



Highwood Primary School,
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READING,
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RG5 3JE

www.highwood.wokingham.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mr M Hickey BA(Ed), PE QTS
June 15, 2019

Dear Parents,

Fifteen months have now passed since we were inspected on March 14th 2018. This means we are approximately halfway through our 30-month window before OFSTED are likely to revisit us. We wanted to take this opportunity to update you with the progress we have made and share with you extracts from the Local Authority (LA) reports to validate these improvements.

Development points:

Strengthen progress in key stage 2 maths and writing, ensuring expectations are consistently high.

- Our 2018 data (the year we were inspected) showed progress in Reading, Writing and Maths were **all** in line with the National Average. Pupils achieving the **Higher Standard** in Reading = 46%, Maths = 46% and GPS = 57% were all well above the National Average and Writing = 21%, was in line with National Average.

Review the effectiveness of the assessment system in KS2 with a particular focus on specific groups *and* increase the level of detail provided to governors regarding the achievement of specific groups.

- The school reflected on its assessment and tracking system and are now using a system called INSIGHT. This software matches the school's assessment principles whilst also allowing teachers greater ability to monitor specific groups.
- The governing body have received professional development in the 'support and challenge' of the school's leadership team and have made huge improvements in their understanding of school data.

This assessment information provides evidence for focussed book looks, learning walks and performance management and are being used as useful tools for the analysis of learning. The School Improvement Officer concludes this assessment information is thoroughly fit for purpose. LA Report April 30th 2019

Increase the details of the specific actions in the school improvement plan.

- The school has redesigned its development planning template and we now create a focussed Raising Achievement Plan which is reviewed termly. This sits alongside the main school development plan.
- Our reflection afternoons at the end of each term, allows all school staff to be involved in the evaluation and creation of each term's plan. This has given staff greater ownership and understanding of the school priorities and how they can help drive improvement.

There is a detailed plan and an 'In a Nutshell' summary document in place. Outcomes last summer are contained in a 'State of the Nation' summary document. LA Report November 5th 2018

Continue to develop middle leaders improving clarity on roles and responsibilities and understanding of impact.

- Middle leaders have undertaken internal and external professional development and are now far more confident in their roles. They have frequent opportunities both in school and from wider school review networks to demonstrate the positive impact they have in their role.
- Our leadership structure will change in September with two Assistant Headteachers being in post to have overall responsibility and accountability for EYFS and KS1 and KS2.

The Head, Deputy, and senior staff are totally committed to the school and lead an equally committed staff. There is a determination to achieve a Good judgement at the next Section 5 inspection and the SIO considers much good work has been undertaken towards this goal already. LA Report November 5th 2018

The LA Officers concluded that the school was making good progress in its work to secure a good outcome at the next OFSTED inspection. LA Report May 8th 2019

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Hickey
Headteacher

Beth Rowland
Chair of Governors