



Tuesday 6th June 2023

Dear parents/carers

I am writing to you with immense pride to announce that Speenhamland School is officially a **GOOD school** – our Ofsted report has been published today and a copy is being sent home with your child.

The two-day inspection on the 19th and 20th April was an incredibly positive experience that looked at five key areas: the quality of education; behaviour and attitudes; personal development; leadership and management and Early Years provision. The new Inspection Framework is very robust and rigorous so it was pleasing to see that in all of these areas, Speenhamland School **was judged a strong good**. The inspectors acknowledged the many positive improvements we had embedded in the school and they were impressed with everything that they observed over the two days. I would like to thank all those who took part in the inspection: staff, governors, parents and pupils alike.

In the report, the inspectors acknowledged the importance of our school vision and values; how they drive everything we do in school. Our strong inclusiveness and diversity was highlighted in the report. "The whole community is inclusive. Regardless of pupils' needs, there is a desire to ensure the highest personal achievement. Leaders have high ambitions for every pupil to achieve their best."

In particular, it was lovely to read about the significant impact our Keevill Unit has on our physically disabled pupils. "The provision for pupils with significant disabilities in the Keevill Unit is very well considered. Staff understand each pupil's needs...Pupils of all abilities and needs work alongside each other productively and respectfully, looking after each other."

The curriculum we offer our pupils was scrutinised over the inspection, with deep dives in early reading, mathematics, science, geography and computing. In addition, they also looked at art and modern foreign languages. Inspectors commented, "Leaders have prioritised reading and mathematics. Staff deliver reading and phonics across all groups and classes consistently well. Pupils enjoy reading, including those who find it harder to read."

During the inspection, Ofsted observed children both in class and outside on the playground. They also spoke to a selection of year 6 pupils. They acknowledged that, "Pupils' behaviour is good. An effective system means all pupils understand how to behave. All staff implement the strategy consistently, whether in class, the lunch hall or outside. Pupils say the system is fair." On top of this, they were impressed with the extra-curricular provision we provide our pupils. "Pupils receive a variety of opportunities to develop their wider interests. There are many sporting and creative clubs available to develop pupils' mental and physical health."

There were only two areas for improvement which had already been identified by leaders and they will form a strong focus in our next school development plan. It has been a long journey to good but one we are incredibly proud of. Our aim is to continue on our positive journey, with the support of the Trust, and strive to be outstanding in our next inspection. Thank you to everyone – Speenhamland is such a special school and thoroughly deserves this recognition.

Kind regards

Mrs Julie Lewry
Headteacher