

WESTON VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Friday 7 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As you know, we had an Ofsted inspection last month. We are delighted that the team confirmed the school's own judgement of '**Good with Outstanding features**'. While the inspection has been distilled into a short 500 word report, it still captures the essence of Weston, with observations such as this:

Everyone is clear about leaders' high expectations of pupils' behaviour and achievement. Pupils do not disappoint. Their behaviour around school and their attitudes in class are exemplary. They aspire to the school motto of 'Be the best you can be'.

This was the first inspection of Weston in 8 years. Lots has changed since the last one including the entire senior leadership team and lots of the other staff. The Ofsted inspection framework also changed back in 2019 and it is far more demanding of schools than previous frameworks. We welcomed the incredibly rigorous process and the opportunity to show off our school.

The inspection was a full Section 5 which made judgements against all areas of the framework and we were very excited to share our school with the inspectors. As you will see from the report, they spent time before the inspection digesting lots of information about the school including our self-evaluation and school improvement documents. While they were here they spoke to all staff and some governors and the CEO, watched teaching, looked at pupils' books, triangulated copious amounts of evidence and spent a lot of time observing and talking to the children to learn about the experience of every child at Weston. They were hugely impressed by the children and how they exuded our Secrets of Success around school, in their learning, at playtimes and in their conversations with inspectors. I'm sure that you are as proud of them as we are.

Inspectors identified behaviour and attitudes as **Outstanding** and made it clear to us in feedback that we were very much knocking on the door of Outstanding with both Personal Development and the Quality of Early Years Education. They were also particularly impressed by our Special Educational Needs provision and how inclusive our approaches are.



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Headteacher: Mr Thomas Cutts

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As well as identifying the many strengths of our curriculum and overall quality of education, we also have two targets, as you will see in the report. These are areas that we had already identified within our own self-evaluation as next steps to focus on this year and which we have a clear plan for.

One relates to the small group of children who did not pass the phonics screening check last year and ensuring that they make accelerated progress this year in order to close the gap and become the proficient readers that they need to be. We have tightly timetabled intervention and monitoring procedures in place to secure the success of this group and support the identification of any other potentially vulnerable early readers.

The other relates to our ongoing curriculum work. While some subjects such as maths and reading were identified as being incredibly strong and our curriculum as a whole was hailed as broad and ambitious, our plans for the year ahead include further developing some subject areas so that subject leaders are even better equipped at supporting the effective implementation of our ambitious curriculum. This is reflected in the target.

We look forward to sharing insight into our ongoing school improvement as we go through the year. Believe it or not, we would love Ofsted to come back before the end of the year when we feel confident that we would be presenting as an outstanding school overall!

That is not to take away from our pride in the inspection outcome, which reflects the passion, skill and energy of the whole staff team, our valued home/school relationship and the wonderful children who we are privileged to work with every day. Weston is a special school.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the inspection including governors, pupils and parents, who spoke to inspectors at the start of the school day and completed the questionnaire. The lead inspector shared some of the parent comments with us, which was a lovely highlight of our experience. As a proud member of The Cornovii Trust, we look forward to continuing our relentless drive towards outstanding provision, both academically and more widely, to ensure that every child leaves our school fully equipped for the next stage of their life and beyond.

The report will be published on the Ofsted website towards the end of next week.

Best wishes

Thomas Cutts

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