

St. Nicholas CE Primary Academy

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6th November 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the findings of our two-day section 8 'ungraded' OFSTED inspection on 8th & 9th October 2024, which highlighted the continued exceptional progress and achievements St Nicholas CE Primary Academy has made in maintaining the high standards of being a 'Good' School with 'Outstanding' features, as identified previously.

The report highlights several key strengths that are truly commendable:

- **Pupil Well-being and Belonging:** It is evident that the school places the well-being of its pupils at the core of its work, fostering a strong sense of belonging and ensuring that every pupil feels safe, happy, and heard. The school's values of respect, friendship, trust, and community are deeply embedded, creating a nurturing environment for your pupils.
- **High Expectations and Pupil Attainment:** The report praises the staff's high expectations, which inspire pupils to develop the values of perseverance and ambition. As a result, pupils attain well and are well-prepared for the next stages of their education.
- **Exemplary Behaviour and Curriculum:** The school's consistent approach to behaviour management has resulted in an orderly and focused environment, where pupils are polite, calm, and engaged. The carefully crafted curriculum, which starts in Reception and builds knowledge in a sequential manner, is particularly noteworthy in its ability to engage all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- **Exceptional Literacy and Numeracy Provision:** The report highlights the school's strong focus on developing pupils' vocabulary, reading, and writing skills, as well as its efforts to strengthen the teaching of mathematics, which are beginning to yield positive results.
- **Diverse Opportunities and Citizenship:** The school's work in developing responsible, respectful, and active citizens is *truly exemplary*, providing pupils with a wide range of meaningful opportunities to contribute to the school and wider community.

Please take the time to read the inspection report in full, as it evidences that St Nicholas is not only good, but we are a school that continuously strives to improve and excel through our high expectations. The report itself highlights the many elements of effective provision at St Nicholas, as well as the next steps needed to take the school forward. What is very satisfying is that the next steps identified were already within our school action plan prior to this inspection, and the associated adaptations are being implemented.

I would like to thank all our families who have supported the school during this time. This report is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of the entire community, including the trust, governors, staff, and, most importantly, the pupils. As Headteacher, I am extremely proud of these outstanding achievements.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher



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