

Amesbury CE
Primary School

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4th July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are aware Amesbury CE Primary School received a second Ofsted visit in June. The first 1 day inspection in February came more than 5 years after the previous 2012 inspection and therefore put the school outside the normal monitoring cycle. We knew that the inspection team would be back within 2 years to conduct a full 2 day inspection but because we had initially been outside the normal inspection cycle they came back sooner than expected, after only 4 months.

The inspection was extremely rigorous and the report matches the school's self-evaluation judgements in all areas. Whilst it is disappointing to be judged as Requiring Improvement (RI) we are pleased that the inspection team recognised the improvements that have already been made since September. Due to the short space of time between inspections the Lead Inspector acknowledged that there had not been enough time to show the full impact of the changes and improvements being implemented in order to deal with historical issues within the school.

The inspection team found many positive things during their visit and praised the leadership of the Headteacher and highlighted the fact that she has raised the level expected of teachers and challenged ineffective teaching. They also praised the fact that the Senior Leadership Team have a clear understanding of improvements that have to be made to address poor teaching in the past. The Governing Body were also praised for their ambition to raise the aspirations of the school.

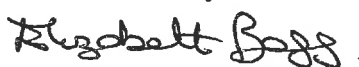

We are delighted that staff feel that the school is well led and managed and that children feel safe and well looked after. SEND was identified as a strength of the school due the new SENCO's ability to swiftly engage with outside agencies to provide appropriate support and training, rapidly improving the quality of teaching for children with SEND through precise programmes of support.

Many strengths were identified within Teaching and Learning including the new approaches and procedures implemented by our English and Maths leaders. Strengths also include opportunities for children to talk about their ideas before engaging in creative writing, the wider curriculum that brings different subjects together and the use of resources to challenge and extend learning.

Despite many positives being identified we know that there are things that we will still continue to improve on. Since taking up post the Headteacher has identified areas of development and these were in line with the Ofsted inspection findings. Whilst much has been put in place to address these areas, and much is planned for next year, the inspection team recognised that there has not been enough time to show the impact of these initiatives.

We acknowledge that some parents have been unhappy with the changes that have been implemented, but hope you are all now able to understand why it has been necessary to make these changes and how they will have a profound and positive impact on the education and attainment of the children at Amesbury. We look forward to your continued support of the school as we move forward, to ensure that at our next inspection we will be judged as at least GOOD.

Yours sincerely

 
Mrs Elizabeth Bagg Mrs Terry Hall

Chair of Governors Headteacher

