



## Oakley Infant School

Headteacher: Mrs N Hutchings, B.Ed (Hons)

Oakley Lane  
Oakley  
Basingstoke  
Hampshire  
RG23 7JZ

Telephone: 01256 780445

Facsimile: 01256 781687

16 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to inform that the recent Ofsted Inspection at Oakley Infant School is now available.

As you may be aware Oakley Infants was last inspected in 2009. In the interim the Ofsted framework has changed many times into a form unrecognisable from the framework used in 2009, there has been a new National Curriculum, 10 Education Secretaries so, in short the school was measured against very different criteria and in a very different educational landscape.

I am very proud to tell you that the school maintained outstanding in 3 areas of the current inspection framework; personal development, behaviour and attitudes and Early Years. The work we develop in the area of Rights Respecting Education was praised by the Inspectors as well as the great start the children get in the Early Years.

The Inspection report is short and only includes a small fraction of the observations the team made over both days. I received a lot of feedback from the Inspectors about their observations and would like to share some of the significant points from the two day inspection.

They were impressed by the culture of reading that has been developed using Phonics Bug as the building blocks to developing early reading and the confidence with which each child reads. They were full of praise for the maths mastery project we have been developing over a number of years. They observed that in the core areas of the curriculum the children's learning is assessed in 'real time' with opportunities for closing gaps in learning immediately. The children told them that they liked teachers marking and correcting work during the lessons, a strategy that impressed the Inspectors.

The Inspectors were full of praise for how embedded the Convention of Children's Rights is in our school. They told me that the children talked confidently about rights and what it means for all children and said our practice was exemplary. Behaviour was praised with children reporting that everyone has friends at Oakley.

The wider curriculum was celebrated for being well sequenced and well considered across the school with learning starting in the Early Years and developed further in Key Stage 1. The Inspectors noted the wide range of experiences the children have in school and the variety of school trips offered.

The Inspectors were impressed by the personalised support for children with Special Educational Needs including those children who are on the Special Needs Register, those who need support to close smaller gaps in their learning and children who require support for medical conditions in school. They commended support staff for their knowledge of individual children which allows them to learn successfully. They felt that strategies used in the classroom for children with additional needs were excellent allowing children to access the curriculum with their cohort in an appropriate manner fostering an inclusive school environment.

The Inspectors identified assessment in the wider areas of the curriculum was not quite as well developed as it is for the core areas. This is an area the leaders of the school including the subject leaders have already

been considering and we had made some changes in January. It was a shame these changes were not yet fully embedded.

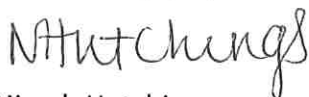
The Inspectors told me that that the parent feedback was the most positive for a school they had ever inspected. I am grateful for your support and the recognition from you about how hard the staff work for the children of Oakley, going over and above time and time again.

The report is a snapshot of the feedback given to Oakley Infant School but it was overwhelmingly positive over two days and I am proud of the report that is attached.

I would like to thank the staff for their hard work preparing for an inspection that felt like it would never come. Their continued dedication to making changes and developing a learning environment that is appropriate for the community was recognised by the Inspection team.

I would also like to thank the Governing Body for their hard work and support over the last few years and especially to those Governors who also met with the Inspectors undertaking a rigorous question and answer session.

Best wishes,



Niamh Hutchings

Headteacher

