

Ofsted update

A big thank you to all of the different teams of people who played a big role in achieving our Ofsted 'Good' – pupils, parents, staff, governors and Local Authority.

The report highlighted many strengths in our current practice that can be celebrated, but to continue our journey for excellence in all areas we need to focus on the elements of the report that we can make improvements on as well as maintaining and developing our current excellent practice.

I am sure that you all have read our Ofsted report, and like us, are pleased that this is an accurate picture of life here at school.

Areas for focus identified by Ofsted

What does the school need to do to improve further? (page 3 of the report)

- **Improve the quality of teaching to outstanding by ensuring that:**
 - *Tasks for less-able pupils and those who have special educational needs are always set at the right level or difficulty so they make rapid progress*
 - *Pupils improve their work by acting on the advice given by teachers in marking*
 - *All teaching assistants know the focus of the learning activity, act quickly to question pupils to check their understanding and provide support to move pupils' learning forward during lessons.*

Consistency of excellent practice amongst TAs	<p>We are looking into the possibility of delivering a Professional Development programme similar to the programme we have been delivering to some of our teachers over the last two years.</p> <p>We are in consultation with the trainer from Osiris to develop a bespoke programme for Brookhurst. Teaching Assistants and Teachers have been consulted to determine the elements of the programme that would be most beneficial.</p> <p>A set of National Standards for Teaching Assistants is being developed and I will be working with some of our cluster colleagues and a HMI, Roy Blatchford to develop further cluster wide training using these new materials. These new standards will also be useful to steer our direction and hold Teaching Assistants accountable through their appraisal process.</p>
Ensure match of work for less able pupils to enable maximum progress	<p>All teachers have been asked to elaborate further for named pupils in each lesson on their planning. Miss Anderson-Kirby (SenCo) has been asked to monitor planning through monitoring activities including planning scrutiny, work trawl, observation and pupil interviews.</p> <p>Teachers have also been asked to share their planning in good time with the Teaching Assistants supporting less able pupils in their class so that resources etc can be prepared / sourced.</p>

<p><i>Pupils do not routinely act on advice teachers give them when they mark their work</i></p>	<p>We were pleased that marking and feedback itself came out well and that the children generally understand their next steps.</p> <p>We now need to consistently embed best practice of quality marking and feedback and building quality time into the day for children to respond appropriately to the marking and therefore make the required improvements.</p> <p>We have had two staff meetings since the Ofsted inspection to focus on marking and feedback – best practice and discussed how children can be given time during the day to respond to the marking.</p> <p>Senior Leadership team will monitor this practice in school.</p>
---	---

With the current Ofsted framework, we should not expect another visit for three years and we will spend that time striving for excellence in everything we do.

We understand that the framework will probably change again in September 2015, and the school will need to make sure that we all fully understand any changes in the expectations that are made for us.