

5 September 2023

Ofsted Report

Dear Families,

Claygate Primary School has now received the final report from Ofsted. As Governors, we are immensely proud of the school's journey since the last inspection and the gradings awarded to the school.

Overall effectiveness

GOOD

Quality of Education

GOOD

Behaviour and Attitudes (includes attendance)

GOOD

Personal Development

OUTSTANDING

Leadership & Management

GOOD

Early Years Provision (Reception & Acorns Nursery)

OUTSTANDING

At the end of the process, the Lead Inspector hosted a full feedback session for senior leaders, the Local Authority and the governing board to give us an in-depth picture of the progress which the team of inspectors had evidenced. They specifically noted the dramatic improvement from the last inspection and successes in national assessment results (including SATs).

We would like to share some of their key messages:

Quality of Education: After observing lessons, interviewing staff and children, and looking at evidence of learning across all subjects, including the children's books, they deemed all aspects of learning to be strong, with high expectations and ambitions for all pupils. They said the core subjects are fully embedded, consistently taught, coherently inclusive and all children are challenged so progression is evident. Writing, reading and mathematics are strong and phonics is skilfully taught. Oracy is clearly planned with progressive opportunities utilised across all subjects from Nursery onwards and across the school.

Inspectors described subject leaders as 'experts' in their field, knowledgeable about their subject, with effective plans to further improve their subjects, based on monitoring and assessment. They recognised the value of well-trained subject leaders who model lessons, deliver team teaching and coaching to support colleagues, particularly those new to the profession. They said our Teaching Assistants have the knowledge and skills to support all children well.

Behaviour for learning and attitudes: in lessons and around the school was recognised as 'Good'. They described the children as calm, well organised and delightful with excellent manners and good social interaction. They particularly noted how well resources had been

used to promote positive experiences in the playground and were happy with how teachers supported all children.

The overall grading for behaviour also includes **Attendance**. At the date of the inspection, this was 95%. Although inspectors said that overall attendance was good, despite the school's determined efforts, this could be improved and there was too high a level of 'Persistent Absence' at 10%.

Personal Development: This area was described as **outstanding** with a vast array of activities on offer across the curriculum. They identified the Claygate Charter and the key enrichment strands, allowing the children to explore different subjects, our pets, Forest School, Zen Zones, Eco Council and Class Ambassadors which enable pupils to engage in team working and build resilience and confidence so that they can demonstrate these characteristics before they leave this stage of their education.

Leadership and Management: Inspectors were impressed with the leadership team's proactive approach to the identification of priorities and the resulting impact on school improvement, as well as the accuracy of self-evaluation of all aspects of the provision. They noted the quality of Continuous Professional Development provided for all staff and the wide-ranging outreach work. Staff have supported other schools through moderation, Peer Reviews, and by sharing good practice in Reading, Mathematics, Early Years provision and Oracy. As Governors, some of us were also interviewed and were very pleased to be told we were knowledgeable and supportive with a firm grasp of the key priorities and the progress the school has made.

Early Years This area was designated as **outstanding** with high expectations for all. They said it was exciting with excellent participation from the children and an appropriate balance between child-initiated activities and planned provision. This is an area of which we are immensely proud, having made the decision to set up the Nursery in 2021 to complete our EYFS phase (Nursery and Reception).

Safeguarding is effective with strong processes in place.

Over the coming months, we will continue to monitor, challenge and support the school and staff as we formulate actions for the next phase of Claygate Primary School's development and continuous improvement.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for all the support and encouragement you have given to the head teacher, staff and especially to your children. We know our school is a welcoming, ambitious and an amazing place to learn and are highly delighted this has now been formally recognised.

Kind Regards

Tony de Vizio
Chair of Governors
(On behalf of the Governing Body)