



20th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

OFSTED Inspection Report

We wanted to write to you and share the fantastic news that following our OFSTED inspection in the last week of term before Christmas, St Helen's has been judged to be '**Outstanding**' in each of the areas of the new inspection framework. The report will be published online by OFSTED in around a week, but a copy is attached to this e-mail for you. We wanted to share a couple of quotes from the report which particularly stood out to us as they really capture our vision and values in action across the school.

'Pupils are well-rounded individuals and are remarkably well prepared for secondary school.'

'Teachers provide pupils with the opportunity to understand their place in the wider world. An example of this work are the visits pupils make to the local care home to practise art with elderly residents. Pupils are proud that they are able to make a difference to the world around them. They are extremely happy and say they love their school.'

'Pupils are highly motivated in the work they do and talk about it with great enthusiasm.'

'All staff have very high expectations of what pupils can achieve ... When pupils are struggling, teachers make sure they get the support they need to catch up.'

'The school is a nurturing and caring environment. Pupils' behaviour is impeccable. Pupils are keen to do well. They say they love their school.'

'Children in early years make a flying start to their school career.'

In 2013, St Helen's was judged by OFSTED as 'Requires improvement'. Since then, the whole school community has shared a relentless ambition to do everything possible to make sure that St Helen's is the very best environment for the children in our care. We are extremely grateful for the hard work of the whole staff team, the challenge and encouragement of the governing body and the support of the parent community over this time. Finally, we'd also like to thank the amazing children of St Helen's who lead the way in showing such passion and enthusiasm for school life each and every day. This achievement is 'our achievement' and one that everyone has played a part in.

In many ways however, the OFSTED report doesn't change anything for us. Our vision as a school community is 'Flying high; soar on wings like eagles' and we will continue to aim for that each day as we look to keep improving the learning experiences of our children. Whilst we are extremely proud of the report, we recognise that there are many areas we still want to develop and times that we don't quite get everything right!

Thank-you for your support over the years and for your ongoing support into the future.

Yours sincerely

Andy Spens
Executive Headteacher

Kelvin Chappell
Head of School

