



The Laurels
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Charlotte Bull

27 February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your support in our recent OFSTED inspection; as ever it is very much appreciated. Please find attached the final report following our inspection on 6th and 7th February. We are so proud of our children and you will see many of their strengths highlighted in the report.

As you know, our school is on a journey and this is reflected in our report. I wanted to be Headteacher of The Laurels as I recognised the huge potential of the school and we have accomplished a great deal in the year that I have been in post but there is still much to do. What is absolutely clear is that the inspectors recognise the improvements underway, and endorsed that myself and leaders are clear and correct in knowing what needs to be done in order to ensure all our children achieve well.

I'd like to thank all the parents who shared their comments with the inspection team directly and on Parent View. I'd also like to thank you for continuing to support us with improving whole school attendance as Ofsted acknowledged that *'attendance has improved over time... leaders work closely with parents to improve attendance.'*

The overall judgement is based on historical data, and we continue to make swift progress for the children in our school, being supported by DMAT in addressing the areas we need to improve on.

I would like to draw your attention to the sections on behaviour, safeguarding and welfare where we achieved a rating of 'good' and the inspectors recognised the success of our new policies and the wonderful attitudes of our children. *'Pupils are proud of their school saying it is 'amazing, fantastic and super.'*

I have chosen a selection of key quotations from the report, which we should all be proud of, and they are representative of what every child, parent, staff or governor would want for their school:

- *Recent work by school leaders has had a positive impact on improving pupils' attainment. They are ambitious for the school's further development. Staff have great commitment in tackling the issues identified for school improvement. The promotion of pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is good. Pupils behave well and feel safe.*
- *Leaders are improving the content of the curriculum. Pupils are enthusiastic about their lessons in science, art and design technology. Pupils enjoy topics that help them to understand their local community, for example, topics that help them to understand how to be safe by the seaside. The curriculum is enriched by trips to museums and places of worship. These opportunities help to widen their understanding of different beliefs and to prepare them for life in modern Britain.*

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- *Leaders successfully embed the school's values and pupils know them well. As they progress through the school, pupils learn the values of resilience, perseverance, respect and kindness. These values are at the heart of the school and strongly promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of pupils' development. All pupils and staff have a nurturing care and respect for one another.*
- *All pupils have a clear sense of belonging and the importance of equality of opportunity. School leaders have developed a culture that helps nurture pupils and celebrates their achievements.*
- *Parents are very supportive of the school and those spoken to informally say that the school is getting better. One parent said "The new headteacher really seems to have had a positive impact on the school since her arrival, gearing everything towards child safety, values and learning". Nearly all of the parents who responded on Parent View would recommend the school.*
- *Staff work relentlessly to provide pupils with a high level of care.*
- *The breadth of curriculum is appropriate. Children are eager to learn and enjoy the range of activities on offer.*
- *Information kept by the school about current pupils in Year 6 indicates that they are making better progress than in the past. The work seen during the inspection confirms this.*

A key focus of our work is embedding and consolidating the work we have started this year on teaching and learning. We will ensure that the high quality practice that exists in some areas is consistent across the school and address the areas of underperformance.

I look forward to continuing our work together in order to provide the best education possible and what our children deserve.

If you would like to discuss the report with me, please arrange an appointment through the school office and I will be happy to see you.

Yours faithfully



Miss C Bull
Headteacher



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