



24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Following on from our recent OFSTED inspection on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021, I am pleased to share with you the final version of our inspection report.

In 2015 two separate schools: Deepdale Infant School and Deepdale Junior School joined to become Deepdale Community Primary School. Since that time the Senior Leadership Team, Staff, Governors and Local Authority have worked tirelessly and faced some difficult and challenging times to improve the quality of teaching, learning and behaviour and raise standards for our children.

We are delighted to report that OFSTED have recognised that Deepdale Community Primary School **is a good school** and has numerous strengths. Please see below some of the positive comments from the report.

- Pupils are proud to attend Deepdale Community Primary School.
- Pupils feel happy and safe in school.
- Pupils behave well. They are polite and well mannered
- Pupils are eager to learn and have positive attitudes towards their learning.
- Pupils are enthusiastic about the range of sports clubs on offer. They enjoy representing their school in competitions.
- Teachers' high expectations of what pupils can achieve are reflected in leaders' ambitious curriculum plans in Years 1 to 6
- Pupils work hard and achieve well
- Leaders have developed a suitably ambitious curriculum for pupils in Years 1 to 6 that is planned and sequenced carefully
- Teachers have a strong knowledge of the subjects that they teach. They use assessment well to check on what pupils have learned and to identify what they need to learn next.
- Pupils in Years 1 to 6 develop a detailed knowledge of subjects across the curriculum.
- Leaders have systems in place to identify the individual needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Teachers ensure that this group of pupils in key stages 1 and 2 receive effective support so that they can access the curriculum successfully.
- Pupils across the school, including children in early years, behave well in lessons.
- Leaders have created a behaviour system that is easy for pupils and staff to understand. Pupils value the rewards that they receive for good behaviour.
- Leaders have made sure that staff are trained well to deliver the early reading curriculum, including in early years. Children are taught to read as soon as they start in Reception Year
- Pupils read books that match precisely to the sounds that they are learning. This means that they can read with accuracy and increasing confidence. By the end of Year 2, almost all pupils are fluent and confident readers. Older pupils talked with enthusiasm and knowledge about the books that they have read.
- Pupils have access to a wide range of high-quality books to develop their vocabulary and spark their imagination.
- Leaders provide many opportunities for pupils, including children in early years, to learn about the world beyond Deepdale
- Leaders and governors are ambitious for the school. Governors provide effective challenge and support around leaders' work, such as leaders' actions to develop the curriculum in key stages 1 and 2. Staff morale is high.

- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective
- Leaders and governors are aware of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding. They know their community well and they are aware of the risks, including online risks, that pupils may face.
- Pupils learn how to keep themselves physically and emotionally safe.
- Staff receive regular safeguarding training. They know how to report any concerns about pupils' well-being. The pastoral team provides a wide range of effective support to pupils and their families

There are 2 points for improvement:

**ii. Leaders need to ensure that staff in early years have the necessary expertise to meet the needs of children with SEND effectively** – We are pleased to report that the staff who are working with the SEND children in the Early Years have now accessed the appropriate training to develop their expertise in meeting the needs of the Early Years SEND children. Further ongoing training has been planned.

**ii. Leaders must ensure that the curriculum in early years prepares children well for the next stage of their education** – As a school we started working on developing the new Early Years curriculum in 2020 but work on this was interrupted due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The new Department for Education Statutory Framework for the Early Years was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. We are presently working extremely hard in partnership with Lancashire County Council School Advisors to design an ambitious and highly effective Early Years curriculum that is in line with the new Early Years Framework that prepares our children with the knowledge, skills and concepts they require for Year One. We look forward to sharing this with you soon.

As always we are 100% focused and determined to continue to work relentlessly and ensure that all of our children at Deepdale Community Primary School receive the best quality of education to enable them to achieve the highest standards and maximise their full potential.

We thank you for your continued trust and support with our on-going journey to be an outstanding primary school for our children, families and community.

Yours sincerely

Nawal Mirza  
Headteacher