

LONGFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Head Teacher - Mr P Hollidge

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Dear Parent / Carer,

Thank you for your patience in waiting for our final Ofsted letter. We have great pleasure in being able to share this with you now, before it goes live on the Ofsted website next Tuesday. Just to give some context to the visit – The format of Ofsted inspections has changed many times over the past 5 years and currently schools that hold a grading of ‘Good’ are subject to a one-day inspection with a letter rather than a full report being produced at the end of the process. It is a thorough process with lengthy pre-visit documentation and data analysis as well as comprehensive evidence visited and discussed during the day.

As you will read, the letter reports on what the school is doing well; how it has addressed the points for improvement highlighted in our previous report and areas for us to continue working on. As a Governing body, we are immensely proud of Longfields Primary School and the effort all our staff, pupils and parents put into making this an excellent learning environment. We are a school that encourages life-long learning; a growth mind-set approach to that process and a commitment to high achievement and attainment for all our pupils. This is evident through our consistently high assessment and SATs results over the past 4 years, including DfE awards and results last year that were 20% higher than the national average.

We are immensely pleased with the attached report as we feel it reflects the hard work put in by all stakeholders and highlights the ongoing commitment to improving standards and the school as a whole. As with all inspections, there are areas pinpointed for improvement and the two highlighted at the end of the letter were already part of our annual Raising Attainment Plan and have been a focus for us all since September.

In regards to our target to improve the rapid progress for our more-able mathematicians, we were slightly disappointed that this was highlighted as a next step for the school, as this has been derived from a snap shot of data and the current internal assessment results for the school indicates that this area is on course to return to a high level. Nevertheless, it is on our Raising Attainment Plan and is therefore a relevant area for us to focus on and as a Governing body we ensure that our school leadership is held accountable for those improvements.

The second area relating to attendance levels for some groups of children is one where we need your help. Attendance levels as a whole have been steadily improving over the past 3 years and we are now on track to be at or above national average by the end of this academic year, but there are still some instances of high absence in some areas. Please do not be surprised or upset if over the coming months you are asked to meet with Mr Hollidge to discuss high levels of absence and how we can help to improve them. We are convinced that the Teaching and Learning at Longfields is Good and in many areas Outstanding, but our children need to be in school in order to benefit from this environment and achieve at a high level.

We would like to finish by once again thanking all the staff, pupils and parents who work tirelessly to ensure Longfields is a great school to be at. We are proud of our standing in the community; keen to keep listening to ways we could improve the service we provide and committed to on-going improvement in achievement and attainment and instilling in our children a life-long passion for learning.

Yours sincerely

Tracy Richardson
Chair of Governors
(on behalf of Longfields Primary School Governing Body)

