school life. This bespoke and intuitive approach to meeting the needs of individual pupils motivates them to focus on their own learning, life-skills and well-being extremely well. They are keen to learn and they are ambitious and capable learners. A strong consequence of this is that pupils' behaviour is good.

The headteacher provides strong and effective leadership. The senior leadership team and governors share her clear vision, and most staff work cohesively with them to secure the best provision possible to improve pupils' outcomes.

Leaders evaluate the school's work to plan for improvements robustly. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation processes highlight the headteacher's determination to ensure success for the pupils and the community. The monitoring practices and improvement plans align well to relevant training for staff to develop their skills, through a purposeful programme of professional learning opportunities.

Recommendations

- R1 Address the issue related to the school's car park, identified at the time of inspection
- R2 Improve opportunities for pupils to write extensively in all areas of learning
- R3 Provide effective opportunities for pupils to apply their digital skills across the curriculum

What happens next

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

Estyn will invite the school to prepare two case studies on its work in relation to the impact of bespoke learning, care and support packages that cater for every pupil according to their individual needs, and the impact of innovative leadership practices on provision to target pupils' learning, well-being and life-skills, for dissemination on Estyn's website.



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Penmorfa
Local authority	Denbighshire County Council
Language of the provider	English
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Not applicable
Number of pupils on roll	421
Pupils of statutory school age	339
Number in nursery classes	39
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%)	31.6%
Percentage of pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in Primary I 16.1%)	28.6%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	0.0%
Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language	3.2%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/04/2018
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	24/06/2014
Start date of inspection	13/02/2023

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