



Dear parents/carers

Ofsted Report – October 2019

As you are aware, the school was inspected by Ofsted on 16th and 17th October and I am pleased to enclose a copy of the inspection report.

I am delighted to share with you some of the findings in the report; I am purposely going to keep this letter brief, and allow the report, of which we are all very proud, to speak for itself.

In the eleven years since the school was last inspected, a lot has changed in the world of Ofsted; there have been three changes to the Ofsted Framework during this period including a radical overhaul to the framework and methodology from September 2019. In a nutshell, the expectations of schools are now much higher across the board, and a grade of outstanding means 'exceptional' against every one of these much higher expectations. We are one of the first schools to be inspected under this new framework. Whilst it would of course have been wonderful to keep our overall outstanding rating, we are all delighted with the overall outcome of being "a good school with outstanding elements" and have a great deal to celebrate.

The report is short, summarising the inspectors' findings over the two days they were here, but we are pleased with the way it captures the ethos and feel of the school, so hard to measure in any set of results.

I would like to share with you just a few of the many positive comments/quotes made by the inspectors as part of the verbal feedback we received. The inspectors noted:

the "broad, ambitious, authentic and inclusive curriculum" and the way the children can "reflect thoughtfully on what they have learned"

how "positive, business like and cheerful" the children are as they settle into their school day

how "good manners are inculcated in the children" by "staff with high expectations of behaviour who act as strong role models" and who "put the safety and welfare of the children at the heart of everything they do"

the "excellent character development and resilience of the children" and the "strong sense of integrity" and "pervading ethos of tolerance" throughout the school

a school that has "gone beyond the expected in terms of experience" providing "tangible opportunities for children to learn about different lifestyles" and "opportunities for spiritual reflection"

a school where "children are put first" with "no stone left unturned"

I encourage you now to read the report and, one final note, also attached is a letter we received yesterday from Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, congratulating staff and pupils on our **"outstanding achievements in the 2019 phonics screening check."**

I would like to finish by thanking everyone, staff, children and parents for their support during the inspection. There was an overwhelming sense of unity amongst the school community over that couple of days, which was felt strongly by all, and encapsulated perhaps, by what the Lead Inspector described as **"the school's magical atmosphere."**

We are all looking forward to the ongoing work of creating brilliant experiences for every child, every day they are in school.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Lucy Miles