



LARKFIELDS INFANT SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Firstly, may I take this opportunity to thank you for the gifts and cards sent to staff through the recent Ofsted inspection. As quoted in the report we are “one big family” and the support staff received from yourselves certainly highlighted this.

Larkfields Infant School experienced an ungraded inspection on 21st and 22nd March 2023. This means that Ofsted came into school to ensure that the school remained good. As such, rather than receiving a full inspection report a much shorter letter is produced.

We were delighted with the feedback received during the inspection, much of which cannot be found in such a short report. I would like to take the opportunity to share the feedback with you as I know you will be equally pleased with what the inspector found.

She explained that there is much to celebrate and be proud of at Larkfields Infant School.

Quality of Education

‘Reading is a real strength’.

Leaders have high expectations for pupils and prioritise the teaching of phonics which begins in EYFS. There is a consistent delivery throughout the school showing high levels of fidelity to the SSP, LW. Leaders have been careful to plan the implementation of a new SSP so that staff are positive and on board. Teachers are positive about LW and are already seeing the impact.

Maths Leader is ambitious and has high aspirations for pupils, wanting them to secure a good level in number sense, mathematical vocabulary and fluency. Lessons are well sequenced and build on previous learning. Teachers subject knowledge is secure and CPD is ongoing to further enhance this. Teaching is clear and provides good modelling of concepts. Assessments are completed termly as well as at the end of units of work. Teachers say that there is a lot to do but that they find the information from assessments useful and helps to identify gaps in learning.

The SENCo is passionate about pupils with SEND and she has high expectations for all pupils and the provision that they should receive. LIS has an inclusive ethos and this is evident throughout school. Everyone considers themselves a teacher of SEND. SEND is well structured and support is centred primarily around the needs of pupils. Interventions are closely monitored for impact and planned based on the changing needs of pupils over time.

Leadership and Management

Trustees know the school well. They have supported with operational issues and with the strategic development including with subject leadership. They know the strengths of the school and its place in the community. They are

mindful of the well-being of the HT and staff. They have supported the development of governance and regularly monitor performance. It has been a positive move to join EMET.

Governors are passionate about the school and have an accurate understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of Larkfields. They are aware of the issues that the school is working on. Governors complete their statutory duties and provide the right amount of support and challenge for school leaders. They are mindful of workload.

Trustees, Governors, staff and parents speak highly of the leadership in school. Parent survey and comments are overwhelmingly positive. Comments are supportive and commend the school for all that they do.

Larkfields has a strong culture of Safeguarding. There is a visible presence of procedures and systems and all teachers share the commitment to safeguarding pupils. Leaders have ensured that training is relevant, up to date and timely. Leaders are very aware of contextual risks and work to ensure that pupils know how to keep themselves safe. Pupils were particularly confident with Online Safety

Personal Development

PD is a priority for leaders and they are mindful of preparing pupils for life in their community. Via a strong PSHE programme, Assemblies and STAR awards there is a strong culture within the school. Pupils know the school's values and British Values. They were able to talk confidently about tolerance and Individual liberty (personal choice of clothes and food).

Early Years

EYFS Leaders are clear about their vision for the pupils in EYFS. They aim for pupils to develop resilience, confidence, high levels of vocabulary and a love of learning. These ambitions are the same as those expressed by the HT.

EYFS environment is well organised and leaders have a thorough understanding of the context of the pupils joining LIS. Key knowledge is identified and the vocabulary needed for the pupils to be successful. There are clear links to the Y1 curriculum.

I hope, that alongside the report, this gives you assurance that your child attends a school of which the whole community can be proud.

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Clarke

Chair of Governors

