

Dear Parents/Carers

Ofsted visited the school on the 28/29<sup>th</sup> June and they have just published their report which states that they judge school still to be “RI” – Requires Improvement. The Governing Body wishes you to know that having heard from the inspecting personnel, and considered their report thoroughly, we could not agree their assessments, and we submitted a 26 page complaint, which dealt with both the overall judgement and the manner in which the inspection was carried out.

We all know that our school has improved dramatically since our last Ofsted inspection and we have seen significant improvement in outcomes for all pupils and families in our community.

We have invited a multitude of education professions into school over the last two years, who have scrutinised our evidence for success rigorously; and for the last 12 months we have received regular and constant feedback that confirms our belief that ours is a good school by Ofsted definition.

We invited the Local Authority in January to conduct a “mocksted” inspection and we were satisfied that this was again, a very rigorous assessment. Their judgement was that should we be inspected by Ofsted we could be assured that they believed the inspection judgement would be “good”.

The Local Authority is as shocked as we are that this judgement was not arrived at by the Inspectors on the 28/29<sup>th</sup>, and they have agreed to support our complaint.

Ofsted are self monitoring and subsequently we do not have full confidence that our complaint will result in a re-inspection, however, we are pressing our case to its fullest extent. Currently we are at stage 3 in their process, and have had feedback from their quality assurance department which altered two critical inspection errors, and from their scrutiny panel which upheld parts of our complaint and offered apologies, but did not uphold others. In order for our own evidence to be reviewed, we will have to pursue the complain to stage 5.

We know from your feedback that you share our belief that this is a very good school which fully meets your children’s educational needs and we sincerely hope that you will feel as we do about this report.

We will continue to guide the Senior Leadership Team to improve the school for the benefit of all our pupils, we recognise that there is always room for improvement and we are not, nor have we ever been, complacent. We enclose our strategic plan for 2017-2020 which was created well before the inspection following our consultation with you. Nothing in the inspection report has changed our direction for the school in any way.

Our staff are understandably dismayed by this judgement, and we share their unhappiness that their excellent work has not received its warranted public accolade. They remain, as ever, entirely devoted to our children’s welfare and development as they continue to deliver a varied and challenging curriculum that seeks to give them the robust primary education that they deserve.

We hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to seeing you in The Autumn term. We, and all staff here, have been heartened by the support which parents have offered this year, and we anticipate continuing our work with you to further our children’s life chances during the next academic year and beyond.