



Astley Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs J Goakes

**Learning
is ACE**

Friday 14th January 2022

*** OFSTED NEWS ***

Dear Families,

It seems a while since the Ofsted team joined us in November -

I am delighted to tell you that Ofsted has judged us to be a 'GOOD' school, in all areas.

Please find attached with this letter our Ofsted inspection report together with a letter from Dr Graham Pickhaver, our Chair of Governors. I have also included some added information and quotes below from the feedback meetings with the inspectors. Please take the time to read these documents - we are very proud of them.

It is worth noting here that the Ofsted framework changed quite radically in September 2019 – the very beginning of our new journey together here at Astley!

Having been through several inspections myself, 'the bar has certainly been raised' for good schools; it quite rightly puts the importance of effective curriculum development and learning culture at the heart of the inspection. We were so pleased to be able to share these areas as strengths of our school and to now be in a strong position to embed our best practice and ensure consistency across all areas.

As inspectors noted, our school is a positive place to be where children feel cared for and ready to learn. The role of our curriculum leaders was noted as a particular school strength which enables them to "flourish" and have a positive impact on learning across all subjects.

"Pupils develop a love of reading" and it was noted that every member of our fantastic staff contributes positively to this. Our Early Years provision was also identified as a particular strength, having "ambition which weaves together throughout the school."

The effectiveness of Personal Development was described by inspectors as "Strong Good". We are so pleased that this area was highlighted, as we strongly believe this as a crucial part of childrens' school experience and foundation for learning, alongside an effective curriculum. Our Pastoral Support Team play an important part in this, which is then fostered by leaders, staff and children every day.

*** **THANK YOU – TEAM** ***

I always talk about **team** – I truly believe that team is everything. Our two inspection days in November were the ultimate testament to how collaborative and successful this school community really is. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **every single member of staff**, for their relentless hard work, belief, willingness to always get on board with whatever exciting thing we do next, and for sharing all of this with your children every day. They are a special team that I am immensely proud to lead.

I would also like to thank **Dr Pickhaver and the rest of our Governors**, who are such a valuable part of our school and have had such a positive impact on me and our development since 2019. The support and drive we have had from **Synergy Trust** has also been invaluable, and I very much appreciate such collaborative opportunities.

In a challenging two years, **Mr Seager and the rest of my senior leadership team** have been brilliant. They have gone above and beyond to work together and have pushed forward with me every step of the way, I am very grateful for them.

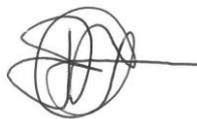
Finally, I would like to thank **you and your wonderful children**. You...for working with us, sharing the smiles and helping us make this a happy place to be, and your children...for putting the heart into Astley and making us all proud every day.

We look forward to continuing to share our “passion, positivity and momentum” with you all and working hard to give your children the very best education and lifelong skills that we can.

We will continue to strive to be more than just a school that teaches subjects – we are a community...a fun, happy, positive, innovative and caring community full of choice and opportunity, promoting a culture and forming an important part of your childrens’ futures.

As always, please get in touch if you have any queries and join us, in continuing our ACE journey together.

Many thanks,



Mrs Goakes

Headteacher