



Longridge High School

HEADTEACHER

Jane Green BA(Hons), MSc, NPQH

13 October 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware, last month Ofsted inspected the school. Many thanks to all of you who filled in the Ofsted questionnaires. Your responses were extremely positive and very much appreciated. The report is now available on the school website.

The Ofsted team were very supportive of the school's drive for improvement, continuing to build on the encouraging Ofsted monitoring report from June 2016, and this is reflected very clearly in the positive tone and language of the report. (You will see a huge difference in terms of the November 2015 report.) The report talks of the **'positive improvements that leaders and governors have made'** since the previous inspection, which was less than two years ago. It is pleasing that the school's strengths have been recognised, as the report states how the school is **'increasingly ambitious for every pupil'** and clearly recognises that the school **'is improving.'** This endorses the additional strategies the school has implemented to drive forward improvement and further raise standards. As such, **the Leadership and Management** strand of the report was moved up a category from the previous inspection, and given a **'Good'** rating, which reinforces and verifies that we are able to lead the school into even greater improvements in the future.

School Governors were praised for their work in moving the school forwards, and for their support in **'securing improvements to accountability.'**

The quality of **teaching, learning and assessment** has **improved** since the previous inspection. The report recognises this and talks about pupils now making **'better progress.'** The focus on developing questioning techniques is endorsed in inspectors seeing techniques that have **'strengthened pupils' understanding.'** Inspectors felt that pupils' **'learning and confidence were well supported by the teachers' good subject knowledge.'** The team saw many lessons over the two days, and talk in the report about how pupils **'take pride in their work.'** The Inspectors praised the improvements made in the accuracy of teacher assessments of pupil progress, which is another area we have been developing since the previous inspection. The grade for **Teaching, Learning and Assessment** is classed as **'Requires Improvement'** but there is clear evidence of **improvement** and the team saw evidence of strong teaching across the school.

The school retained its **'Good'** rating for **Personal development, behaviour and welfare**, with the Inspection team saying the school hit much of the outstanding criteria in this area. The Inspectors found attitudes to learning **'good'** with behaviour in lessons **'good.'** In their observations, they found the school to be **'a calm environment where pupils support each other and work closely together.'**

It is a testament to staff that pupils feel **'one of the best things about the school was the relationships that they have with staff who support them successfully.'** In the pupil survey, **100% of pupils said they felt safe in school.** Attendance in the majority of year groups is above national average, but an area of focus is Year 11 attendance, since the attendance of the previous Year 11 group dipped slightly, and we welcome your continued support to improve this.

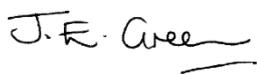
The report recognises that actions taken by leaders since the previous inspection are improving the **progress** of pupils. **Current progress** across the school is **good**, but historical outcomes keep this section in **'Requires Improvement'**, which means the school continues with the **'Requires Improvement'** for overall effectiveness, at this point.

As a school, we see this report as an **important step in the right direction.** It endorses the work the school is doing to improve and, as the initiatives put into place less than two years ago embed further, there will be **continued** and **sustained improving outcomes** for all pupils. As a school, we are tasked with always striving to achieve the very best for the pupils and community of Longridge, and will continue to do this proactively and with our partners in education who help us stretch what is possible in our pupils' ambitions and outcomes.

As a staff and Governing Body, we remain firmly committed to ensuring we provide an excellent all-round education for all our young people and thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions about this report, whether you are a current parent or a prospective parent, please contact me via the school office or email admin@lhs.lancs.sch.uk

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs J Green
Headteacher



Mrs J Beckford
Chair of Governors