



MANOR FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Penningtons
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 4LE

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01279 757193

Ms Tina Jarman
Head Teacher

Dear Parent/Carers

Ofsted Report – Summary

As you are aware, the school was inspected on 19th and 20th of October 2016. We are now in receipt of the final version of the Inspection report that will be published on the Ofsted website on 8th December 2016 and that will be sent to you later today once all staff have been advised. The final overall judgement was 'Inadequate' which means that the school has been placed in the category of 'Special Measures'.

We are proud of the vast majority of the findings in the report. The Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment is good, and the Outcomes for Pupils and their Early Years Provision are also good. We are particularly pleased with the recognition of the improvements which have taken place within middle and subject leadership. The report also acknowledges the improved work of the governing body in monitoring the standards in school. Some of the strengths that were recognised are highlighted below:-

- Pupils make good progress in all the different age groups, including Early years.
- The percentage of pupils attaining expected standards in phonics at the end of Key stage 1 in 2016 was significantly above the national average.
- Standards at the end of both Key Stages 1 and 2 in 2014 and 2015, were above national averages.
- In 2016 (with a new curriculum and assessment criteria) improvements continued to be positive
- The most able, pupils with special educational needs/disabilities and disadvantaged pupils make good progress
- Behaviour is good and pupils know how to keep themselves safe.
- Clear strengths were identified in the personal development of pupils
- Writing, reading and maths are taught well
- Effective development of the science curriculum
- Teaching has significantly improved in a large number of subjects
- Development of subject leaders was a strength
- Pupil's behaviour and attitude towards learning was good
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development was seen as a strength
- Leaders have demonstrated many strengths in other areas of their work
- Governors have significantly improved their role as leaders

We also believe the school has many other strengths that include the excellent provision of musical opportunities, including our orchestra, sports achievements and outdoor learning through forest school.





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We were obviously extremely disappointed with the final judgement. Whilst the overall effectiveness of 'Leadership and Management' and 'Personal Development, behaviour and welfare' were deemed inadequate, this related to one particular aspect – that of safeguarding children. Ofsted focused on the safeguarding of pupils both in our care and within their home lives. In particular, the systems and paperwork did not show enough rigour and depth and safeguarding training was not effective enough. We understand where these failings occurred and have already taken immediate steps in prioritising improvements to these systems and processes.

We are committed to being a 'good' school working towards 'outstanding' and have already adjusted our systems and processes to ensure the right measures are in place to safeguard our children, both in school and outside of school. We value open communication with our parent body and will be continuing to listen to feedback to ensure improvements are implemented and maintained to the benefit of our whole school community.

What happens next – Parents Meeting.

When a school is judged to be 'Inadequate', the Local Authority will provide significantly more support to the school and will also be attending the Parent Meeting alongside Governors and School Leaders. We would therefore like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the report and our plan of action. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have. The meeting will be held on Monday 5th December 2016, 7-9pm. Please do not bring children with you. Refreshments will be provided. Please take the time to read the full report. We encourage all parents and carers to look 'beyond the headlines' and take into account the very many positives that the report identified within each judgement area. We will take on board the findings of the report and will work to implement steps to improve the areas identified by Ofsted. As you read the report I hope you will be encouraged by the positive comments in it and will be able to weigh these against the overall judgement.

If you do have any further questions, we have set up a specific e-mail address that you can contact. Please e-mail ofsted@manorfields.herts.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Tina Jarman
Headteacher

Ali Mansfield
Chair of Governors

