

Chair of Governors  
St Illtyd Primary School  
Station Road  
Llantwit Major  
CF61 1ST

15 December 2021

Dear Ms Warren

## **St Illtyd Primary School**

### **Schools requiring Estyn review following Section 28 inspection**

As you know, we recently worked with Vale of Glamorgan local authority to review the progress the school has made since the core inspection. Here is a summary of the main discussion points:

- The school has improved the effectiveness of leadership at all levels. Staff in leadership positions have engaged positively with professional learning opportunities. This has improved their performance. They are increasingly influential in supporting the school to progress in relation to strategic aims and improvement priorities. Overall, their work now has a positive influence on the quality of teaching, learning experiences and the progress and wellbeing of pupils.
- Most staff in leadership positions are now well established in their roles and undertake their responsibilities with suitable levels of autonomy. Leadership in the Foundation Phase is beginning to influence the school's provision appropriately.
- The school's evaluation and improvement processes are developing well. Generally, arrangements to gather evidence, identify strengths and area for improvement are secure. There are clear links between evaluation work and the school's improvement priorities. Increasingly, leaders show the capacity to evaluate the difference that improvement work has on the quality of teaching, learning experiences and the progress and wellbeing of pupils. In a few instances, evaluation work in the Foundation Phase lacks precision. As a result, leaders do not always ensure that the quality of enhanced provision in the foundation phase is appropriately challenging for pupils.

- Increasingly, governors play an active role in the school's evaluation and improvement processes and hold leaders to account appropriately.
- Staff in key leadership positions, such as the literacy and numeracy leads have modelled leadership strategy for other leaders. This has enabled school improvement to gather momentum in other important areas of its work including provision for Welsh language development.
- The school's approach to leadership, evaluation and improvement has brought about improvements and higher levels of consistency in the quality of teaching. The introduction of specific teaching strategies such as group guided reading, the effective use of questioning and a consistent approach to providing pupils with feedback are proving to be beneficial.
- The school's provision to develop pupils' literacy and numeracy skills show improvement. Teachers plan carefully to ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to develop and apply their skills at levels appropriate to their stage of development. The school's assessment records indicate that this provision has led to demonstrable improvements in pupil progress overall.

### **Outcome of the review**

St Illtyd Primary School is judged to have made appropriate progress in respect of the key issues for action, and in developing the capacity to continue to bring about improvements. We will now remove the school from the list of schools requiring Estyn review. There will be no further monitoring activity in relation to this inspection.

A letter confirming the outcome of the review will be published on our website on 22 December 2021. We share this information with you in confidence. You will be aware that until the letter is published, any information about Estyn's decisions should remain confidential to the school.

I am copying this letter to Mr Hardy, the headteacher, to Paula Ham, the Director of Learning and Skills for Vale of Glamorgan local authority,

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**  
Assistant Director

cc the headteacher

cc the Director of Learning and Skills for Vale of Glamorgan local authority

cc the Diocesan Director of Education