

# Woodcroft Primary School



## Ofsted Report

Dear parents/carers,

Please find attached the Ofsted report from our inspection on 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June. Unfortunately, due to the timing of the summer break, Ofsted have only published the final report today, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. It is only when this final report is published that it can be shared with staff and parents.

We are extremely disappointed with the outcome of the report. Although we were given a Good judgement for Behaviour and Attitudes; Personal Development; and Leadership and management, our Quality of Education and Early Years Provision were deemed Requires Improvement. I would like to address each of these areas separately.

### Quality of Education

Two areas of our curriculum were identified as needing improving – Teaching of Phonics and Knowledge within our wider curriculum.

We adopted our new phonics scheme 'Little Wandle' in January 2022, but retained our own phonics teaching style as this had suited our children which was evident in our phonics results. Phonics results in both 2019 and 2022 were in line with the national result. We had also been inspected by the Hampshire English advisor in February 2022, who had shared our strong practice with other schools. Unfortunately, Ofsted wanted us to follow the teaching style and practice of the scheme precisely, which is now what we have implemented in all Phonics lessons.

Our wider curriculum covers the knowledge set out in the National Curriculum and this is evident in children's books and the knowledge planners that are provided at the start of each half-term. However, Ofsted want this knowledge to be refined within the schools long term plans for particular subjects. This will help teachers, particularly our inexperienced teachers, plan lessons that build on pupils prior knowledge. This work has already begun in Geography and Art, and we are working with advisors to help implement this aspect of the curriculum quickly and succinctly.

### Early Years Provision

The requires improvement grade for Early Years is more difficult to quantify. The intent of our EYFS curriculum was good, but it was not implemented in lessons that inspectors saw as well as it could have been. No consideration was given to the fact the teacher had recently taken over the class and was a newly qualified teacher.

Despite the Ofsted judgement, our end of year Good Level of Development (GLD) was 71% compared to a national figure of 65.8%. However, we have made changes to this year's provision. Miss Cooper who is an experienced teacher has moved into Year R and will be implementing an aspirations based curriculum that will further strengthen our pupils' progress towards GLD.

**I fully appreciate that some aspects of this report may be a concern to you and I am happy to discuss these with individual parents over the coming days. There are clearly strengths identified in the report, but as headteacher it is my responsibility to ensure that all aspects of our school are good for all of our pupils. We have already implemented changes based on Ofsted recommendations and will continue to do so as we move forward.**

Yours faithfully,

Barry Fanning  
Headteacher  
Woodcroft Primary School