



PAGANEL PRIMARY SCHOOL
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OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT

Dear parent/carer/ friend of the school,

As you will no doubt be aware, the school was visited by Ofsted inspectors on 2nd & 3rd June and we have now received their inspection report (please see attached).

Some of our many strengths were acknowledged in the report, these include:

- Leaders and staff are dedicated to promoting pupils' personal and social development
- The school offers high levels of care and wide-ranging ways to enrich pupils' experiences and enjoyment of school...the curriculum provides a wealth of experience to enrich pupils' learning
- Early years (nursery and reception) provision is good...children achieve well in all areas of learning and make good gains in those areas that are weaker when they start school because of the good quality teaching they receive
- Behaviour is good...managed very successfully by staff...leaders ensure a caring and supportive school environment where good behaviour can flourish...
- Pupils value the help they get from staff and have positive attitudes to their learning. One pupil commented. 'We have great teachers. We wouldn't be anywhere without them.'
- The staff's support for pupils who have special educational needs, including those in the *resource base*, effectively helps pupils to become confident learners and to enjoy school...some individuals make good progress because of the precise support they receive
- The school's work to keep pupils safe and secure is good
- Leaders' efforts have markedly improved attendance... with positive effect on pupils' achievement
- The effective teaching of reading means that pupils make the best progress in this subject (*a key area for improvement in our last 2012 inspection*)
- Teaching assistants and support staff ...contribute well to the development of personal and social skills. They help those who speak English as an additional language to acquire English skills quickly...to make good progress in learning the language.
- Governance is good.

The Ofsted framework that inspectors use to base their judgements on is constantly being updated and each time the bar is raised with a much more rigorous set of criteria. Under the current (January 2015) updated criteria inspectors identified some inconsistencies and areas for improvement across the school, consequently, our school was judged to 'require improvement'. The inspectors judged that the rate of progress for some children was not consistently good or rapid enough as a result of variation in the quality of teaching and so this needs to improve. Inspectors found some gaps in the teaching and learning of writing and maths, particularly with children being able to use and apply reasoning when doing problem-solving tasks. Some inconsistencies in marking and the teaching of handwriting provide areas for improvement. In the school's own/self-evaluation, we believed our school to be a good school with achievement and teaching judged to be good. This was disputed by inspectors and so this affected their judgement on leadership and management to require improvement.



One thing I have learnt in my 29 years within the world of education is that child development, including their learning and academic progress, is not a regular/linear process. Each and every child is unique, they grow and learn at a different pace and the environment in which each child lives has a profound affect/impact on their development.

The outcome of this inspection will no doubt come as a huge disappointment to you, as it has to me, staff and governors too. However, please be reassured that we are already addressing all the issues raised and will soon share with you our post-Ofsted improvement action plan.

As a result of the inspection, this will mean that Ofsted/HMI will return within the next 12 weeks for reassurance that we are speedily addressing the issues highlighted in the inspection report. Our absolute key objective is for when Ofsted/HMI return again later to measure/judge how we have progressed, we will be able to clearly demonstrate that Paganel Primary is at least a good school.

On behalf of myself and the Governors, we would like to thank those of you who were supportive when completing the Parent View on-line questionnaire and when speaking to the Ofsted inspectors.

I sincerely hope, on behalf of the whole Paganel Team, that we have everyone's continuous understanding, trust and loyal support because we are confident that working together we can quickly turn this judgement around and become acknowledged for being at least a good school.

Yours faithfully

M Shufflebottom

Mr Martin Shufflebottom
(Headteacher)

