



Brixham C of E
Primary School

Brixham Church of England Primary School & Neighbourhood Nursery

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26th April 2019

NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS OF PUBLICATION OF OFSTED REPORT

Dear parents/carers,

We have now received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection on 26 and 27 March 2019. Although the full report will not be published on the OFSTED website until Tuesday 30 April, we are able to inform parents and carers of the outcome in advance and it is now available to view on the school website at www.brixhamcofe.org

During the two days of the inspection, the inspectors observed lessons, visited our Forest School and spoke at length to staff, governors, children and parents. We would like to thank those parents that took the time to speak to the inspectors and for completing both the Parent View and pupil surveys.

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 inspections.

Since our last Ofsted inspection in 2012, two revisions of the Ofsted framework have taken place, each increasing the level of consistency and attainment which schools must prove.

Previously the school was judged as 'Outstanding' (1) in May 2012. However, in this recent inspection, ***the school was judged overall to be within the category of 'Requires Improvement' (3).***

In summary the areas for improvement are:

- To improve the effectiveness of all leaders, including governors by ensuring all leaders have the skills and knowledge to undertake rigorous monitoring and to ensure that teachers are held to account.
- To improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment by raising teachers' expectations of what pupils can achieve, particularly the most able in reaching the highest standards.
- To overhaul and re-evaluate the school's approach to the teaching and assessment of phonics and early reading.

- To improve pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare by increasing the prominence of other cultures and world faiths through the curriculum.

The report provides more detail on those areas requiring improvement and we would encourage all parents to read the report in full. However, we wanted to share the key areas identified by the inspectors in advance of publication.

The inspectors also identified the following positive aspects of the school including:

- The positive ethos in the school.
- Governors are aware of the importance of their role in challenging the school's leadership to ensure that the right priorities are being pursued.
- The wealth of different learning experiences in the curriculum
- The high priority given to safeguarding in the school. All pupils who responded to the surveys said that they felt safe.
- The overwhelming majority of pupils are happy.
- The progress that pupils make in reading, writing and maths improved in 2018 from the previous year
- Teachers and adults have positive relationships with pupils. Pupils feel that they can ask questions and are keen to share their learning
- The teaching of mathematics is improving well.
- Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils are improving. Differences are diminishing, particularly in writing and mathematics
- In the early years there is a strong staff focus on the children's personal, social and emotional development. The children show respect and kindness and children are keen to learn and play in a stimulating environment.
- Teachers' work for pupils with special educational needs is usually effective and meets a range of needs.

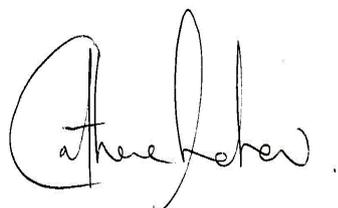
Whilst we are pleased that the inspectors have highlighted many of the positive aspects of the school, we are obviously disappointed by but accept the outcome of the inspection and Ofsted's findings. Many of the areas for improvement had already been identified by the governors and leaders of the school, but we obviously need to act more robustly in putting these in place at pace. We must and are continuing to take the right steps to improve the school.

You will recall that before Easter we wrote to inform you that we had agreed to enter a Management Partnership with the Academy for Character and Excellence. (ACE). This was a decision made by the governors in February 2019 in recognition of the fact that the school needed to improve. The decision to partner with ACE was based on their similar ethos and also a proven track record in making school improvements. We agreed that the partnership should start as soon as possible to begin making these improvements in the current academic year and we can confirm that the partnership is now in place. What this means is that we will be receiving leadership support, and support for the school office following the retirement of our School Business Manager at Easter, immediately. The partnership will be monitored closely by the governors and ACE to ensure that the improvements are being made.

To give parents more opportunity to meet our colleagues from ACE and to discuss the progress that we are already making in improving the school, **we would like to invite you to an open parents' meeting at school on Monday 29 April 2019 at 9.10am.**

Governors, school leaders, staff and ACE are fully committed to making the improvements identified in the report. We have superb and dedicated staff who work hard to support your children in their learning, providing a happy and stimulating learning environment and who are committed to providing the best education for the children at Brixham C of E Primary School. We therefore have every confidence that with our staff and the guidance and support provided by ACE, these improvements will happen quickly. We hope that as parents you will continue to support us with this aim.

Thank you



Catherine Hayden
Co-Chair of Governors



Paul Pickett
Co-Chair of Governors



Kerry Rushton
Headteacher

