



*'Let's be the best we can be'*

## Westlands First and Nursery School

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Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Roberts

Dear Parent / Carer,

As you are aware, on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November, our school was inspected by OFSTED. We would like to pass on our sincere thanks for the incredible support parents and carers showed throughout the process.

In order to read the full report, please follow this link . A full copy will also be uploaded to the School Website. If you cannot access the internet via these links then we can make a paper copy available.

Our school was last inspected in February 2013, under a previous OFSTED framework and, after many years of underperformance, finally secured a 'Good' judgement. However, this was shortly followed by a significant decline in the school's performance and results over a number of years. Since their appointments two years ago, the new leadership team have worked tirelessly to address this decline in standards and, in some areas, this has resulted in some rapid improvements, which have been recognised by the OFSTED team that visited two weeks ago.

***"The Headteacher has led the rapid improvement of the school since she took up her post just over two years ago. Academic standards, which were very low at the time of her appointment, have risen markedly, and are now approaching the national average." (OFSTED Report 15-16<sup>th</sup> November 2017)***

It was also really encouraging to note that the OFSTED team agreed with the leadership team's evaluation of the school and the areas for improvement identified by OFSTED are areas which are already being targeted by the school as part of our improvement planning.

***"Leaders are very good judges of the strengths and weaknesses of the school. Their plans for improvement are relevant and detailed." (OFSTED Report 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> November 2017)***

The OFSTED inspection team also felt that the Governors of the school have an "accurate and detailed understanding of the school," and Safeguarding was graded as effective.

We would also like to thank our lovely pupils for their outstanding behaviour and manners during the inspection. The inspectors made a number of comments about how polite the children were and in their report described them as inquisitive, resilient and respectful.

Whilst the school has not yet secured the outcomes we would like for all groups of pupils, the inspectors acknowledged that ***"the quality of teaching has risen markedly in recent years, and continues to do so."***

As governors and leaders, we passionately believe that this school has the potential to be a fantastic centre of learning for all of our pupils, and we will continue to strive for the very best for this community. We acknowledge there is still a lot of work to do before we can achieve this, but please be assured that we will all work tirelessly in order to achieve our vision.

Kind regards

Colin Barratt  
Chair of Governors