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Headteacher: James Stanford BA(Hons)

Thursday 2nd May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Ofsted Report

Coming home today and published on our website is the report on our latest inspection, carried out just before the Easter Holiday.

As we said at the time, we were immensely proud of the school during the inspection; the children were their usual superb selves, the staff equipped themselves very well, and we couldn't have asked for better support from parents. Since Mr Stanford took over as our permanent headteacher in September 2018, the work the children, staff, governors and parents have put into making real improvements in every aspect of the school has been tremendous. The inspector was highly impressed by the children's pride in their school and how well they demonstrated the relationships which we all feel are so important to giving this school its unique qualities.

It is disappointing, then, for the school still to be judged overall as Requires Improvement. It is important to note that many of the comments relate to 'over time'; this means an average of the last three years for which data is available, so refers to SATs results from 2016 to 2018. The report acknowledges the hard work that has been done since the last inspection and the progress that has been made, but there has been an insufficient period of stability for all the initiatives to become part of daily practice across the school and for these initiatives to have had the necessary impact on the children's outcomes.

The report states that we know what needs to be worked on and, since the inspection we have been refining our plans to ensure that, when we receive the monitoring visit due within a year, the points in the inspector's Key Findings will have been addressed, with many of them signed off.

If you would like to hear more about the inspection process, our thoughts on the report and how we intend to move forward quickly to raise standards, and to share any thoughts of your own, we will be holding a meeting on Thursday, 9th May at 3:30pm in the school hall, to which you are all warmly invited. If you are unable to make this meeting but would like to discuss any aspect of the report with Mr Stanford, please contact Mrs Pike to arrange an appointment.

With best wishes

The governors and staff of Stower Provost School

