

'Together we grow from acorns to oaks'

Oakhill Church School and Nursery

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Head Teacher: Mrs J Clements



November 2023

Dear Parent and Carers,

I am writing to you to share the report following our recent Ofsted inspection. We welcome the inspection report in enabling us not only to celebrate our successes but also in identifying clear next steps that the school needs to take to secure future improvements.

We recognise, as the report indicates, that the school is emerging from an unsettled period and that we have some key areas to improve. However, we were pleased that the main areas for improvement that were identified by the inspection team aligned with what the school's leadership team have already identified and begun working on. This external feedback has enabled us to confirm that we are on the right track and working on the right things.

In recent months, we have started to develop a revised curriculum framework to provide rich and inspiring learning experiences that are rooted in our local community and we will continue to implement this through high-quality training that will equip staff to deliver consistently strong teaching. In particular, we will focus on precise assessment of what children already know and have learned, enabling us to intervene quickly and effectively so that children keep up with the curriculum expectations we have set.

We are pleased that the inspection team recognised the positive relationships that exist between staff and pupils. We know that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and the report highlights that safeguarding at Oakhill is effective stating, *'Pupils are safe and staff care about their well-being'*. Pupils were able to tell inspectors that *'behaviour and attitudes have improved markedly'*. However, we will continue to work together with parents and carers to support those children whose attitudes to learning are less positive.

In the last academic year, we introduced a whole-school phonics programme called 'Read, Write, Inc', to improve the teaching of early reading. Ongoing training of staff will continue in order to ensure that there is consistent high-quality teaching of reading across the school and this will be monitored closely by senior leaders, governors and the Trust. We are pleased that the report records that *'Older children speak positively about their favourite authors and books they have read'*.

The inspectors concluded that the trust and the governors have the necessary expertise to support the school to remedy the areas that require improvement, and this term we welcome Jenny Venning, a National Leader of Education, who will be working with the school as an Executive Headteacher to support Mrs Clements and the team.

We are especially proud of all the children who met with the inspectors, talked about our school, shared their work and described the positions of leadership and responsibility that they are able to take. We really value the support given to us by parents, carers and the local community and would like to thank all those who took time to complete the online survey. I am looking forward to sharing our improvements plans with you through regular, informal coffee mornings and newsletters.

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The Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust, our staff and our governors have a clear determination to accelerate our school improvement journey by working relentlessly on the key areas for development that will enable every child at Oakhill Church School to flourish.

If you would like a paper copy of the Ofsted report, please pop into the school office. This letter will also be sent to you electronically via Parent Mail and on the school website which will include the [link to the report](#). Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Mrs J Clements
Headteacher
Oakhill Church School