

Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School and Nursery

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Mr A. Frolish – Executive Headteacher
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Instilling Courage, Creativity, Compassion and Curiosity and always striving to be the best that we can be.



'APPLY YOUR HEART TO DISCIPLINE AND YOUR EARS TO WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE' – PROVERBS 23:12

18th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached the Ofsted report following our inspection in October 2021. On behalf of the school, I would like to express my gratitude for the wonderful support of our parents and carers this term. Your commitment was demonstrated by Ofsted's Parent View survey, which was extraordinarily positive. We are also aware that a number of parents made a point of seeking out and speaking to inspectors during the inspection and your kind words are so valuable. There have been huge changes at Stoke by Nayland since September, including in staffing and governance. I hope that your ongoing support is a recognition that the school is moving forwards and striving to improve.

Like us, you will be disappointed by Ofsted's overall judgement of the school. However, the areas for development they have asked us to address match our own evaluation of what needs to improve. The key issues are:

- The curriculum needs to be sequenced and implemented so that children are more aware of the subjects and skills being taught and more able to remember their learning;
- The provision for phonics and early reading needs to improve so that children can read and talk about texts more confidently;
- The children's learning behaviour in the lessons must improve so that they learn more effectively.

While the inspectors recognised positive aspects of the school provision, these particular areas for development were considered to be serious weaknesses. The inspectors acknowledged that school leaders had already identified all these concerns and are already acting to improve them.

Steps we have already taken include:

- Making alterations to the curriculum, increasing the frequency with which certain subjects are taught and changing how they are presented in order to help children remember their learning;
- Introducing new phonics approaches, books and resources and arranging extensive training for teachers with support from an 'English Hub';
- Introducing new ways to explicitly teach the children about learning behaviour, with the same language and rewards used across the school.

The inspectors recognised that the school's provision for children's personal development is good. At the heart of our school community is our care for children's emotional wellbeing and our desire to provide them with the values and moral foundation that they will carry through life. Inspectors were pleased with the range of ways the school offers a broad education with lots of enriching experiences that create well-rounded children, who are prepared for their next steps in life. Our children contribute positively to their community and will grow up to be good citizens of the future. These are the great qualities that parents and carers also recognised in Stoke by Nayland when completing the Parent View survey.

Please be reassured that everybody at the school is committed to providing the best for your children and we are determined to build on the rapid improvements already made. The school had already identified the areas for development highlighted by Ofsted and we are taking steps to address them actively. Quite some time has passed since the inspection and there have already been many changes implemented. We are confident that when the school is re-inspected, our continued progress will be recognised. The inspectors were clear that they believe the school leaders in place have the capacity, knowledge and skills to make the required improvements.

As always, we value comments and questions from parents. You are invited to attend a virtual meeting on Wednesday 19th January at 6:00pm (please see the link below). You will have the opportunity to speak to school leaders and Governors about the inspection report and ask any questions you may have. In addition, I welcome comments on the reply slip below. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information. We are now looking positively to the future and looking forward to continuing to improve the school in partnership with parents.

Yours sincerely

Mr A. Frolish
Executive Headteacher

Topic: Stoke-by-Nayland parents' meeting
Time: Jan 19, 2022 06:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84981551382?pwd=N3YwZVlVaHhiNnhCN1kzeEZQL25LQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 8155 1382
Passcode: 276951

FAO Mr A. Frolish Comments / questions regarding OFSTED Report:

Name (optional): _____

Date: _____

