



**Report summary for parents and
carers on
Rhayader C.I.W. School**

Date of inspection: October 2022

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

Overview

The school is well led and has staff that know their pupils, their backgrounds and the local community very well. They promote a caring ethos where there is a strong focus on improving pupil well-being in a school where 'everyone matters'.

Leaders and staff work purposefully to make improvements, such as strengthening the support for pupils' well-being following the pandemic and in making progress towards implementing the Curriculum for Wales. As staff make continued improvements to the provision for pupils learning, many pupils make steady progress from their starting points. Generally, pupils' literacy, numeracy, digital, creative and physical skills all develop well, although a few aspects require the provision to be strengthened further, such as that to support pupils reading, writing and Welsh.

Teachers and staff provide effective care, support and guidance for pupils and often create worthwhile and exciting learning activities, particularly in the outdoor learning area. Here, well planned and purposeful activities provide a wide variety of high-quality experiences for nearly all pupils on a consistent basis, developing a range of beneficial skills. However, across the school, the teaching isn't always consistent in providing appropriate challenge for pupils to make as much progress as possible. Teachers provide appropriate feedback for pupils, although it is not always clear what areas of the work needs to be improved for them to build on their skills systematically.



Recommendations

- R1 Improve pupils' literacy skills, in particular their reading and extended writing skills
- R2 Strengthen provision to develop pupils' skills in Welsh from their different starting points
- R3 Ensure that teaching provides appropriate challenge for all pupils and that feedback helps them further improve their work

What happens next

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

We have asked the school to provide a best practice case study on the use of the outdoor learning environment to support pupils learning and well-being.



School context

Name of provider	Rhayader C.I.W. School
Local authority	Powys County Council
Language of the provider	Dual Stream
Type of school	Primary
Religious character	Church in Wales
Number of pupils on roll	203
Pupils of statutory school age	177
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%)	20.4%
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%)	18.1%
Percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home	8.5%
Date of headteacher appointment	January 2008
Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable)	28/01/2014
Start date of inspection	10/10/2022

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