

CHERRY TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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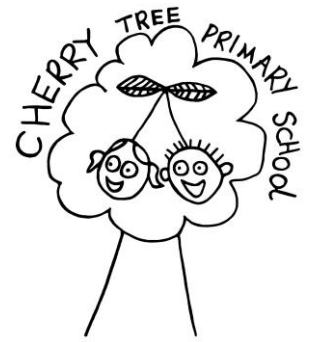
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Monday, 15th January 2024

Ofsted Inspection

Dear Parents,

We are pleased to announce that the final draft of our Ofsted report has been published and we are now able to share this with our wider school community.

Our Ofsted inspection took place on Tuesday, 5th and Wednesday, 6th December 2023. During our inspection, we were given in-depth verbal feedback by the two inspectors at various points during the process. As previously mentioned in my letter dated 7th December, the verbal feedback given was overwhelmingly positive; we are pleased that the final written report reflects this.

We are delighted to know that the strengths of our school have been recognised by the inspectors, including the fact that our vision to 'bring out the best in each other' is fully embedded and helps the children to blossom and grow. We are also immensely proud that our children's behaviour was recognised as exemplary.

The inspection process was very rigorous and challenging and we are therefore extremely proud of the Ofsted judgement which was 'Good' overall with two 'Outstanding' areas.

To date, we are the only school in Warrington that was originally judged 'Outstanding' under the old Ofsted framework, to achieve 'Outstanding' in two areas under the new and more stringent framework.

We were awarded 'Outstanding' in the area of 'Personal Development', in recognition of meeting the exacting and challenging criteria for this grade. 'Personal Development' covers the development of the children's character; provision of enrichment opportunities and extra-curricular clubs; a cohesive curriculum that goes beyond the academic and also caters for the broader development of children plus strong pastoral care. We are very proud to have achieved the highest grade in this area as we believe that the personal development skills they develop at Cherry Tree will serve them for life.

In addition, we were awarded 'Outstanding' for 'Behaviour and Attitudes'. Again, the requirements to achieve this judgement are extremely high. Our Ofsted report states 'behaviour in this school is impeccable', a statement that we agree with; we are exceptionally proud of our children. Within this category the inspectors were looking for evidence that children were resilient, had good self-control, had positive attitudes towards education and that they celebrated one another's differences. They also wanted to see evidence that our children had opportunities to take on responsibilities and contribute to

Bringing out the best in each other as we blossom and grow

Happy • Aspirational • Resilient • Independent • Open-minded • Compassionate

the wider community. Our children are frequently praised for their excellent conduct when visitors attend our school and when taking part in public events. To have this validated by Ofsted is very rewarding.

During the inspection, one minor area for development was identified by the inspectors around the children's vocabulary acquisition. They told us that through their deep dive process, a small number of children had not remembered vocabulary from the previous year's topics, in a small number of subjects. We have dedicated a lot of time to designing our bespoke curriculum and identifying the core knowledge that we expect each child to know and remember by the end of each year, for each subject. The Ofsted inspectors picked up on a few inconsistencies in children's use of subject specific vocabulary and have therefore identified this as an area for development within 'Quality of Education' and 'Early Years'. Both these categories were judged as 'Good'. This is a development area we had recognised with plans already in place to refine and identify the subject specific vocabulary. This work will involve reviewing our current lists of subject specific vocabulary, considered to be crucial to future learning and the key words children need to remember. We will prioritise this area for development going forward.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire Cherry Tree community for working together as a cohesive team for the benefit of our children. We are lucky to be part of a strong, supportive, happy and successful community. Our children are able to 'blossom and grow' thanks to the combined efforts of our children, staff, parents, carers, governors and the broader community.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H Graham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'H'.

Helen Graham
Head Teacher