



10<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Subject: Important Update Regarding Recent Ofsted Inspection**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about the recent Ofsted inspection at Oak Farm Primary School that took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June. The report has indicated that the school requires improvement, and I understand that this news may be disappointing and concerning for many of you.

I want to assure you that the findings of the inspection were not a surprise to me. Prior to the Ofsted visit, I had already made assessing the school's strengths and areas for development a priority for my first half-term in post. Following this, I, and the rest of the school staff, had developed actions plans and started initiating changes. I am pleased to say these align closely with the recommendations made by Ofsted, as referenced in the report: ***The new headteacher has evaluated the school's current position accurately. Action plans are already being enacted and priorities for development are clear. Staff are committed to driving improvements and the school is beginning to work well with parents and carers.***

I would like to reassure you that we are confident that we know what to do to improve and have begun working on a number of areas already:

Examples of measures taken so far include:

- A review of, and work on all, curriculum documentation and plans to ensure they are broad, balanced and ambitious for every child in the school
- A reworked programme of teacher development and training, starting with a focus on teaching methods and practice
- A clearer teaching and learning policy to ensure consistency between staff and across all key stages
- Phonics training for KS1 staff to ensure consistency in delivery
- Establishing a behaviour working party (including feedback from parents) with the intention to relaunch the behaviour policy in September.
- A restructure of roles and responsibility within the school leadership team
- An in-depth review of SEND provision (which in turn will lead to action plans and a shared understanding of how best support children with additional need)
- Discussions with children regarding the launch of school council.
- A review of the school's communication strategy to bring it up to date and address issues identified at the parents' meetings held last month.

It is crucial that parents have an understanding of the contextual factors that have influenced this inspection report. The school was amalgamated in 2021, and prior to that, the infant school had not undergone an inspection since 2008 (over 16 years ago). During that time, the Ofsted inspection framework has evolved twice, moving away from inspections focusing on children's outcomes data to one that now focuses on the quality of

education provided to all children in the school (with a focus on curriculum design) as well as their personal development.

Whilst I fully acknowledge that this is not where any of us want the school to be, I firmly believe that recent actions and strengths outlined in the report such as:

- ***Many pupils achieve well in mathematics and English by the time they reach the end of Year 6***
- ***Pupils are safe and attend school well***
- ***There is clear ambition for what pupils should learn***
- ***Pupils are generally respectful and polite***
- ***In the early years, children play cooperatively and staff build their emotional and social skills***

provide us with a firm foundation to allow all pupils to reach their potential academically as well as socially and emotionally. We know that when children leave Oak Farm, they achieve well- with results above that of national expectation.

The staff team at Oak Farm are hardworking and dedicated individuals and we are all committed to continue developing the school. As a headteacher, one of my key priorities is that all children are always safe at school and I was pleased that our safeguarding arrangements were judged as effective

I believe it is essential to provide you with the opportunity to discuss the report and ask questions. With the support of our families and governors, I am confident that Oak Farm will make significant progress.

To facilitate open dialogue and address any concerns you may have, I will be hosting a series of 'Ofsted surgeries; on the following dates and times, where the Chair of Governors, and hopefully other governors, will also be present:

- Thursday 11th July at 6pm
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 9:15am

I have scheduled these sessions to provide flexibility for parents to attend at a convenient time. Your participation and input are invaluable as we work together to drive improvements and enhance the educational experience for our children.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to Oak Farm Primary School. Should you have any immediate questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Warm regards,



Mrs Jas Cheema  
Headteacher

