



5th March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

OFSTED INSPECTION

As you will be aware, Ofsted inspected our school on the 1st February 2018 to ascertain whether the school remains a good school. I am delighted to say that we do remain a good school, but also that we have moved on considerably.

The report is available on the school website: www.delapreprimaryschool.net and will also appear on the Ofsted website as from today: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>

The intention of this letter is to celebrate some of the key points and inform you of what we need to do next.

We welcomed the Ofsted Inspection as an opportunity to show how far we have come since the previous inspection in June 2014.

The Inspector was impressed with the informative school website and the engagement on Parent View. He reflected on the previous inspection and stated that the school has 'secured some striking improvements in pupils' achievements and progress' (**please see letter from Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP – Minister of State for School Standards - Top 2% in the country**).

The Inspector stated that the improvement is a result of 'strong and effective leadership, teaching which is consistently of high quality and an environment for learning which is calm, orderly and purposeful'.

We are delighted with the behaviour comment, which states that the 'behaviour continues to be excellent'; in discussions, he used the term "impeccable behaviour". He went on to suggest that 'The pupils rise to your high expectations of how they should behave, and they beam with pride when they are praised for being kind or for working hard'. In many of the lessons visited with the Inspector, he identified that pupils have a real thirst for knowledge and 'their strong work ethic made a striking contribution to their learning'.

We have worked hard on developing our curriculum and this was identified in the report – 'Rich and exciting curriculum'. This included the work that has taken place in the promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; this was captured with quotes from two of our children who said

'Honesty is the most important thing in life.'

'Humans should not judge others by the colour of their skin.'

It was recognised that the curriculum was supported by stimulating displays across the school and the excellent range of extra-curricular activities including sports, music and arts. We are delighted with the recognition we received over how we use the Sports Premium Funding.



During the inspection, and on the report, there were many wonderful comments about our children, but staff were also mentioned e.g.

'The highly skilled teachers and well-qualified teaching assistants then ensure that teaching is tailored to the individual pupil's specific needs'.

Safeguarding

At Delapre Primary School, we pride ourselves in taking our safeguarding role very seriously and this came through in the report. The Inspector stated that 'All the pupils I met with told me that they feel very safe in school'. They also said there is very little bullying and that their teachers deal with it quickly if ever it does occur. We understand that two parents out of 88 who responded, suggested that some class teachers did not always deal with these incidents effectively enough. We will revisit this subject so children and parents alike understand how matters are dealt with and, if required, any improvements are put in place. We are delighted that the Friendship Stop was mentioned and how the children know that they can talk to our Family Support Worker if they have a problem.

We have worked hard with promoting online safety and this came through in the report, as did the diligent nature of staff when raising concerns. Our systems and referral procedures were highly praised and I was elated to see mention of the Senior Leadership Team being 'tenacious' when our children are not receiving the care and protection they need.

It was fantastic to see so many improvements throughout the report e.g. KS2 Attainment and Progress; KS1 Achievement; Disadvantaged Pupils' Progress and Achievement; and improvements every year since 2014 for our Early Years 'Good Level of Development' achievement. It was also pleasing to see that many areas of the EYFS were recognised as being good e.g. communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development. Recognition was also given to the hard work of all staff in the Reception classes:

'You and the dedicated team of Early Years staff have been working to improve children's reading and writing, with the result that attainment in these specific areas of learning, while still too low, has risen each year since the last inspection'.

We were a little disappointed that the progress made in EYFS was not highlighted, but do accept that changes and improvements can always be made.

So, next steps –

We have already been identifying areas to improve/develop. We are now looking forward to celebrating our current and future successes.

Yours faithfully



H Portrey
Headteacher