Llanerfyl Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled School

Welshpool
Powys
SY21OHZ

Diocese: St. Asaph
Local authority: Powys
Dates of inspection: March 24th / 25th 2015
Date of last inspection: November 20th / 21st 2008
School's unique reference number: 662/5200
Headteacher: Mrs Nia Thomas-Pearson
Inspector's name: Mr Gareth Williams M.Ed

School context

Llanerfyl Voluntary Controlled Church school which is located on the outskirts of the rural village of Llanerfyl, in the Diocese of St Asaph. The school originally dates back to 1728 and has had some refurbishment and extensions since the 1990s. There are 38 children on the school's role at the moment, with 10.5% pupils entitled to free school meals. 72.8% of pupils come from homes where Welsh is spoken, with the rest of the children coming from homes where English is spoken. 23% of pupils have been identified as having additional learning needs. To date no pupils have been withdrawn from Religious Education or Collective Worship.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Llanerfyl as a Church in Wales school are good

Signs and Christian symbols are displayed throughout the school to remind pupils of Christianity and to stimulate reflection of Bible stories and key biblical figures. This commitment ensures that the caring Christian ethos of the school is reinforced at regular intervals throughout the day. The children appreciate and enjoy their membership of the school. Most pupils, achieve their potential, are curious, enthusiastic, questioning and reflective about the world they live in, spiritual issues and moral challenges. They have many opportunities to contribute to their learning environment and the wider world. All of this is achieved with reflection and appreciation of the world created by God.

Established strengths

• The Christian, caring and supportive ethos which permeates the life of the school, providing a firm basis for teaching and learning
• The good standard that exists in Collective Worship, Religious Education and self-evaluation
• The good use being made of Information Technology in Religious Education lessons and to support Collective Worship
• The excellent moral development of the children

Focus for development

• Include more elements of self-evaluation in the recording of Collective Worship on a weekly basis.
• The Headteacher to report formally to the Governors on the termly developments in Collective Worship and Religious Education.
• Establish firm and regular links with the Parish and Diocese, working closely with the Vicar and Bishop’s Visitor once appointed.
• Continue to develop the role of the subject leader and Governor representative in the development of the school’s religious affairs.
The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is good at meeting the needs of all learners

The contribution of Religious Education to the Christian Character of the school is good

Collective Worship and Religious Education offer children time for reflection as part of their spiritual development. Worship provides opportunities for pupils and staff to praise God and use the Bible. The children show a willingness to learn, achieve and develop positive social interaction. The promotion of Christian values is central, and the children are taught these values by the demonstration of positive relationships within the school. Values of tolerance and respect, are fostered among the pupils from the first day that they enter the building. Christian symbols can be seen at various locations within Llanerfyl school.

The school has worked hard to ensure that religious education has its proper place in the school curriculum. Good planning strategies utilise cross-curricular links that encourage pupils to develop their skills. Information Technology is used well and the lessons are exciting. Information and achievement of pupils is good, and they use a wide vocabulary. There is a strong church element within Religious Education which helps to underpin the spiritual life of the school.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good

Collective Worship is a positive experience for pupils and is a vital part of school life. It also makes a valuable contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the children. Staff attend worship regularly and actively participate by leading the service. The children enjoy listening, participating, singing, reading and praying. They are able to recount many of their favourite Bible stories and are aware of the underlying moral messages. Children expressed their appreciation of the opportunities offered to them during worship to develop their understanding of God. The Reverend Darren Mayor visits the school on a regular basis. His presence has had a positive impact on the pupils' attitude to Collective Worship and many other aspects of school life.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is good

The Headteacher, Governors and all the staff work as a team to promote the school ethos and vision. The Governing Body recognises and supports the Christian character of the school. Although the Headteacher has been in post for a relatively short period of time, she has created and shared a clear vision with the Governors, staff and the wider school community. Llanerfyl school is a well organised, busy, welcoming and happy place. The family atmosphere and positive relationships between pupils and staff form a solid foundation for the development of individual learners. The Headteacher and Governors know the school well, and through rigorous self-evaluation, how to implement identified changes and developments.

The school meets the statutory requirement for acts of worship

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The content of this report should be considered alongside the Estyn team’s Section 28 report. I would like to thank the Estyn inspection team for their cooperation.

I would also like to thank the Headteacher, Staff, Governors and Pupils of Ysgol Llanerfyl for their welcome and cooperation.

Mr Gareth Williams M.Ed.
Arolwg o dan Adran 50 o Ddeddf Addysg 2013 - Report under Section 50 of the Education Act 2013

Holiadur Rhieni - Parents’ Questionnaire

Yr oedd 17 ymateb - There were 17 responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YDWF</th>
<th>NAC YDWF</th>
<th>Are you aware that this is a Church school?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A ydych chi’n ymwybodol mai Ysgol Eglwys yw hon?</th>
<th>100%</th>
<th>Do you believe that the school is a place which is built upon clear Christian values?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A ydych o’r farn fod yr ysgol yn sefydliad sydd wedi ei adeiladu ar sylfaen Cristnogol glir?</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>This is a Church School, that is a school with a Christian character. Was this fact important when you were choosing a school for your child / children?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ysgol Eglwys, sef ysgol gyda chymeriad Cristnogol, yw hon. A oedd y ffaith yma yn bwysig wrth i chi dewis ysgol i’ch plentyn / plant?</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cytuno’n llwyr</th>
<th>Cytuno</th>
<th>Y naill na’r Llall</th>
<th>Anghytuno</th>
<th>Anghytun o’n llwyr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mae cymeriad Cristnogol nodedig yn perthyn i’r ysgol</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>The school has a distinctive Christian character</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae cymeriad Cristnogol nodedig yn gwneud cyfraniad awyddoc cau i addysg y disgyblion</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>The school’s distinctive Christian character makes a significant contribution to pupils’ education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ym marn y disgyblion, mae’r addoli ar y cyd yn brofiad gwerthfawr</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Pupils find collective worship a valuable experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae gan yr ysgol gysylltiau effeithiol â’r eglwys leol a chymunedau flydd eraill</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>The school has effective links with the local church and other faith communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae'r ysgol yn hysbysu’r rhieni yn dda am y gwaith a wna'r disgyblion mewn Addysg Grefyddol</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>The school keeps parents well informed about the work pupils do in Religious Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae'r ysgol yn hybu’r disgyblion i ofalu am Greadigaeth Duw (yr amgylchedd), yn ogystal â’n nhw eu hunain.</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
<td>The school encourages pupils to care for God’s Creation (the environment), as well as for themselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae'r ysgol yn hybu’r disgyblion i ystyrir pobl mewn gwledydd eraill, a sut fedran nhw eu cynorthwyo pan bo angen.</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td>The school encourages pupils to consider people in other countries, and how they can help assist them, when help is required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae gan yr ysgol gysylltiadau effeithiol â’r Gymuned leol</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
<td>The school ensures links are made with the local community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mae'r canrannau wedi cael eu talgrynnu i fyny er mwyn hybu dehongli