



Friday 15th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to share with you our Ofsted Report that we received this week.

The school has been graded as Outstanding in Personal Development and Good in Quality of Education, Behaviour & Attitudes and Leadership & Management, with the overall grade being Good. We are delighted that the inspectors recognised that the personal development of our children is at the heart of all we do as a school community.

I would encourage you to read the report in full, but here is a taste of the findings.

Personal Development:

The outstanding grade descriptor for Personal Development describes our school as “exceptional”, meeting all the criteria, including;

“The way the school goes about developing pupils’ character is exemplary and is worthy of being shared with others.”

“Emphasis on developing pupils individually is first rate.”

Quality of Education:

“Children at this school benefit from a fabulous start.”

“Pupils study and achieve well in a full range of subjects.”

“In all phases, pupils achieve extremely well in reading.”

Behaviour & Attitudes:

“Pupils’ enthusiasm for each day is plain to see....all enjoy school life immensely.”

“Pupils at this school love to be challenged.”

“Pupils work hard, play harmoniously and make the most of their opportunities.”

Leadership & Management:

“Leaders are ambitious.”

“The Head Teacher leads by example, determined that pupils’ best interests are put first.”



The points noted for improvement were as follows:

1. Inspectors found that *“parents offer tremendous support, hearing their children read regularly ... leaders have the expectation that every child will become a confident reader”* and *“all pupils enjoys a suitable range of reading materials”*; the result being that: *“In all phases, pupils achieve extremely well in reading.”*

Inspectors have challenged us to look for further opportunities to encourage a love of reading.

The school is developing suggested reading lists for each year group to raise the profile of both classic and modern quality literature.

2. The inspection team were pleased to confirm that all safeguarding concerns are dealt with *“in a timely and thorough manner. Such concerns are always acted upon and logged.”*

The lead inspector suggested we add more detail to chronologies within our safeguarding records.

We now log all unanswered phone calls to the Bucks Safeguarding Board and Social Workers.

3. Inspectors were impressed with the high quality of support offered to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities by Learning Support Assistants (TAs): *“Pupils with SEND are supported well by teaching assistants, particularly in small-group intervention work...Pupils with SEND benefit from a wide range of additional support.”*

The report recommends we explore additional strategies to support children with SEND in whole class sessions.

We are considering new and innovative ways of supporting children with SEND within class sessions.

Final thoughts:

It is worth noting the inspection took place within weeks of a new Ofsted Framework being published. This new Framework has a very different emphasis from previous schedules and marks a sea-change in Ofsted inspections nationally. As well as a significant change in focus, it requires a new evidence base (such as demonstrating and articulating intent, implementation and impact). For this reason, the school is proud of the report, particularly as the Lead Inspector stated during the overall feedback:

“I have no doubt this school is in a much better place than it was at its last inspection.”

It was good to hear that the inspection team recognised the valuable contribution made by parents and carers to the children’s education. This is clearly a strength of the school and we look forward to continuing this fruitful partnership.



"Pupils simply blossom because everyone associated with St. Pauls expects the best from them."

I would like to congratulate the whole school community in achieving such a positive report.

Thank you, on behalf of the school's leadership, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

N Nicholson

Nicola Nicholson
Chair of Governors