



Dunholme St Chad's
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Headteacher Mrs Karen Appleby

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached our most recent Ofsted inspection report. While the report is really positive, we feel that its formal tone doesn't fully capture the warmth and enthusiasm shared with us during the inspectors' feedback sessions.

Inspectors explained that the grade boundaries for *Good* are broad, but described St Chad's as a "*strong good*." They highlighted that provision in Reading, Maths, Science, and Geography is "*overwhelmingly positive*" and praised the "*forensic focus and detail*" applied to safeguarding and attendance. These had been areas for improvement in our previous inspection, so it was especially rewarding to hear the inspectors acknowledge the "*significant improvements*" we have made.

We were especially pleased that the inspectors recognised that the school is "*calm and orderly*." This is an achievement we are particularly proud of given that their visit coincided with a very busy final week of the academic year, which included a ukulele concert, a P-bones performance and two shows of *Porridge* with parents onsite! To maintain such a calm and orderly atmosphere amidst all that excitement is a real testament to the strength and dedication of our whole school community.

The inspectors also heard from pupils, who spoke with real pride and affection about their school. We were disappointed that some of their lovely words weren't included in the final report, such as one pupil's comment: "*It's a great supportive school, and I couldn't wish for a better one.*"

We were also surprised that some of our exciting new initiatives, such as **embrACE** and **Voice 21**, which are already making a clear difference to our school community, were not referenced. These projects reflect our commitment to broadening opportunities, celebrating diversity, and giving every child a strong voice in their learning.

As always, inspectors are required to suggest areas for improvement. Interestingly, we have been given the same recommendations as many schools in recent inspections. However, thanks to the robust monitoring systems we have developed for the core subjects, I have every confidence that we can address these quickly and successfully.

We have much to be proud of, and even more to look forward to. The future is bright for St Chad's. Spread the word!

Warm regards,

Mrs Appleby

