



7 January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I attach a copy of the Ofsted report following the inspection of Henleaze Infant School on 27th and 28th November 2018.

You will see that the overall judgement is that the School requires improvement. This is because:

- The inspectors found weaknesses in strategic leadership, monitoring and evaluation.
- They also noted shortfalls in aspects of day to day management such as record keeping and timetabling;
- They identified variability in the quality of teaching, learning and challenge.
- They concluded that some pupils do not make the progress of which they are capable.
- They found that inconsistent pace and challenge impacts on the learning behaviours of some pupils during some lessons.

Nevertheless, the inspectors also recognised the many strengths which are a hallmark of this school including the following:

- Pupils' attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 has been above the national average for many years; children develop self-confidence and leave with the necessary skills needed for the next phase of their learning;
- Pupils benefit from the nurturing and caring support of staff across the school and they enjoy a wide-ranging curriculum;
- Pupils feel safe. They say that bullying is rare and any that does occur is dealt with swiftly by staff;
- Attendance is high;
- The vast majority of parents are positive about the school;
- There is strong capacity in the interim governing body and in the leaders of EYFS, English and Maths and good plans for support from the Local Authority.

The report sets out the key areas for improvement in relation to the quality of leadership and management; teaching, learning and assessment; and behaviour.

We have already made considerable progress in addressing the issues raised.

- The timetabling shortfalls have been eradicated so that there is no lost time in lessons and work has started on plans to improve the quality and clarity of record keeping;
- The Local Authority has put together a comprehensive plan of support for leaders at all levels and teachers;
- There has been a change of senior leadership and, as you will know from my letter at the end of last term, Mrs Gemma Fricker has joined the school as Acting Headteacher.

- Mrs Fricker will be focussing initially on developing consistency in the quality of teaching, learning and assessment, on introducing a coherent system for monitoring and evaluation and on providing appropriate continuing development for staff.
- She will also be looking at improving communication both internally and with parents and carers.

The Governing Body and the Local Authority are confident that, under Mrs Fricker's leadership, the school will make rapid progress over the coming months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Therese Gillespie", written over a horizontal line.

Therese Gillespie (Chair of Governors)