

13th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with absolute joy that I am writing to you to share the outcome of our Ofsted inspection, which took place at the end of September. This was our first inspection as a through-primary school, under a new Ofsted framework, having amalgamated Moorside Infant and Moorside Junior schools in April 2019.

We have been rated across all areas as GOOD!

Since April 2019, we have created a new school vision and ethos, a 'Moorside Curriculum' and most importantly, built a school... so that our new provision from Nursery to Year 6 meets the needs of our children and our community.

I am immensely proud of this achievement for a number of reasons and have taken some quotes from the attached report to share them with you.

Firstly, our children who met the inspectors were extremely welcoming and shared every aspect of our school with confidence. The report says that, ***'pupils enjoy the praise they receive for their good behaviour. They treat their teachers and each other with respect. They talk politely and confidently to visitors, enjoying opportunities to talk about their school.'***

From the very start of their time at Moorside, we aim to grow confident and independent learners in a nurturing environment. We were therefore delighted with the feedback that, ***'The early years is warm and welcoming. Children are settled quickly into school and no time is wasted in introducing the children to phonics and early mathematics. Early years staff are calm and gentle as they introduce the youngest children to new rules and routines.'***

We were praised within our report for our shared ambition for all our children; ***'Leaders, including governors, have a shared ambition for the school and its pupils.'***

This was also recognised when inspectors scrutinised our curriculum and quality of teaching and learning. They commented that ***'The school has created an ambitious curriculum that fully meets the expectations of the national curriculum.'*** This includes all our work in arranging theme days and weeks, school trips, launch days and wider educational experiences! They said that, ***'The school works effectively with external agencies, either to enhance the support given to individual pupils, to enrich the curriculum, or to help pupils understand how to keep themselves safe outside of the school environment.'***



Nurturing Children to Succeed and Achieve

They also noted that ***'The school has high expectations of pupils' behaviour and for what pupils can learn.'*** We have a diverse school community, which is celebrated at Moorside, and for which we have received the IQM Centre of Excellence Award and School of Sanctuary status in recent years. We are fully inclusive and have high expectations for ALL our children. As the report says, ***'The needs of pupils with SEND are carefully considered and adjustments are made to enable these pupils to successfully access the same curriculum as their peers.'***

Finally, I have been completely blown away by your support, as parents, which was especially felt over the course of our inspection in that 100% of the people who completed the Parent Survey said that they would recommend Moorside to another parent. You even got a special mention in the first paragraph which says that, ***'Parents are effusively positive about the school. One parent captured the views of many in saying: 'Our children are so lucky to start their education at Moorside. The school is a credit to itself and the community.'*** Your comments and feedback meant more to me and our staff than I can capture into words. The most important part of our job is to work with you in collaboration, as it is a privilege to educate your wonderful children in our fantastic school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff and governors for everything that they have done and achieved together in leading our school to where it is today. We are reflecting on and celebrating everything that we have achieved so far and will continue on our journey, to keep delivering the best possible education and support for all our families.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Rowett

A very proud Headteacher