

8<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, Ofsted conducted a one day, ungraded (section 8) inspection of our school on Wednesday, 19th June. I am pleased to announce that the outcome of the inspection is that there has been no change to Langton school's overall judgement of good.

The final version of the inspection report will be available on the School's website from Monday 8th July. There were numerous positives identified in the report, including:

- This is a very nurturing and friendly school.
- Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), feel safe and well cared for.
- Pupils speak positively about the teachers and adults who work in the school. Pupils learn from the trips and experiences that staff plan for them.
- Most pupils try their best to live up to the expectations that the school has for their behaviour. They behave well and are enthusiastic about their learning. Pupils help each other in class and around the school.
- Children settle well when they join the early years' class. They enjoy the well thought out learning activities both inside and outside. They enjoy strong relationships with staff. They learn to take turns and share equipment. Activities are interesting and engaging.
- Starting in the early years, children listen and concentrate well in lessons.
- The school prioritised improving early years, reading and mathematics. Pupils do well in these areas and results have improved year on year.
- The mathematics curriculum is implemented well. Pupils learn and apply age appropriate knowledge and skills.
- The teaching of early reading is a priority. All staff are trained to teach phonics accurately. Phonics is taught with precision and consistency as soon as pupils start in Reception.
- Pupils make rapid progress in phonics. Pupils' phonic knowledge is checked regularly. Any pupils falling behind get extra help to catch up.
- Older pupils enjoy reading and talk about their favourite books and authors.
- Pupils benefit from personal, social and health education (PSHE) lessons. Assemblies contribute to pupils' awareness of spirituality and the school's values.

Executive Head teacher: Mrs Sarah Moore  
Chair of Governors: Mr Howard Widdall

- Pupils understand the importance of respecting differences. They develop a thorough understanding of fundamental British values.
- The curriculum is ambitious, broad ranging and balanced. The topics selected reflect the ambition for the curriculum to interest pupils.
- Staff are proud to work at the school and value the teamwork and support from their colleagues.
- Attendance rates have improved because of an improved focus on welfare and communication with parents and carers.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The inspection did identify some areas in which the school needs to make improvements to achieve a good rating in the next graded (section 5) inspection, which will likely take place in 12 – 18 months from now. These relate principally to ensuring that all curriculum plans identify the knowledge, skills and vocabulary pupils need to learn and the order these are to be taught, and ensuring that learning is accessible to all pupils and that pupils with additional needs are supported with appropriate resources.

These are areas which had been identified for development in the Autumn term by Mrs Bowman, the Foston – Stillington - Terrington (FST) schools federation senior leadership team and the Local Authority, who along with all the staff have been working tremendously hard to bring Langton up to the standards required in the new Ofsted framework (which has changed significantly since Langton school's last section 5 inspection in 2015). Thanks to the direction and support from the FST leadership and the hard work and adaptability of the teachers and staff at Langton, rapid improvements have already been made in SEND, safeguarding, EYFS, the Maths and English curriculum and curriculum coverage, and these are reflected in the inspection report. The senior leadership team and governors appreciated that further work was required to get the school to where it needs to be with regard to sequencing of the curriculum and adaptation of learning activities to meet the needs of some pupils with SEND. The outcome of this Ofsted inspection was, therefore, as expected.

The staff of Langton school and the governors, with the support of the FST schools federation, are committed to making the required improvements while maintaining the high standards in all other areas. Terrington and Stillington schools have recently achieved good ratings in section 5 Ofsted inspections. Their experience of what is required to achieve this under the current Ofsted framework will help inform our development work through the formal collaboration.

The new subject leads across the formal collaboration have been working together on a clear and comprehensive plan to meet the required standards. A new curriculum is planned for introduction from September and Katie Stringer, our new head of school from September, has significant experience of adapting learning to our pupils with additional needs. Many of the changes necessary, to enable the required improvements to be made, are already in place and will be built on for all children.

We are confident that Langton school will be securely good by the time Ofsted return.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Widdall  
Chair of Governors, Langton Primary School

Link to Ofsted Inspection Report - <https://www.langton.n-yorks.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/10346339-Langton-Primary-School-121452-Final-.pdf>