



Friday 11th October 2019



'Dream... Believe... Achieve...'
Headteacher: Mrs Hannah Connor-James

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to enclose a copy of our recent Ofsted Inspection Report.

We would like to highlight how delighted we are that the school has been recognised for the many improvements that have been made over the last 2 years. The response we received from parents, staff and pupils was overwhelmingly positive and emphasises how far the school has come in a short period of time.

Most importantly, we are delighted to note that pupils feel safe, they enjoy school and value their learning; and that you, as parents, agreed with this. **The team stressed how impressive the pupils are and that they are rightly proud of their school.**

Much of the work that has been put in over the last 18 months has been recognised in the report and shows a positive impact on our children. The strengths in the Senior Leadership have been highlighted and confirm that the school has excellent capacity to continue on its journey to excellence. **They recognised that we have focused on the urgent and important things such as phonics, reading and mathematics for the children and in training the staff.**

Cromwell was among the first set of schools to be inspected under a new Ofsted framework which was introduced in September 2019. The standards that schools are now expected to meet have changed significantly with a much greater emphasis on the wider curriculum; an area we are currently developing to match these new requirements.

Whilst we are disappointed that the overall judgement was not yet able to be graded as Good, we are fully aware and understand that there is still some way to go in meeting all the requirements of this newly introduced Ofsted framework. This work will continue, as planned, to bring the curriculum re-design in line with the latest expectations and to provide a purposeful, innovative and high-quality education for our pupils.

As we continue our journey, I firmly believe that Cromwell Academy has all the right ingredients to be successful: happy, well-behaved pupils who are keen to learn; an enthusiastic and committed team of staff around them and supportive parents. **We can expect a re-inspection within two years.**

If you have any questions about the inspection report or process, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we would be very happy to help.



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We will be holding a Q&A session with the Senior Leadership Team, Chair of Governors and CEO of the Trust on Wednesday 6th November at 5.00pm as an opportunity for any parents who wish to find out more about this outcome. Please notify the office if you wish to attend this session so that we can plan for the numbers attending.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Connor-James
Headteacher

From our Chair of Governors

Cromwell Academy has seen a lot of change since the last OFSTED inspection in May 2017. The school's Governors are pleased that the OFSTED inspectors' September 2019 visit highlighted the improvements that have taken place over the last two years, both in Cromwell's leadership and in children's personal development. We are also glad that the inspectors were able to see that standards are rising, particularly in reading and in mathematics. Governors recognise that there is still work to be done, notably on curriculum planning, and will continue to monitor this area closely. Governors feel the school is well placed to improve rapidly, and look forward to working with the school's leaders to ensure this. Governors and staff remain committed to providing the best possible education for all our children, and to working with parents, carers and the whole community to achieve it.

Richard Laing

on behalf of the Governors of Cromwell Academy, October 2019