



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Wednesday 22 November 2017

OFSTED Inspection – Tuesday 21 November

Dear Parents and Carers,

First and foremost, I would like to thank all parents and carers for their huge vote of confidence and their kind words and gestures before, during and indeed after the day's inspection. The 98 responses to the Parent View questionnaire were much appreciated and formed a significant part of our discussions with the inspector. The children were an absolute credit to you and to Highwood and our inspector Mr Brooker, commented several times on how much he had enjoyed meeting and talking to so many of them.

Our last Section 5 inspection was in July 2013 and, even though there have been a considerable number of changes both to the system and to the level of expectation since then, we went in to the process confident that the school, despite the challenges of the last 18 months, was in an extremely positive place.

Under the new OFSTED Section 8 framework, which came in to force in September 2015, 'Good' or 'Outstanding' schools are now subject to a one day inspection instead of two. The only time that the inspection goes into a second day is when the inspector feels that either the school could be downgraded to 'Requires Improvement' or feels the school could go from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'.

It was an intense day from start to finish as the school's systems, attendance data, safeguarding procedures and performance data were interrogated – with senior staff contributing throughout the day. Lessons were observed across the school and children's books and Learning Journals were carefully scrutinised. Governors were forensically challenged and a group of Y5 and Y6 children were interviewed and asked to comment on learning, behaviour and safety around the school.

The outcome of our inspection is still confidential however the fact that the inspector did not return for a second day provides an indication as to the final judgement. I would like to thank my entire staff team, governors and parents and congratulate all the children of Highwood Primary School for their ongoing hard work and effort as well as their fantastic attitude on the day of the inspection. The school has been on a significant journey since 2013 and even more so since the flood in 2016, which has



required a great deal of effort and commitment from all members of our school community. I am extremely proud to be the Head Teacher and to work with such a magnificent group of people!

Our inspector Mr Paul Brooker, will be putting together a letter to inform all of you of the outcome of this short, one day inspection which should be with you in the next two to three weeks.

Kind Regards,

Cathy Cox
Head Teacher