

1st July 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Ofsted Inspection June 2015

As you are aware, Ofsted inspected our school between 16th and 17th June. At our last inspection the overall effectiveness of the school was judged as good. However, this inspection has judged us to be 'Requires Improvement' overall with some areas such as 'Early years provision' and 'Behaviour and Safety of pupils' as good. The full report can be found on the school website:

www.redhill.bromley.sch.uk or on the Ofsted website: www.ofsted.gov.uk from tomorrow.

Paper copies of both reports can be collected from the school office if required.

I am sure you will be pleased to hear the inspection recognised the following strengths:

- *Pupils' achievement in mathematics is rising across the school. A high number of pupils in Year 6 are on course to reach levels typically found in secondary schools in 2015.*
- *The strong promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development gives pupils a good foundation for life in modern Britain.*
- *Children in the early years make a good start to their education. Their attainment has risen year on year. Children are prepared well for their work in Year 1.*
- *The majority of pupils have good attitudes to learning and behave well. They say they feel safe and well cared for.*
- *Parents are very supportive of the school. Many attend workshops that inform them about how to help their children at home.*
- *The school is led by skilled senior leaders who have high aspirations for pupils to achieve and behave well.*

We need to take the following action to improve further:

- *Pupils' progress needs to be faster, especially in reading and writing in Key Stage 2;*
- *The quality of teaching is too variable in reading and writing. It needs improving so that it is typically good or better;*
- *Disadvantaged children are still not achieving as well as their peers although this is improving;*
- *Improvements are needed in marking and feedback of work, presentation of work, and more rigorous school improvement planning;*
- *Leadership and management needs strengthening by ensuring that any action taken is monitored for its effectiveness.*

We know many of you will share our disappointment with the outcome of this inspection. Please let us take this opportunity to reiterate the commitment of everybody in the Red Hill learning community to achieving the best possible outcomes for the children. The recommendations and actions required in this report will be fully considered, implemented, carefully monitored and reviewed to ensure that we move forward as a school.

The following actions are already well underway:

- Improving the accuracy of our assessments – we now have two staff who have been working across the authority as external moderators due to their expertise in levelling work at year 2 and year 6;
- In September we are due to be part of a Primary Writing Project with a number of other local schools – we have met as a group a number of times already and we are excited about this project;
- We have reviewed our reading scheme by re-banding our reading scheme books to give a better understanding of the level children are reading at;
- Increasing the capacity of our senior leadership team by recruiting phase leaders to work across year groups to close the gap between all pupils and our disadvantaged pupils;
- Focused staff meetings on providing ‘challenge for all’ including the more and most able pupils.
- We are joining a programme of school improvement called ASPIRE which will work with external advisors across all levels in the school;
- Strengthening middle leadership by coaching our year group leaders to ensure they are all impacting on the quality of teaching and learning in their year group;
- Continuing our work on improving the quality of teaching of reading throughout the entire school;
- Ensuring we continue to strengthen the maths teaching to build on our recent improvements.

In September, each year group from year 1 to year 6 will hold a meeting for parents outlining the curriculum for the year, the routines and expectations for our children including sharing learning targets for the children. We hope this will give the staff, working with your children, the opportunity to reassure you how each year group will address the issues raised in the report. Senior leaders will also be available during these meetings to discuss any individual concerns you may have.

The next step in the inspection process is that we will receive a visit from an HMI inspector within the next 3-6 months to check our progress against the key areas identified. We are confident we will be able to demonstrate continued improvements across the school.

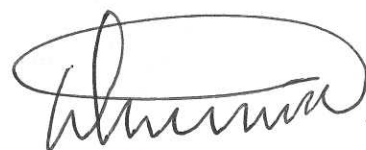
We would like to thank everyone for their support during the inspection. The children spoke beautifully about the school, their teachers, their learning and their experiences here. The staff worked tirelessly and the Governors gave huge amounts of time to explain how much work they do to benefit the pupils of our school. Thank you also to all the parents who took the time to respond on Parentview and for those who spoke so positively about Red Hill to the inspectors and gave us messages of support at the gate!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Miss Butcher
Headteacher



Mrs Andrews
Chair of Governors