



ST. MARY'S FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Friday 12th April 2019

Dear Parents,

We have now received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection on 26th and 27th March 2019. Due to the Easter holidays, the full report will not be published on the Ofsted website until 29th April. However, the report is on the school website and can be accessed by using the link below:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ec74c7_93c61b8978324c598a3bc957a6c1fdad.pdf

You are also able to request a paper copy of the report from the school office; these will be able from the 29th April.

The lead Ofsted inspector was impressed with many areas of the school and wanted to thank the children and parents who they spoke to who talked positively about the school.

Ofsted agreed with the leadership team and the Governing Body that improvements have been made since the appointment of the current Head teacher and that they know the school well. Ofsted and the leadership team of the school understand that the school has overcome many challenges during its transition to becoming a primary school and they recognised that there are secure plans in place to address outstanding issues through the school, all of which had already been identified by senior leaders.

Ofsted stated that the school leadership team, led by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, have a **strong capacity** to improve the school.

The grades that can be awarded by Ofsted are Outstanding (1), Good (2), Requires Improvement (3) or Inadequate (4).

The school was judged overall to be within the category of 'Requires Improvement' (3). Although this has been a disappointing outcome, Ofsted identified many strengths of the school and stated that "*the decisions that senior leaders have taken have brought about some rapid improvements*".

The inspection team felt "*Senior leaders have taken steps to improve the quality of teaching across the school. This is showing early signs of success, including the progress that pupils are making*".

They saw "that assessment information and work in pupils' books demonstrated that current pupils are making better progress..... and that standards are beginning to rise"

Ofsted said 'leaders promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well"

Ofsted said "leadership of pupils who speak English as an additional language is well developed" and "leaders for special educational needs know the pupils well and ensure their needs are met".

The Inspectors said "leadership of English and Maths is effective".

They said that pupils enjoy the opportunities they have to contribute to the life of the school and wider community; such as collecting food for a local food bank, the Young Voices choir and singing at the neighbourhood centre. They felt that the pupils and staff are proud of the rich diversity in the school and surrounding community.

The Inspectors identified that *pupils behaved well around school and were polite to visitors. It was recognised "leaders' recent initiatives to improve lunchtime behaviour is popular with pupils"*.

Inspectors highlighted a number of key areas which require improvement. These include:

- Teachers need to raise their expectations of learning and presentation and to set more challenging work, using in-lesson assessment to ensure learning stays on track
- To improve writing skills across all subjects.
- Embedding the new teaching of mathematics
- To continue the work on developing a "whole-school" curriculum and strengthen subject leadership of non-core subjects (i.e. not English and Maths)
- Governors of the school need to further improve their ability to hold the school to account through an external review

Ofsted recognised that work is already underway to address the issues identified in the report and the whole staff and Governing body will continue to work in earnest for the remainder of the school year and into next to address these.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Dulieu

Head Teacher

Raj Gill-Harrison

Chair of Governors