



Gusford Primary School

"Promoting Achievement and Success."

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Headteacher: Mr C Tapscott B.A. (Hons)

22nd April 2015

Dear Parents,

Since joining the Active Learning Trust, Gusford has continued its journey of improvement and the Active Learning Trust has helped us with improving our curriculum, teaching and learning, developing our middle leaders and assessment and intervention.

Inspection

On 19th & 20th March we had a 'No-notice' Ofsted Inspection and the report can be found on our website on the 'documents for parents' tab:

www.gusfordprimary.org/documents-for-parents/ofsted-report.html . The Ofsted inspection team judged the school to be the same as our own school self evaluation as 'requires improvement', however the report also praised the improvements the school is making, demonstrating that it is on the right path. The report particularly highlighted the 'clear sense of direction' established by the leadership team, and the 'good support' from the Active Learning Trust. It said that 'all staff, and governors, know the top priorities for the academy'.

This is the first inspection that Gusford has had since it became part of the Active Learning Trust in 2013 and Ofsted acknowledged the 'speed of improvement' since becoming an academy. Areas to concentrate on are ensuring that the good teaching and overall pupil progress that can be seen in the school is consistent.

We acknowledge that we still have some way to go, but it is encouraging that the inspectorate sees that we have the right foundations in place to become a good, if not outstanding, primary school. We know our results this summer are going to be good and so we will want another inspection very soon.

Next steps

The items that Ofsted have highlighted to focus improvement on are already part of our school improvement plan but we will refine a clear and concise improvement plan that ensures all pupils are benefiting from the progress we have made, and continue to make.

If any of you would like to discuss the report further the headship team and I are very happy to chat to you about it. I am regularly on the gates in the morning and you can chat to me there or please feel free to contact me about it on parents@gusfordprimary.net and I will arrange to chat to you about it. Alternatively I will be holding a 'tea with the head' session on Thursday 7th May at 2.30pm, where there will be opportunity for informal discussion about items you might like considered for our new development plan and the Ofsted.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Tapscott
Headteacher

Strengths of the school

Academy leaders are checking the quality of teaching and learning, including the quality of marking and assessment, regularly and robustly.

Strength of the school

Pupils are polite and helpful. Pupils feel safe, and are safe, in school.

Strength of the school

The leadership team has established a clear sense of direction. Hence, all staff, and governors, know the top priorities for the academy.

Strength of the school

The academy promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively.

Strength of the school

The literacy programme being used in the academy is having a positive impact on improving pupils' reading skills.

Strength of the school

Pupils, including children in the early years, are making good progress in learning the sounds that letters make.



The *Active Learning* Trust

