



Naphill and Walters Ash School
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Thursday 16th November

Dear Parents

As you will know, Ofsted visited the School on 31st October. The inspection was for one day and was to see if we were still a 'Good' school.

The inspector spent most of the day talking to the Senior Leadership Team and looking through documents which we keep to prove that we are a good school. She went on a learning walk and saw lessons in some classes; she also had books from key year groups. A key part of the inspection focused on safeguarding and she was very impressed with the systems we have in place and with how knowledgeable we were about our children. The inspector told governors and myself in our feedback that she felt safeguarding was more than effective.

The other key focus was writing and we knew, due to changes in external judgements, this was going to be a focus; the new system for judging assessment in writing is recognised by Ofsted as being unreliable! All schools are waiting for a system that is more child and school friendly (personally I am not sure this will happen soon).

Overall, I am very happy with the report; the children's hard work, behaviour and positivity about themselves and school shone through. Your comments made in the playground and on Parentview were overwhelmingly positive too – thank you. The report is a snapshot of our work and I did challenge points as many appear contradictory; I do not feel she has fully explained some of her statements or put them in context. But Ofsted are Ofsted!

Thank you for your support again

Yours sincerely

K. Gwynn

Head

I am delighted to be able to share the news that our school has once again been graded as a 'Good' School by Ofsted. This is no mean feat as the standards required since our last inspection have risen considerably, budgets have tightened, and the achievement of a Good grading requires a very high standard of work by all of the school staff.

The inspector offered us some advice, that the school will act upon, but also offered us a great deal of encouragement and praise in almost all areas for the work we have done, particularly in the field of Safeguarding, which covers all aspects of keeping our pupils safe and secure, and even felt that she would like to recommend some of our ideas to other schools. She also observed some outstanding teaching and praised the leadership and management of the school, including members of the Junior Leadership Team, who she spoke to, and remarked upon the cheerful, welcoming and inclusive atmosphere of the school community, as well as the strong academic performance this year.

For any school to thrive there needs to be a strong partnership between the staff, pupils, governors and parents, and I believe this is a particular strength of our school; I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to Miss Gwynn and her excellent team, to the pupils, who did us proud on the inspection day, my fellow governors, who do so much good work behind the scenes, and of course to you the parents who read with your children, help with projects and making things, and fundraising (a special nod to the WANSAs team who held a great bake sale on inspection day).

Of course an Ofsted visit happens only once every few years, and we are judged on very specific criteria, but our school team works hard all year, every year, striving towards making every aspect of our school outstanding in every way, every day. So please don't be shy about congratulating Miss Gwynn and her team on the hard work that they do, which has been rewarded with an excellent inspection result.

Yours

Ronnie Smith

Chair of Governors