



Acting Headteacher: Stuart Turner  
Headteacher: Ms J G Daine  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs P E Stockdale

Date : 27 February 2017

## Recent Ofsted Inspection

Following our recent inspection, the full report has now been written and will be published on the school's website and Ofsted's website today. (The links at the bottom of page 2 will take you to these).

The school's overall effectiveness has been judged to **Require Improvement**. Leaders and governors were aware of key issues that needed addressing and for this reason have been working closely with the Local Authority since February 2016. This was acknowledged by the Ofsted team and, as I wrote in November in my letter to you: I, Mrs Stockdale and the governing board remain driven to achieve what we all desire as a community: happy and safe pupils, fantastic learning experiences and successful futures for all our children! This remains true for all staff in the school and we are committed to ensuring that your child receives the best education and that the school continues to improve to be securely good and better in the future.

## **Good aspects of provision that were highlighted in the report included:**

- ✓ "Pupils are eager to learn and to do their best. They are confident and prepared to take on new challenges"
- ✓ "Teachers and teaching assistants are adept at encouraging pupils and nurturing their confidence as learners. The outcome is pupils who are resilient and not afraid of having a go at new tasks."
- ✓ "Pupils take pride in their work and are eager to share what they have done with their classmates and adults. By the time they reach Year 2, they are confident and self-assured individuals that show respect for each other and their school."
- ✓ "Pupils conduct themselves well around the school and at different times of the day. Transitions between lessons and activities are generally calm and orderly. Pupils are polite, well-mannered and respond quickly to adult instruction."
- ✓ "Children quickly adopt routines that make the school a harmonious and calm place to learn"
- ✓ "The staff care deeply about the well-being of each pupil. Pupils and adults respect each other and are happy to work and learn together."
- ✓ "Senior leaders and governors have an accurate view of the school and plans are in place to secure improvements." Good models of leadership are in place throughout the school to ensure children's needs are met and teaching and learning continues to improve.
- ✓ "The curriculum is rich and varied" keeping learning more relevant and beginning "to equip them for life in modern Britain."
- ✓ Governors embrace challenge and have "taken significant steps" "in the best interests of school and pupils". They are ambitious for the school "taking increasingly effective steps to address the areas in need of improvement".

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**We want to continue to improve and need to do this faster and more thoroughly!**

As the inspection team have confirmed "Senior leaders and governors have an accurate view of the school and plans are in place to secure improvement." However, leadership has "not monitored pupils' progress closely enough in the past. Consequently, pupils' attainment has declined and their progress slows in key stage 1". This above all else is what we have been prioritising and working closely with the Local Authority to improve and we will continue to do so with increased rigour: through robust planning and better provision.

- We will ensure that the proportion of children achieving the expected standard or above in KS1 rises, especially in phonics by continuing to raise the quality of teaching and learning in our school.
- We'll ensure staff prepare work that better meets the needs of children and identify more refined next-steps to secure children's progress.
- We will use additional training, support and monitoring to ensure the teaching of phonics improves rapidly so that children understand and use their learning to support reading and writing development
- We will ensure that learning activities are well paced, engaging and meet children's needs promptly so that children are focussed and enjoy making progress.
- We'll introduce new rewards and incentives for children so they aspire to be "their best" as they learn
- We will ensure that we provide exciting activities in Early Years that challenge children in their learning and give them the opportunity to exceed expectation.
- The Governing board will hold leaders to account for rapid and robust improvement.
- Leaders and Governors will ensure the future budget, and funds given to the school, are better allocated to support disadvantaged children and secure improved progress.
- We'll work with you to reduce persistent absence and ensure attendance rises to above national average

The Governing Board and I recognise that we have not had the consistency that we would wish for over the last year. As referred to in my letter in November, changes have been necessary to increase the speed of improvement in our school. You, as parents, have been supportive and have raised good questions and challenge when appropriate and it has been a pleasure to get to know you and start to further build the school together. The Governing Board are continuing to take steps to secure consistency for the rest of the year and beyond and, like me, will always put the interest of your children first in all decisions we make.

I know you will join us and the staff in recognising the strengths of the school but also support us in meeting the challenges of improving more rapidly in the near future. The leadership and governing board will ensure that the school rises to meet this challenge. **We are near the beginning of an exciting journey together to secure the school as the best Early Year's and KS1 provision in the community and as we strengthen our partnership with the Junior school we'll ensure that our children are extremely well prepared for life, choices and success!**

We would encourage parents to read the full version of the report which is on the **school website**:

[http://killamarshinfants.org.uk/?page\\_id=24](http://killamarshinfants.org.uk/?page_id=24) & Ofsted's website <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/112579> We'll be happy to print paper copies on request too

and I will keep you up-to-date with our work and progress through future letters and the website.

  
Acting Headteacher