



*An Outstanding Ofsted School 2014/2015*

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents

As you will be aware we had our Ofsted Section 8 Inspection on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017. I have now received our final report and I am very pleased to share with you that we continue to be graded as a 'good' school. We are thrilled with this result under what is now a very rigorous framework. I feel that we are very well placed to move forward towards 'outstanding' and that there were many key areas where we are already starting to tip into this grading following a year of really focused drive and improvement. This year's results are also reflecting this rapid improvement and I look forward to sharing these with you shortly.

Attached with my letter is our Ofsted letter which replaces what used to be a report. There are many positive points which we are really very proud of. Some of which include:

- You swiftly established an accurate view of the school's strengths and weaknesses. You used this information effectively and decisively to **rapidly improve the quality of teaching and pupils' achievement**
- Together with an effective senior leadership team from across the North Cotswolds Schools' Federation, you continue to take the necessary action in **challenging staff and holding them to account**. This is resulting in the **transformational effects seen around the school and in lessons**.
- The **high expectations** of you and other leaders **are reflected in pupils' work as well as in their behaviour, conduct and attitudes**.
- Together with other school leaders, you have **implemented necessary change and rigour in the school's systems and processes**.
- Pupil's told me that **'We need to work harder but lessons are fun!'**
- **Pupils and staff strongly reflect the school's values** through their various interactions across the school day.
- You have taken effective action to ensure that **teaching is more challenging and 'lively'**.
- You and other senior leaders have established a **strong culture** within the school **that puts safeguarding children at the heart of your work**.
- You ensure that staff take **immediate and effective action to look after children** and follow up concerns assiduously.
- You are also **tenacious in working with other professional agencies and challenge them** to act in the best interests of children when you feel there is a need to do so.
- Pupils know what bullying is and **are adamant that it does not happen in this school**.
- Since your arrival, you have been **relentless in improving pupils' attendance and punctuality**. This is because you fully understand the **link between pupils' attendance, achievement and future well-being**.
- In 2016, comparisons with national data showed that the poor attendance of disadvantage pupils and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) put them within the lowest 10% for absence nationally... **Currently, overall attendance is above national average**. This **improvement in attendance for other groups has been impressive**, including a rise of 24% for disadvantaged pupils and an increase of nearly 9% for pupils who have SEND.

Of course we are still striving to improve our provision and experiences for our children at Longborough CofE Primary School and the letter highlights our key next steps. The inspector recognised that these next steps have already been identified and are being addressed. The work towards them is starting to take effect with focused training and professional development for staff which is strongly improving their confidence and subject knowledge.

I would like to say a huge well done and congratulations to all at Longborough CofE Primary School who have worked so hard to achieve such a positive report. I hope you enjoy reading our letter.

Yours sincerely

Alexandra Symondson  
Executive Headteacher  
The North Cotswold Schools Federation  
Cold Aston, Longborough and Swell CofE Primary Schools