



1 Germander Place, Conniburrow
Milton Keynes, MK14 7DU
Telephone (01908) 674620
Headteacher: Mrs Verity Stobart

Germanderpark.school@milton-keynes.gov.uk

2nd February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to share with you the findings of our recent 1 day short Ofsted inspection that confirms that the school **continues to be good** and recognises the hard work, dedication and high expectations of all staff and governors.

The full letter can be found on the school website but below I have summarised some of the main findings:

School Culture:

- The atmosphere in school is purposeful but also full of life and joy
- You and your leaders are driven by a very strong sense of moral purpose.
- Staff ensure that the school's inclusive ethos is put into practice
- You have resolutely made changes that are transformative rather than quick fix

Pupils:

- Pupils commented during the inspection on how much they relished the opportunities for learning that the school provides
- You rightly evaluate that pupils' behaviour is a strength of the school
- Pupils spoke of their pride in the school and how they 'love it when others follow the school's values'

Learning and Teaching:

- The school is growing in strength from early years upwards
- Of note is the strong progress pupils currently make
- Teaching is increasingly consistently strong
- You and your staff are totally dedicated to providing what is needed for pupils to overcome any barriers and succeed
- Your accurate assessments show that current pupils are making stronger progress than pupils have done previously
- Pupils have been well schooled in how to ensure that their writing hangs together well. They are intensively exposed to different models of writing. These models provide a solid groundwork from which pupils are developing their ability to use grammar and punctuation correctly and to create specific effects on the reader



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- You have relentlessly focused on developing the communication skills of your pupils through the curriculum, including through topic work
- Due to improvements in teaching phonics, the proportion reaching the expected standard in the Year 1 check improved greatly in 2016.....The proportion reaching the expected standard is set to rise further in 2017
- You agree that some teachers need to develop their questioning skills further so that they probe more deeply to check on pupils' understanding

Leadership:

- Your approach to helping children in the 'nurture group' is indicative of your leadership style: thorough, determined and collaborative
- The chair and other governors have educational expertise which they use well when questioning you about the impact of initiatives
- Governors rigorously monitor the impact of additional funds for disadvantaged pupils
- You have rapidly and successfully developed teachers and leaders

Safeguarding:

- Keeping children safe is given pole position in your priorities
- In particular, you have worked closely with parents to improve attendance, wisely using governors to reinforce messages about the importance of good attendance
- Every child is known to you, so you are able to place concerns raised within the context of your in-depth knowledge of pupils' experiences

As always, we are not complacent and will continue to strive for the very best education for all our children.

Warm regards

Verity Stobart
Headteacher