



Clitheroe Pendle Primary School

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"We learn together and support each other"

Dear Parent/s,

I am pleased to share the results of our recent Ofsted inspection report (16th and 17th July 2024). The inspectors have judged Clitheroe Pendle Primary School as Good in the areas of Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Management and Early Years Provision, resulting in an Overall Effectiveness grade of Good. Under the current inspection framework, we are very pleased and proud of this judgement.

You may be aware that, as from September 2nd 2024, Ofsted no longer reports single word judgements such as Good or Outstanding. These have been considered over simplistic and suggests that schools fit neatly into specific categories when realistically they don't. It has been recognised that judgements can be very subjective and that there can be overlap within areas. We celebrate this change, although still receiving one of the last single word judgements of the 2023-24 academic year.

Whether agreeing or disagreeing with a single word judgement, it is important to acknowledge the many positive aspects identified in the Ofsted report. We are very pleased that the report captures some, although we don't feel all, of the character, values and strengths of Clitheroe Pendle Primary School. The inspectors commented that school leaders should feel immensely proud of our achievements, the progress and developments school has made.

An Ofsted inspection follows a very narrow focus. All schools are required to be reviewed in the same areas: Early reading/phonics, the Early Years and Maths. The inspection team can then choose other curriculum subjects to look at more fully. In our case these were RE, Geography and Design and Technology. Other subjects were looked at but not in depth. A small number of children and staff were spoken to and books were looked at. Parent surveys were collected and conversations held with some of you on the playground. It is from this evidence that the judgement is made.

All the inspectors acknowledged the positive behaviour of children and commented on how proud they and staff are of their school. They recognised that children *'understand the importance of treating everyone fairly and with respect'* and how they are *'considerate and care for one another'*. They said that Pendle is a place where children feel safe, commenting that it is a *'harmonious place to play and learn'*. I would like to thank all staff for working so hard to create such a positive and nurturing culture, where all of the team work together and support each other for the benefit of the children.

I was immensely proud of each and every child, all of them demonstrating such enthusiasm and enjoyment for learning and school life, as they do every day. This was observed and commented upon by the inspectors throughout the inspection.

Children's achievement was recognised as a strength and school's ambition for all children was celebrated. The inspectors could observe children's engagement in a broad and balanced curriculum, enhanced with a wide range of experiences. Inspectors recognised teachers' passion and commitment through their observations and discussions.



During the visit, Ofsted did highlight 3 areas for development. These are aspects of our practice which, although already robust, the inspectors felt would benefit from further refinement in a small number of cases. We pride ourselves on being a very forward thinking school and welcome any suggestions and advice which will help to develop our practice further. We firmly believe that our provision is of a very high standard, and this was confirmed in discussions with Ofsted. The few areas they have prioritised have been included in our school improvement plan and already being worked on as we speak.

I cannot thank the Pendle family enough for the way we all pulled together and supported each other during the inspection. Thank you for the amazing support you offered as parents – your responses on the parent survey mean so much to all of the staff and your kind words during the two days were heart-warming. Thankyou to your children for being little stars and for reminding us all why Pendle is such an amazing place to work and learn.

We are incredibly proud of everything about Pendle Primary School. We will continue to strive to be the very best that we can be and hope that you can support us as you always have.

Kind regards,

Wendy Nunns

Head Teacher

