

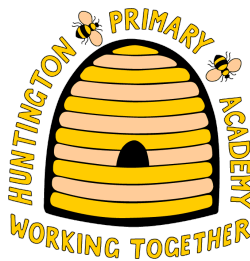
HUNTINGTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

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10th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

At the beginning of this half term Huntington Primary Academy received a two day inspection from Ofsted. I would like to thank parents for the support they showed during the inspection and the overwhelmingly positive comments that were shared through the parent survey with inspectors. We are proud of the community feel that the inspectors noted and are committed to continuing to develop this for our children alongside our parent body.

I was pleased that the Ofsted inspectors recognised the strengths of our school, some of which are highlighted in the report:

- Pupils are proud to be part of this school.
- There is a real sense of community at Huntington Primary Academy. Leaders have built positive relationships with pupils and their families. They have created an inclusive culture that helps pupils to feel happy and safe.
- In early years, staff help children cooperate well and build positive relationships with each other. They teach children to share and to be kind.
- Leaders have made reading a priority. From the earliest years, leaders have made sure that children develop their phonic knowledge to become confident readers.
- Teachers help pupils to build their mathematical knowledge step by step. By the time pupils leave school in Year 6, they are confident mathematicians.
- Leaders' commitment to pupils' wider development is a considerable strength.
- Adults help pupils to manage their own feelings and behaviour well.
- Bullying is rare. This is because leaders and staff teach pupils how to treat everyone with respect.
- Leaders have ensured high-quality support for the mental well-being of pupils.
- Skilled staff provide a valued service to pupils who need additional support.
- Leaders ensure the school is a caring and inclusive environment.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

We are also very pleased that OFSTED judged 'leadership and management', 'children's personal development' and 'behaviour and attitudes' to be GOOD. However they also judged the way the curriculum is currently shaped (quality of education) to be 'requires improvement'. Whilst this may feel disappointing, all leaders and teachers in the school had already identified that developing the curriculum across subjects and the school, including EYFS, was our priority. The journey towards designing and embedding a broad and ambitious curriculum, which caters for all learning styles and needs, has already begun. This grade for 'quality of education', however, is a limiting judgement and because of this Ofsted had to also grade the overall effectiveness of the school to be 'requires improvement'. We were pleased, though, that the work we have already begun on the curriculum development was acknowledged by the inspectors within the report and was directly recognised through the 'good' grading the school received for 'leadership and management'. We are also so proud of the many positive comments that were made about our school and our children throughout the inspection.

You will see from the report that EYFS was also graded as 'requires improvement'. The school curriculum begins with EYFS and continues all the way through to Year 6 and so, like the rest of the teachers, the EYFS team are working to redesign and improve the curriculum and the content that is taught. We are again proud of the strengths that were highlighted in EYFS, including the way our children cooperate with each other and the positive relationships with staff. Another highlight is that the children are developing new vocabulary and developing communication skills to talk about and explain their thinking, all of which helps the children to develop and prepare them for the next stages in their school career.

Over the two days the children spoke confidently and maturely to the inspectors about the wide range of knowledge, skills and understanding they have gained at school, how they felt being at Huntington Primary and what they felt was special about being here. Whilst the report only captures a small snapshot of opinions and views there were many inspiring quotes from the children during the inspection which reflected the unique character of the school and, in particular, praised the schools approach to children's personal development, education enrichment, safety and wellbeing; these have also been recognised as strengths within the report and 'personal development' and well being has also been awarded a 'good' grading.

As I enter my second year of headship at Huntington and as we enter Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust, the staff team and Trustees recognise that we are at an exciting starting point for continuing to develop the curriculum and how we teach it. One of the key drivers for joining Pathfinder was the additional support and capacity the trust offers alongside their strong track record of working with schools to improve educational outcomes and the wider development of our children and young people. With formal conversion to be completed by September, we are now in an excellent position to drive forward with improvements. Having already successfully shaped a new school vision, which again was praised during the inspection as "an ambition to bind the school community and underpin the curriculum", we look forward to building upon these values: ensuring the children feel a sense of belonging, that they embrace opportunities and that we continue to encourage a love of learning, which will ultimately lead to successes for each and every child in an individual way. We are in a strong position, enthused and dedicated to build on this platform, moving the school towards a good grade or better over the coming months and years and ensuring that the school goes from strength to strength.

Thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to get in touch via the office if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Holton - Headteacher

