



HIGHCLIFFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUTSTANDING HERE WE COME!

OUR OFSTED INSPECTION: 21st & 22nd March 2017

BRIEFING FOR PARENTS:

Wednesday 26th April 2017



The Road So Far...

- Last OFSTED inspection in May 2012 – Graded ‘3’
- Involvement of the LAT
- Changes in Leadership
- New Executive Head and Head of School – Jan 2016
- Clear strategic direction based on pupil needs
- System of robust monitoring and evaluation
- LAT external and internal reviews
- Strong Year 6 SATs outcomes – summer 2016
- Improvements to quality of teaching
- Increased parental involvement and support!



The Process



- Lead Inspector phonecall – ½ day's notice
- Team of 4 inspectors
- Lesson observations
- Data analysis – progress and attainment of groups of pupils
- Samples of pupils' work / book trawls
- Pupil interviews
- Hearing children read in Year 2 and Year 6
- Parent View outcomes and informal conversations with parents
- Meetings with subject leaders and governors
- Meeting with the LAT representatives
- Observation of school life
- Safeguarding – legal check



Overall Effectiveness

We are a **GOOD** school!

The report recognises and celebrates the significant improvements and the journey our school has been on over the past year, but we kept asking what we need to do to be judged Outstanding at our next inspection – the report gives us a very clear direction to go in with the action points the Lead Inspector has given us.



Outcomes for Pupils

*Pupils make good progress in all year groups as a result of good teaching and strong leadership.
Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education.
The school's use of the pupil premium funding for raising disadvantaged pupils' achievement is effective.*



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- Attainment remains strong
- Improvements in number of pupils achieving Greater Depth compared to last year
- Progress is generally strong and improving on this time last year
- They saw lots of heartening evidence of pupil progress in their books – they show a positive picture of strong progress
- Our expectation that pupils will make 6-steps progress each year is ambitious – the team congratulated us on our high expectations for all – pupils and staff alike!



Quality of teaching

Teachers display good subject knowledge. This is used to model learning effectively and support pupils in understanding new concepts.

Leaders have been successful in improving the quality of teaching.



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- No teaching seen was less than good
- Inspectors observed teachers as well as LSAs leading groups
- WALTs are developing to become more complex in KS1
- Improvements in the quality of pupil reflection
- Good use of the 'purple pen'!
- Teachers use LSAs well and really think about using their time
- Good variety of homework seen including projects
- Communication with parents has improved!



Behaviour and Safety

Pupils who spoke with inspectors were clear that they are well cared for. Parents agree that their children are safe and well cared for.

The behaviour of pupils is good. Pupils are welcoming, polite and courteous to each other and to adults. Pupils behave well in lessons and engage positively in their learning



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- Our pupils are a credit to the school!
- We are a harmonious community
- Inspectors impressed with pupils signing 'hello'
- Strong values across school
- Pupils are proud of their work
- Good use of the cursive style for handwriting
- Some feedback the team received said that behaviour in school was not good – the Lead Inspector's response was that this was laughable!



Leadership & Management

Senior leaders, the governing body and the academy trust have a clear vision for the school's improvement. Expectations are high across the school. Strong leadership from the Executive Headteacher and Head of School have improved the quality of teaching in the school and raised pupils' achievement within a short period of time



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- Much improved and sharpened systems and processes
- Well-being trackers are a particular strength
- We are a large school that acts like a small school – we know pupils individually and provide bespoke / personalised learning
- School judgements on the quality of teaching match the inspection team's
- The Trust provide effective support
- Staff feel that professional development is good



EYFS

The early years provision is enthusiastically and competently led and managed. Children are well prepared for entry into Year 1.

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- Assessment is thorough
 - Good evidence from Tapestry
 - Strong links with other agencies
 - There is a passionate and enthusiastic approach to learning
 - Pupils are making good progress and have a secure learning experience
 - Parent partnership is a real strength
 - There is a good handle on pupil achievement data
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- Maths! Inspectors only judge what they see and they kept missing the wide variety of maths activities taking place!



Parent View

Based on 58 responses – total of those who strongly agree and agree

My child is happy at this school	98%
My child feels safe at this school	97%
My child makes progress at this school	92%
My child is well looked after	95%
My child is taught well	90%
My child receives appropriate homework	81%



Parent View

Based on 58 responses – total of those who strongly agree and agree

Pupils are well behaved	90%
The school deals effectively with bullying	88%*
The school is well led and managed	93%
School responds well to concerns	83%
I receive valuable information	78%
I would recommend this school	91%



What next?



- Development and empowerment of middle leadership
- Writing writing writing!
- Developing even more challenge for more-able pupils
- Further development of our pupil tracking to include all groups of pupils and 'groups within groups'
- Now that assessment in English and Maths is secure – development of deeper assessment in other subjects

