



# PARKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

DEANWOOD DRIVE  
RAINHAM  
GILLINGHAM, KENT, ME8 9LP  
HEADTEACHER: MR A MOIR



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Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, we were visited by Ofsted in June. There has been a delay in the publication of the document as the outcome is less favourable than we had hoped for and we needed to challenge the contents of the report and the judgements reached. Some changes have been made to the report; however, the overall grading of the report has remained unchanged despite going through the complaint procedure with Ofsted.

We are pleased to say that the Ofsted inspectors did recognise that 'pupils love coming to this friendly and welcoming school' and could identify that our children are 'happy' and we foster a culture of 'everyone is welcome here' and acknowledged all we do to support the children's mental health and well-being. It has also been noted that our SEND children get the help they need to move forward with their learning. They recognised that our children achieve well in English and mathematics and stated that, 'Children get off to a good start when learning to read'. As a senior leadership team, we made the decision to focus on the core subjects (English and Maths) to improve outcomes for children to which the inspectors agreed was the right decision for the school.

Inspectors would like us to turn our attention to science and the foundation subjects so that the children achieve as well in these subjects, but do recognise our subject leaders are knowledgeable and passionate. Rest assured, this work is well under way and had commenced the day after the verbal feedback was given at the end of the inspection. We are ready to hit the ground running with the knowledge and skills pinned down for Geography and DT learning as we begin our Explore projects across the school following staff training at the end of the last academic year and our most recent staff development days. Leaders have also been working really hard on ensuring that the curriculum is organised in such a way that allows children to be prepared for the next stage in their learning in all subjects from foundation stage through to our oldest children.

Minor concerns around record keeping for safeguarding have been revisited and addressed through staff training for all members of staff.

Although we fundamentally disagree with the judgement awarded to our early years provision, we accept that the physical environment needed a bit of reinvigoration. Our early years environment has been given a makeover during the summer. Improvements in the early years is central to our school improvement plan moving forward. The curriculum has already been carefully considered so that children are ready for their onward journey into Year 1 in subjects outside of English and maths, and we are confident that our most recent cohort of children are the best prepared of any recent year groups. We are not complacent however, and have taken on board all the OFSTED had to say, and reacted accordingly. The PSA have also generously given us an injection of much-needed funds to improve the resources available to all children.

As you are aware, it has been a very difficult time for Parkwood following the news of Mr Moir's illness coupled with the recent inspection outcome. In spite of the adversity we are currently facing, governors, leaders, teachers and support staff will continue to work together to bring about the improvements we need to make so as to provide the children in our care with the best possible education.

For the full report, follow the link: <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50227659>

If you have any questions or would like further clarification, please feel free to make an appointment via the school office.

Kind regards,

Mr Wildman, Chair of Governors, Mrs McCormack and Mrs Park