

Maidenbower Junior School

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Headteacher: Mrs AR Croucher BA (QTS) Hons



Dear Parents,

We were pleased to welcome Ofsted into our school on the 25th and 26th of February. They enjoyed their visit and the children were a real credit to the school. The Inspectors were able to see first-hand that *"the school is a happy and pleasant place where pupils enjoy learning."* The final report has now been published and is available both on the school website and also www.ofsted.gov.uk.

Although we were disappointed that the overall judgement could not yet be categorised as 'Good' we were pleased that they recognised the huge amounts of progress that the school has made since the last inspection two years ago and the confirmation that the school has *"implemented rigorous and effective plans for improvement,"* and *"taken effective steps to improve teaching rapidly."*

In order for our school to be categorised as 'Good' overall, it needs to show progress which is sustained over time. Ofsted recognised *"rapid progress"* is now being made due to *"the decisive steps to improve teaching and learning and eliminate weak teaching"* but this needed to be seen over a longer period of time. Importantly, whilst Ofsted recognised that *"leaders have raised teachers' expectations of what children can achieve,"* they acknowledged that, *"recent changes have not been in place long enough to ensure all pupils make good enough progress"*. This means our children make expected progress but not enough make accelerated progress.

Our immediate plans are to continue to embed and accelerate progress using the many new systems that have been implemented and are working, as evidenced by Ofsted. Teaching staff are receiving an individual development programme to continue to improve or hone their teaching practice, which will focus on more challenge for all pupils, with a real drive to improve standards in writing and maths problem solving.

As always, we thank you for the many positive comments we receive recognising the improvements made in the short time since I have joined MJS. Rest assured we are determined to continue this journey and provide all of our children with an excellent junior school experience.

Allyson Croucher
Headteacher

Sarah Pratt on behalf of
Governing Body