



9th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: OFSTED

We are writing to share with you the positive outcome of our recent OFSTED inspection and are very pleased to announce that our school has received a rating of "Good". This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work, commitment, and collaborative efforts of our leadership team and incredible teaching and support staff.

The OFSTED framework has undergone significant changes since our last inspection 15 years ago, such that a comparison with that rating is no longer meaningful. Last year, only 20% of previously "Outstanding" schools that were inspected nationwide retained this rating and it was made clear to us during our inspection that small, standalone rural schools, like ours, find it ever more challenging to meet the criteria required by OFSTED to be "Outstanding". As you may be aware, a number of other local lower schools who, like us, had not been inspected for many years have also seen their rating change from Outstanding to Good in recent months. You will no doubt also be aware that there has been recent criticism of the OFSTED grading, with just the 4 categories of rating – our inspector made clear verbally during the visit that the school was a "very strong" Good but there is no way of reflecting that in the official grade.

Whatever the OFSTED grading, we are determined to continue to provide what we consider to be an outstanding education for all of our pupils, as we continue to surpass national and local benchmarks in all of our core results (Early Years, Phonics and Key Stage 1). We understand that the education landscape is ever-evolving, and we are committed to staying ahead of the curve to provide the best possible learning experience for your child. We shall ensure that the areas for improvement flagged in the OFSTED report are addressed alongside our existing, annually updated School Improvement Plan. We continuously review best practice through collaborations with other local schools, to help us strengthen the foundations of our education provision. Your support, feedback, and engagement are invaluable in this journey, and we invite you to be active participants in our ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of education at our school.

One of the areas we are particularly proud of is our Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision. Our school is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment, and we have been commended for our commitment to providing excellent SEN provision. We believe in offering tailored support to every child, ensuring that they have the resources and assistance needed to thrive academically and personally.

Furthermore, our school is actively involved in the community, and we take great pride in our contributions. Community engagement is a cornerstone of our values, and we are dedicated to fostering positive relationships beyond the classroom. Your support in these initiatives is invaluable, and we are grateful for the positive impact we can collectively make in the lives of our pupils.

We were delighted that, as part of the Parent View feedback that OFSTED monitor, 100% of those of you who responded (and there was a significant number who did so) stated that they would recommend our school to another parent. The inspector noted that this was a remarkable outcome that they had rarely seen before and this reflects the strong partnership between home and school.

Your trust and confidence in our educational approach are deeply appreciated, and we are committed to maintaining this open and collaborative relationship.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the OFSTED inspection or any other matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are always here to listen and seek to address any issues you may have.

Kind regards

Aliki Goodman
Chair of Governors (on behalf of the Governing board).
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