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09.03.26

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to share a copy of our last Ofsted inspection 'report card' with you. In addition to being attached, you will also find a copy on our website [HERE](#). Within the next five days, Ofsted will also publish a copy on their website (you will find a link to their page on our website using the hyperlink above).

As you can see from the report card attached, Ofsted graded us as the 'Expected Standard' across all areas of their framework which includes:

- Achievement
- Behaviour & attendance
- Curriculum & teaching
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- Inclusion
- Leadership & governance
- Personal development & well-being
- Safeguarding

You may have noticed that the way Ofsted reports has changed recently. This is because they have launched a new inspection framework this year. This means it is impossible to make comparisons between the grades awarded this time and any grades awarded previously. We would encourage you to take a look at the short video [HERE](#) to understand any changes.

Ofsted is clear that the new 'Expected Standard' is a very high bar and it means that our school is doing everything that it should be doing. However, in our feedback, inspectors were very clear that there was significant evidence of meeting the 'Strong Standard' in a number of key areas including Inclusion, Leadership & governance, Behaviour & attendance, Curriculum & teaching & Personal development & well-being. Therefore, I would encourage you to read the report, and not simply look at the gradings, in order to understand some more about what makes Yew Tree special.

Leaders and I are, naturally, disappointed that inspectors didn't actually award the higher grades in these areas as we felt there was compelling evidence of impact. We must be honest and share that, whilst we respect Ofsted's role in holding schools to account, there were a number of issues with our inspection that we feel we have grounds to complain about.



However, despite the issues with our inspection, we have decided not to pursue a formal complaint and to challenge our outcomes. This is because we feel it is more important for staff and leaders to concentrate on running our school and ensuring the best outcomes for our children without the distraction of another inspection. Whilst we are proud of what our school has achieved, we felt it would only be worth pursuing further if there was a value in the inspection process.

I am sorry that the inspection report does not accurately reflect where leaders, governors and I feel the school is truly at. However, nevertheless, I am immensely proud of the work of staff, governors and children to achieve what we have at Yew Tree. During the inspection they were absolutely incredible but, I am sure you will understand, no school can change who/what they are during two days so I am proud of what is happening at this school day in and day out.

As always, I am humbled and privileged to be leading such a fantastic school and wonderful community. Thank you for your incredible support, not least during the recent inspection, and the trust you place in us by sending your child to our school.

If you have any questions about our inspection, please speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team or I.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Barry', enclosed within a simple, hand-drawn oval shape.

Mr Jamie Barry
Head Teacher