

# Tweedmouth Prior Park First School

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April 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

## Ofsted Inspection

We are writing to let you know that the report is now available following the inspection on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 and can be viewed on our school website.

<http://www.tweedmouthpriorpark.northumberland.sch.uk>

Following the recent Ofsted inspection, we have been graded as 'requires improvement' (formerly known as 'satisfactory').

Ofsted recognised that the school had many strengths including:

- "Pupils feel safe in school and behaviour in class and in the playground is good."
- "Pupils' personal development is effective and their emotional well-being is well supported by caring adults."
- "Partnerships with parents are highly valued. Parents are encouraged to support their child's education and participate in the life of the school through activities such as the pre-start programme for children entering Nursery."
- "The early years is good. Effective support helps children make good gains to reach standards that are close to the national average."
- "Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those eligible for pupil premium funding are enabled to learn at the same rate as other pupils."
- "The teaching of specific, well-structured reading and mathematics programmes that boost the achievement of small groups of pupils is effective and helps them to catch up with their peers."
- "The teaching of letters and sounds is effective and consequently standards in reading are higher than in other subjects."
- "Well-briefed teaching assistants provide effective support to pupils. They are given close individual guidance. Those pupils who struggle to concentrate are well supported to maintain their focus."

We are disappointed that the school has been graded as 'requires improvement'. The inspection team recognised the changes to staffing our school has experienced, has in some way resulted in inconsistent improvement and drive. During this time a new curriculum and Inspection framework were also implemented. The inspection team was clear about the specific aspects of school that need to be improved, and that the school has the ability to quickly improve these areas. This is also the strongly held belief of the Governing Body, Local Authority and of all the staff at the school.

There are three key reasons why our school has been graded 'requires improvement' and we need to:

- Improve attendance
- Ensure that teaching is consistently good or better
- Improve the effectiveness of leadership and management

Ofsted feel that in these areas more urgency is required in order to achieve the results we know we are capable of, and therefore gave the judgement of 'requires improvement' to ensure even faster improvement.

Ofsted recognised that we had already identified and started working on the recommendations but these require a sharper focus in order to see the impact of the actions quicker:

- Newly implemented procedures to follow up attendance will be rigorously implemented.
- Governors are beginning to be more systematic in their checks on the school and this will be supported by a full Governing Body review/audit to ensure more challenge will lead to prompt and effective actions.
- The school has a clear policy for the monitoring and evaluation of teaching and learning which will be strictly implemented to rapidly address inconsistencies.

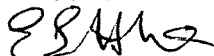
We shall keep you informed of our progress and will ask for your views as part of the evaluation of our work.

Thank you to all those who took the time to fill in the Parentview questionnaire; we are delighted to have had very positive feedback and support for our school.

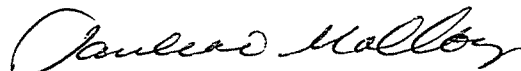
We would like to thank all the staff and parents for their continued commitment to our lovely school and to ensuring that we continue to work as a team to help our children to achieve to the best of their ability in a happy, secure and caring environment.

If you require a paper copy of the report, please return the reply slip to school.

With best wishes  
On behalf of the Governing Body



Isabel Hunter  
Chair of Governors



Pauline Molloy  
Headteacher

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Name of child \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a paper copy of the Ofsted Report sent home with my child

Signed

Dated