



Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Ofsted Inspection Report

I am delighted to share our latest Ofsted report with you (a copy is also available on our website.)

Whilst you will see that Uplands Manor is still judged to 'Require Improvement', the report acknowledges the **progress that has been made since our last inspection and that our school's current leadership is driving improvements forward. Indeed, leadership and management were judged to be good which is extremely rare when the overall effectiveness is not yet considered good.**

In Phonics, Reading, Maths and Writing, inspectors comment positively on the quality of provision. What we now need as a school is to translate this good practice into actual results at the end of each phase – this was a fundamental reason why we have been judged to still require improvement as, even though we saw some improvements in standards across the school last year, there has not yet been time to see the full impact of the changes we have made. We are hoping to build on these standards year on year as strategies and developments become more and more embedded. Part of this is about overcoming the historic gaps in knowledge that children have. Unfortunately, this is not an overnight fix. **We are however committed to ensuring that all children get the support they need to close any gaps and succeed in school.**

A big change in the new framework is the focus on the wider curriculum. Whilst our efforts have rightly been focusing on making sure that Maths and English improved, we have also been reviewing and developing our curriculum. **The report comments that children are exposed to and experience a broad curriculum and that some subjects, for example Music, are particularly strong.** We will be continuing our work to develop and enhance all subject areas over the coming months.

You will also note positive comments about how behaviour has improved – **the inspection team told governors and our senior leadership team that they did not see any examples of any low-level disruption in classrooms or behaviour issues around school.** The lead inspector commented that behaviour and bullying issues are effectively addressed when they do occur and that we provide high quality pastoral provision to our children. He also said that we provide rich experiences to our children through our extra-curricular activities and that **personal development is a considerable strength of the school.**

We fully acknowledge and agree with the improvement areas identified for school – we were already aware of these priorities and they formed an integral part of our school's development plan that we shared with inspectors. We will now be reflecting on how best to continue to drive change forwards at Uplands Manor to ensure that our 'special' children receive the best so that they can be the best. We are extremely proud of them I am sure that you are too.

Thank you for your support during the inspection and throughout the school year. It is very much appreciated and we look forward to working with you as we lead the school forwards into the future.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Dickinson
Head Teacher