



Report summary for parents and carers on Ysgol Gynradd Cae Top

Date of inspection: June 2024

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

This report is also available in Welsh.

Overview

Ysgol Cae Top is a happy and homely place for pupils, staff and visitors. Staff foster pupils' pride in the Welsh language and deepen their knowledge of local history and national traditions extremely effectively. There is a warm welcome for all pupils and their families. Pupils enjoy coming to school and are proud to be part of a stimulating and inclusive learning environment. The headteacher and staff take exceptionally good care of pupils and want them to thrive in learning and in life.

Most pupils make sound progress in developing their numeracy, English and digital skills from their starting points. Many build progressively on their writing skills. However, the culture of reading does not encourage most pupils to enjoy Welsh texts. Pupils also tend to use English and a language for communication and socialising. Together, this limits the development of their Welsh oracy and reading skills.

The school has responded proactively and creatively to the requirements of Curriculum for Wales, offering valuable guidance to schools across Wales. The innovative nature of strategic plans provides rich opportunities and experiences for pupils across the school to develop and apply their skills imaginatively. Pupils learn about the history, culture and legends of the area and this enriches their learning highly successfully.

The headteacher provides strong and compassionate leadership and knows the school very well. He motivates and supports everyone's professional development and is supported skilfully by all staff. They trust each other to form an effective, successful team. The teaching team works purposefully alongside the governing body to ensure improvements to the school. Together, they understand the school's strengths and areas for development and plan comprehensive strategic steps to ensure improvement.

Recommendations

- R1 Improve pupils' use of spoken Welsh and foster a rich reading culture to support pupils' enjoyment and progress in reading Welsh
- R2 Improve attendance

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 a case study on its work in relation to motivating and mentoring staff to develop leadership, to be disseminated on Estyn's website.



School context

Name of provider	Ysgol Gynradd Cae Top
Local authority	Cyngor Gwynedd
Language of the provider	Welsh
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Church in Wales
Number of pupils on roll	237
Pupils of statutory school age	178
Number in nursery classes (if applicable)	29
Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average <i>(The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.7%)</i>	19.4%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) <i>(The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 13.2%)</i>	18.5%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home	19.1%
Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language	12.4%
Date of headteacher appointment	01/09/2014
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	01/05/2016
Start date of inspection	17/06/2024

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Publication date: 19/08/2024

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