

27 June 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you in response to the Ofsted Inspection of Heaton Avenue, a Share Primary Academy, that took place on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024. While we are disappointed with the overall judgement of the school, we are pleased to see that Ofsted recognised many positives of our school and most importantly, that we have secured the foundations to be able to move the school forward.

When I took over as Head of School in April 2024, I knew that I was becoming the head of a school that would need improving but most importantly, I knew that I could achieve this with the support of my colleagues and with the families that I am so lucky to be sharing my school with. One phrase within the report, which I feel sums up myself and my team, is that “there is a palpable determination”. That is something that we can promise you: a determination to provide your children with the education and experiences that they deserve.

The parent survey and the inspection rightly identified that we should strengthen relationships with our parental community and ensure communication is clear. This is something that we will prioritise. We will share what your child is learning with you on a regular basis and have plans in place to involve you more with your child’s learning journey, holding showcase events that will allow you to see what your child is learning and the work that they are producing.

The Ofsted Inspectors identified areas that we need to improve; we agreed with these and had already been working to make improvements. One area identified for further improvement was phonics and early reading. Earlier this year, a new phonics scheme was implemented across the whole school, and this has already had significant improvements with strong phonic screening results in year 1 and 2. While the inspection rightly noted that the assessment of phonics needed tightening, the foundations are now in place, and we will continue to strengthen our practice to ensure that all children are receiving the appropriate support to allow them to achieve their full potential and become fluent readers who share a love of books.

It was disappointing to read that the quality of work pupils produce is variable and that as a result, some pupils do not take care or pride over their presentation, we will not allow this to be the case moving forward; I want to reassure you that we do have non-negotiables in school, and we talk openly about having pride in ourselves and our work. As a leader, I will monitor this robustly and promise that when you see your child’s work, you too will be proud.



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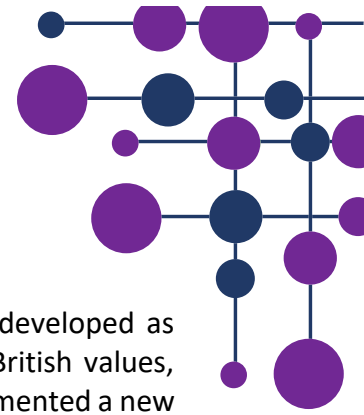
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Ofsted also identified that some aspects of personal development are not as well developed as others. This means some pupils' knowledge is less secure around aspects such as British values, protected characteristics, and world religions. I am proud that we have recently implemented a new curriculum which now ensures that these are taught securely to children, through our aim of developing 'good humans'.

The report has provided us with a strong building block on which we can strive to improve. There are parts of the report which are disappointing to read but there are also parts which we should be proud of, such as:

- That the children are happy and safe. we will endeavour to ensure that the children in our school continue to be so.
- The school fosters pupils' character through its aim for them 'to be good humans.' Adults support pupils to resolve conflict, and to become independent and resilient. Again, this will not change but we will become even better at this.
- The school provides pupils with many opportunities for educational visits that enhance the revised curriculum. We look forward to further refining and developing the experiences we offer all pupils.

We know that we have a lot of work to do but I know that with the support of yourselves, the staff at Heaton Avenue and our colleagues across Share Multi Academy Trust, we can drive the school forward to achieve the success that your children deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Quinn  
Head of School