



OFSTED INSPECTION – 23 -24th November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection on 23rd and 24th November 2017. The full report will be published on the OFSTED website on Tuesday 19th December 2017. You can find the full report on our website or by visiting the Ofsted website at:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/117322>

Any parent who would like a printed copy can request a copy from the office.

The grades that can be awarded are Outstanding (1), Good (2), Requires Improvement (3) or Inadequate (4). In recent years the term 'Requires Improvement' has replaced the previous grading of 'Satisfactory' in the new OFSTED inspection framework.

Previously the school was judged as Good (2). However, in this recent inspection, the school was judged overall to be within the category of 'Requires Improvement' (3).

Having said that, the inspectors found many positive strengths within the school and were satisfied that the school is starting to improve.

'Following a decline in outcomes, the school is starting to improve. Leaders' ambition to provide the best experiences for all pupils is producing effective actions.'

Behaviour was judged as *good*: ***'The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good', 'Pupils show respect and care for each other. They value their classmates' opinions and are used to working happily and cooperatively in lessons' and 'Pupils' attendance is in line with national averages over time. Leaders take swift and decisive action to support and challenge families to address issues where needed. The percentage of pupils who are persistently absent has fallen each year.'***

The inspectors also praised the work the school is doing to protect pupils and keep them safe and that a lot of work is done to support children's personal development and wellbeing. ***'Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness is strong. Pupils talked convincingly about how they learned about people from other countries and cultures and their faith.'***

The inspectors also commented that: ***'Governors are diligent in undertaking their duties, such as overseeing leaders' performance management of staff. They understand the importance of leaders work in matching pay with school improvement and pupils' outcomes, and support leaders in withholding progression where it is not warranted.'***

After a period of instability in the leadership of the school, the inspectors were positive about the changes that had taken place recently.

'Since the appointment of the acting headteacher in June 2017 and the substantive headteacher in October 2017, improvements are evident in the quality of teaching and work in pupils' books.'

'Recent leadership changes have ensured that the school has stopped the decline in assessment outcomes. As a result, a greater number of current pupils are on track to reach age-expected standards. The new headteacher has a clear vision for the school and has already put several initiatives in place to support both pupils and staff. He has the drive and ambition to make Woolenwick Junior School a good school once again.'

Obviously, inspectors also highlighted a number of key areas which require improvement.

These include:

- Securing consistency in the quality of teaching and learning
- Accelerating pupils' progress so they attain the standards they should
- Implementing whole school initiatives to improve teaching and implemented consistently in every class

Early in the Spring Term leaders will be compiling an action plan to address the areas for improvement, with the help from many professionals.

We remain, as always, fully committed to providing a high standard of teaching and learning for the children at Woolenwick Junior School and will, with your support, strive to ensure the issues highlighted in the report are addressed and we will achieve the best possible outcomes for all of the children at our school.

If you would like to discuss the Ofsted report, or have any additional questions, please feel free to make an appointment with the office once the children return to school in January.

With the publication of the report, now is the time to look forward and continue to improve the school, the Ofsted inspectors were clear that with the recent appointment of a new substantive Head, improvements are already taking place and the school is in a strong position to move forward.

We look forward to working in partnership with your child and family to ensure the best possible outcomes for your child.

Yours Faithfully,

Gary Hawkins

Mr G Hawkins

Headteacher, Woolenwick Junior School

Catherine Shadbolt

Mrs C Shadbolt

Chair of Governors