

What OFSTED had to say about our school.....



Main Findings:

“ There has been a substantial improvement in many important areas of the school’s work. The pace of change has been impressive and weaknesses have been tackled rigorously and successfully. As a result, most pupils are making rapid progress in their learning and their attainment is rising. The current Year 6 pupils have made exceptional progress this year to make up the ground that they had lost over previous years in Key Stage 2.

Pupils’ behaviour is good and at times, such as in assembly or when they are completely engrossed in their work, it is exemplary. The good quality of teaching is also a significant contributory factor to the improvements in pupils’ learning. The curriculum is relevant to the pupils’ lives and the thoughtful way that topics are linked together stimulates their interest and enthusiasm. Attendance has risen, but not at a pace that matches the improvements in other areas, despite the school’s strenuous efforts.

These are the main reasons for the rapid transformation in the school’s overall effectiveness:

- the school’s motto ‘Yes, we can’ has inspired both adults and pupils and the atmosphere in classrooms is purposeful, positive and supportive
- the approach to improving the quality of teaching and learning has been rigorous and thorough
- the staffing structure promotes the sharing of good practice and enables all pupils to benefit from skilled teaching
- there is a clear commitment to consistency of approach so that pupils know what to expect and what is expected of them
- checks on pupils’ attainment and progress are regular and the information used to plan appropriate interventions where needed
- close working with the federation partner school, the local authority and the Interim Executive Board has been particularly effective.

All of the above stem from strong leadership. The associate headteacher and deputy headteacher make a formidable partnership and have established a powerful sense of teamwork among staff at all levels. They have re-affirmed the school’s core purpose and put the pupils at the centre of its work. There is a growing pride in what has been achieved, but also a realistic understanding of the work that remains to be done. The effectiveness of the school’s leaders shows in the good progress that has been made and confirms that there is a good capacity for sustained improvement.”

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Outcomes for individuals and groups of pupils

- Standards of attainment are rising.
- The pupils clearly enjoy their learning. They report that they like their teachers to be 'strict but fair, because it helps you to learn'.
- Topic books made by pupils of all ages have been put together with care and attention to detail.
- Pupils feel safe at school.
- Pupils of all backgrounds work and play harmoniously together.

How effective is the provision?

- Relationships between adults and pupils are good.
- Expectations of how pupils will behave and of the quality of their work are high and explicit.
- The curriculum aptly reflects the pupils' backgrounds, interests and experiences as well as broadening their horizons.
- Many pupils attend the good range of clubs and activities that enhance the curriculum.
- The staff do a good deal to support potentially vulnerable pupils and their families.

How effective are leadership and management?

- Strong teamwork is a feature across the school.
- Their determination to improve outcomes for the pupils is strong.
- A perceptive analysis of what needs to be done next and a clear understanding of the main priorities.
- Impressive impact of the partnership working between the school's leaders, the Interim Executive Board, the federation and the local authority demonstrates clearly how much can be achieved when all work towards the same end.
- Having put the pupils at the heart of the school's work, its leaders are now striving to establish the school at the heart of the community.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- Leadership of the EYFS is strong.
- The learning environment has been transformed. It is inviting and stimulating, especially outdoors.
- The Nursery and Reception classes help children make progress in all of the areas of learning.

