



Briercliffe Primary School
 Delamere Rd
 Briercliffe
 Burnley
 BB10 2JU

Tel - 01282 459421
 Fax - 01282 455744

Email – office@briercliffe.lancs.sch.uk

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Dear parents,

I am pleased to now be able to share our Ofsted Inspection report with you. The 2 day inspection was thorough but fair and supportive. Mrs Addy and I had the opportunity to sit in many of the discussions with the inspectors and heard first-hand what lovely things were being said about our school and children.

You will no doubt be aware, through the media, of recent changes in the Ofsted framework, how schools are now inspected and the different language that the inspectors are using. I thought it would therefore be useful to provide a little information around this and believe the easiest way is to compare the old language with the new.

Old Framework	New Framework
	Exceptional
Outstanding	Strong Standard
Good	Expected Standard
Requires Improvement	Needs Attention
Inadequate	Urgent Improvement

In our last inspection, in June 2023, Briercliffe was judged as Requires Improvement. The staff in school have worked extremely hard over the last few years and I am delighted to be able to inform you that Briercliffe Primary School has now been judged as working at the 'Expected Standard' in all areas. The inspectors and the Local Authority have emphasised what a huge achievement it is to be judged as this in all areas, something that many other schools in Lancashire are struggling to achieve.

We have been given 3 'next steps' to help us improve further. Two of these have already been identified by ourselves and are part of our School Development Plan. The third is around attendance, because our attendance data is below national average. The inspectors acknowledged that school is already doing everything that we can to improve attendance further.

I hope you can see the many, many positives in the report, especially the final paragraph around 'What it's like to be a pupil at this school.' The language used throughout the report is very much standard Ofsted language and doesn't reflect that used in discussion during the process, so I wanted to share some of this with you.

- You have wrapped your collective arms around each child.***
- School treats every child as the most valuable individual.***
- Leaders are advocates for the best interests of the children.***
- Children belong, flourish and feel safe, supported and included.***
- Leaders (including Subject Leaders) have established a rich and responsive curriculum.***
- Children are making good progress and are accessing an ambitious curriculum.***
- EYFS setting is absolutely lovely – all aspects come together so well.***
- 1:1 support - adults communicate well and show lots of care.***
- We identify needs quickly, accurately and work hard to remove barriers.***
- We have high expectations and a commitment to high quality education for all.***

I could go on but hopefully you will be able to get an idea of how our school was described.

I am so proud to be the Headteacher of Briercliffe Primary School and feel that the Ofsted Judgement reflects the hard work and dedication that everyone involved in our school shows through their commitment to providing the absolute best for our children. We will of course continue to look at ways to improve things even further.

If you would like to discuss the report further, then Mrs Addy and I will be available during the upcoming parents' evenings.

Thank you once again to all the staff, governors, parents and, of course, our wonderful children.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne M Ramsbottom
Headteacher