



Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. A. Gwinnett

Ref: 3355 LMA

17 January 2023

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I wanted to say that since we have returned from the winter break, we have had two fantastic weeks in school - thank you for your support to ensure a smooth start to 2023. The main point of this letter however, is to share with you the outcome of the Ofsted inspection which took place on the 22 and 23 November.

We are incredibly proud and delighted to announce that we have been officially judged to be a **'Good'** school, under the Ofsted framework, with 'Good' judgements right across the four areas of the inspection - the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development and leadership and management. A copy of the report can be found [here](#) on the school website.

This is an amazing achievement for a school that, at its last inspection, was judged to be inadequate in all areas. Following this judgement back in 2017, our school, previously known as Burscough Priory Science College, converted to an academy and joined the Endeavour Learning Trust.

Since the conversion and with the strong leadership, direction and support of the Trust team, the staff at our school have been tenacious in the pursuit of improvement. In our first Ofsted inspection since joining the Trust, we are beyond proud that the 'many improvements' that we have made have been praised by Ofsted and pleased this has been recognised in our latest report.

Rightfully, the report begins by describing the experience of the pupils at Burscough Priory Academy. Most pleasing to read is that our pupils have a **good** day-to-day experience at our school:

"Burscough Priory is a calm and welcoming learning community where staff and pupils are kind and respectful towards each other. Pupils are happy and safe. They value the many improvements that leaders have made to the quality of education that they receive."

In particular, the Ofsted report says, 'leaders and teachers have high expectations' of pupils and that they benefit from the 'positive climate for learning' across a broad range of subjects. It goes on to describe an 'ambitious' curriculum, that pupils achieve well and are well prepared for the next stage of their education.

Our school has come a long way since receiving the lowest possible rating from Ofsted and we are delighted to be able to share with you the number of ways Ofsted has praised our staff, leaders and the Trust for the immeasurable difference the changes made have had on the education provided to pupils. Throughout the report, inspectors listed a wide range of areas where we as a school have worked exceptionally hard to drive



BURSCOUGH PRIORY ACADEMY

Burscough Priory Academy,
Trevor Road,
Burscough,
Lancashire L40 7RZ

Telephone: 01704 893259

Email: enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org

Website: www.burscoughprioryacademy.org

Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. A. Gwinnett

improvement and provide our pupils with opportunities to thrive. Some of the key findings from the inspection are:

- Leaders and staff ensure a strong safeguarding culture at the school
- Pupils behave well in lessons. Low level disruption is rare
- Pupils benefit from a positive climate for learning. They told inspectors that this is a school where they can learn well
- Pastoral support is a strength of the school
- Teachers provide regular opportunities for pupils to connect and deepen their learning
- Leaders accurately identify the additional needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and ensure they are able to access the same ambitious curriculum as their peers
- The school's approach to improving reading standards was praised, with pupils reading well across the curriculum and enjoying opportunities to read for pleasure
- Pupils enjoy taking part in a range of activities to enhance their wider development
- Leaders have designed a well-considered and effective personal development curriculum. Pupils learn about healthy relationships, the importance of well-being and accepting each other's differences
- Through opportunities such as debating, pupils develop an awareness of current issues and broaden and deepen their understanding of the world
- Inspectors also praised leaders for their clear consideration of staff's development, workload and well-being. As a result, staff are proud to work at the school.

We would very much encourage you to read the full report, which is available on our website. We have been advised by Ofsted that the report will be on their website from Monday 23 January.

Our school is the epitome of the 'E Pluribus Unum' spirit, we work as one. We are delighted that the inspectors recognised the impact of all of our hard work. This is a collective effort, which includes the dedication of the staff, Local Academy Council and the Trust who, alongside our pupils, their parents and the community, have worked tirelessly to enact a brilliant turn around for our school. Our vision, is to be 'a great school in the heart of the community,' and this report goes a long way to affirm this goal.

Of course, we will not be complacent and we will continue to work hard to ensure our school is a great place to be. Our staff are proud to work at this school and the ambition we all share for the young people in Burscough and the local area has been galvanised. We are committed to further improvement and providing a great education that prepares every one of our young people for their chosen path.

Yours sincerely,

L MacLaren

Lucy MacLaren
Headteacher