



**GRETTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

**Gretton
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Telephone: 01242 602679**

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www.gretton.gloucs.sch.uk**

Headteacher: Mr Adam Sallis MEd, NASEN, NPQH

Thursday 21st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: OFSTED Inspection Report, 20th and 21st February 2024

After a few weeks of waiting, the report from our recent inspection is now available on the school website, as well as the official OFSTED website.

Whilst the judgement for Quality of Education was a fair reflection of where we are, the Leadership and Management judgement was a much tougher decision for the inspectors. Both grades came down to the fact that we as a team are not only new but that we are also bringing about significant and much needed change; rather than the direction we are moving in which has been reflected positively throughout the narrative of the report. We will now welcome Ofsted back in 18 – 30 months' time where we are confident that we will achieve our Good rating.

The report itself is glowing and the three areas of Good are down to the commitment and careful planning of our amazing professionals and reads better than the majority of reports you may see (between me and the trustees we have read hundreds!) Therefore, we are celebrating all of the amazing things that we do, the positive changes that we have made and the progress along the school's journey to be outstanding.

I have picked out the positive headlines to show they make up the majority of the report and when we look at what we need to do to improve, this is already in our plans, an accolade it itself - "The school knows what it needs to do to bring about improvement."

"The new leadership has a determined and ambitious vision." - We have been clear about this and communicated with all stakeholders every step of the way.

"The school's vision to 'aim high' encapsulates the ethos of the school well." - There has been a drive to ensure that we are focussed and more will be done in the future to embed our AIM HIGH curriculum.

"The school has high expectations for all pupils. As a result, pupils' behaviour has improved. Their conduct reflects the school's values well." - A key area that we have tirelessly worked at since September and really important to get the recognition that the children deserve.

"Pupils enjoy the rewards they receive in Friday celebration assemblies, such as the 'Gold Book' awards. These help to inspire and motivate pupils. "- The Dojo shop and positive behaviour rewards have been a key factor in recent weeks and has really driven our wonderful behaviour.

"Pupils enjoy school. They value the friendly environment within this small village school. They know that there are adults and children who look out for them. As a result, pupils feel safe." - This was very clear for us as a Leadership Team, we wanted to make sure that all children feel safe and this has supported our convictions.

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“The school knows what it needs to do to bring about improvement. It has prioritised improvement to the core curriculum where pupils learning is more successful. It has made a positive start to updating the wider curriculum.” - I was aware of the task when I arrived, that we needed to prioritise the journey and core subjects were obviously at the forefront, this has validated that decision and supports our curriculum design as we move forward with the wider curriculum.

“The core curriculum is ambitious. The school identifies the knowledge it wants pupils to know and remember. The core curriculum is well sequenced to help pupils build their knowledge over time.” – White Rose Maths alongside Literacy Tree have been at the heart of what we have done and in just a short few months the progress is amazing and my WOW wall is filling up by the day.

“There is a well sequenced phonics curriculum”, “The school is keen for pupils to develop a love of reading,” “Children get off to a good start in Reception.” - A big well done to Miss Cross, we have already planned in our coaching and mentoring to target the consistency of a well sequenced phonics curriculum across all classes; reading was a huge strength of our school and the children talked beautifully about their books and finally Robins, this WILL be outstanding at our next visit!

“Pupils learn how to treat one another with kindness.” - So important and shows the impact of our Golden Rule focus, really lovely to read this about our children from an external source.

“They know it is important to keep trying when learning is tricky.” - The world is talking about resilience and so for our children to recognise that they have tough times but we keep trying is so important to us.

“[Trustees] are improving their systems for checking the impact of the school’s actions on the quality of education and holding the school to account. Trustees have steered the school through a period of change“- The trustees have done a frankly phenomenal job since January and I feel that this is a fair reflection of where we are at this snapshot in time and will only continue to improve.

“Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the school. Parents and teachers comment positively about the recent changes and improvements. Teachers value the support and consideration they receive for their workload and well-being.” - The community is so important to making this work and all of our stakeholders were so positive that I felt incredibly humbled knowing our children are well supported at every turn to have successful futures.

Thank you again to all the parents who completed the online survey and to those who spoke so positively about the school to the inspectors.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the inspection and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr A Sallis
Headteacher**

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On behalf of the Board of Trustees we would like to express our gratitude to Adam and his amazing team who worked tirelessly to ensure the inspection ran smoothly. The highlight for the Trustees who visited during the inspection was seeing our brilliant children take every opportunity to show off their work and demonstrate their newfound knowledge with great pride.

The inspectors were very clear that we have provided the school with a Vision and the necessary Strategic Direction that has culminated in a robust School Development Plan underpinned by detailed Curriculum Plans. Going forward, we know that Adam and his team will deliver on the commitments made in the plans to enable our children to AIM HIGH in everything that they do in preparation for their future.

We would like to echo Adam's sentiment to all the parents who provided their support throughout the inspection process; it makes a big difference knowing you will be a part of the school's journey to become Outstanding. Should you feel the need to reach out to me at any point please do so, my contact details are available on the website.

**Mr A Griffiths
Chair of the Board of Trustees**

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