



## HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Rosie Phillips

29 November 2024

Dear parents/carers

### Ofsted 2024

We are now able to provide you with a copy of the report from the Ofsted inspection which took place on 8 and 9 October. As you will be aware, this followed a SIAMS inspection that took place the previous week. Inspections are a very stressful experience for staff, especially in small schools like ours, so having two inspections in consecutive weeks was particularly challenging. It was also challenging for some of our pupils as inspectors speak to children too and like staff, some of our children were spoken to several times. Praise is therefore due to our children and staff for all the work they had to put in to meet the needs of these inspections.

Our previous Ofsted inspection was in April 2019. The focus for inspections has changed quite a lot since then. This time Ofsted inspected us in the following areas:

- The quality of education
- Behaviour and attitudes
- Personal development
- Leadership and management
- Early years provision

As with the SIAMS inspection, Ofsted found a considerable number of positives to celebrate at our school. These included strong pastoral support, good levels of behaviour and rich opportunities for children to learn about the environment. Ofsted said our curriculum was suitably ambitious, that support for children with additional needs is put in place promptly when children join the school and they also recognised the strong partnership we have parents and carers.

From 1 September 2024 Ofsted no longer give schools an overall grading. They do however grade individual areas. We are very pleased that Ofsted has graded us 'good' in four of the areas. These are: Behaviour and attitudes; Personal development; Leadership and management; and Early years provision.

Ofsted have graded the fifth area, The quality of education, as 'requires improvement'. Inspectors recognised the challenges the school has faced in recent years but highlighted that some aspects of our provision were not yet consistent or fully embedded. We are very disappointed by that judgement as I am sure you will be too. We were also surprised by this rating as the issues

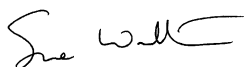
highlighted by inspectors had already been identified as priorities in this year's school development plan and we would have expected inspectors to take more account of that in their judgement.

Our school vision is for every child within the Hawridge & Cholesbury family to grow and flourish. As part of that we want all our children to achieve well, however we recognise that for a small number of children that is not yet the case. All staff have had specific training this half term to ensure all activities are fully adapted to match the needs of all our children. We have asked for input from the specialist English Hub to address early reading and have also enlisted the support of advisers at the Local Authority. With these measures in place, we are very confident that all pupils will be supported to achieve as well as they should and that the impact of this will be seen very rapidly.

As you will appreciate, the last few weeks have been a very difficult time for the school and I would like to thank the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team and staff for continuing to work so hard for our children during this period.

Thank you for your continued support of Hawridge & Cholesbury CE School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Walton'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sue Walton  
Chair of Governors