

13<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to share with you our Ofsted report, following the short inspection on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019. As you will read, the Ofsted inspector was able to confirm that despite a period of turbulence, prior to my appointment, the school continues to be a good school.

As a parent/carer reading this report, you will be very reassured to know that your children are getting a good quality education at Windmill, where they are safe and are achieving academically with improved results in English and maths.

Here are some highlights from the report:

The report recognises that we have established a **“vibrant and energetic learning community. Staff have a shared commitment to high standards of pastoral care, ambition for pupils’ achievement and a desire to ensure that pupils become good citizens in the world around them.”**

You will read about how all children across the school are making **“strong progress.”** It tells you about how **“teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve in mathematics and English. Pupils listen attentively and are eager to learn.”** The inspector, Hazel Henson, saw in children’s books that teachers give **“tailored feedback”** to help them improve further. She recognised the hard work the school has put into reading and phonics, consequently children now make **“rapid”** progress. She could see that children’s fluency in mathematics is **“improving.”** Teachers are skilled at challenging the more able children. This was a key point of development from the previous Ofsted.

The developments we have made in the Early Years are also celebrated in the report, **“leaders have transformed the Early Years base... strong partnerships with parents... sharing systems of communication ensure that all the staff know what children’s next steps for learning are... children with additional needs are well supported.”**

Hazel Henson, the inspector, was impressed with behaviour, stating, **“pupils’ behaviour around school is thoughtful and considerate.”** She could see that our **“rigorous approach”** has improved attendance and that it is now broadly in line with the national average. Her report also says, **“Pupils and staff celebrate the diversity of the school community.”** Children are **“proud to be part of a school which values different cultures.”**

Our next steps to develop further are to transfer the work we have done in English and maths across all subjects and to ensure children attribute the same high standards in all their books, as they do in English and maths. These are areas we had also identified and are already making progress with.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the last two years. Windmill is a very special school and I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised this in the report as well as how skilled and ambitious the staff are for your children.

Best Wishes

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Headteacher

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