



Verwood CE First School and Nursery

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Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted Report

I am delighted to be able to share with you the Ofsted report for Verwood Church of England First School and Nursery, following the inspection on the 26 and 27 September 2023, which has been judged to be Good.

The school community has been waiting for this inspection for a very long time as the previous inspection was in 2009. Pupils who were at the school at that time are now adults, with some who have children of their own! The inspection process has changed considerably during this period but Verwood school has always strived to do the very best for the children and we are delighted that this was seen by the inspectors.

The report highlights the strength of relationships between the staff, pupils and families. Pupils are safe and learn well. Pupils learn how to be good citizens and understand that people are different. The report states 'They say that everyone is unique and treated equally. Pupils live out this belief in this inclusive school.'

The wonderful start that our youngest children receive in Nursery was recognised as well as the smooth transition into Reception. The report recognises the hard work over the past few years to ensure we are delivering an ambitious curriculum with a sharp focus on reading.

We know that a school never stands still and we agree with the areas identified for us to work on. We continue to work hard to develop the way we deliver the curriculum in the classroom and how leaders evaluate how well children are learning.

For parents and carers who have been connected to the school for a while, you will know, Mr Parsons, who retired as Headteacher in the summer, led the school before and following the 2009 inspection and he ensured that children were always at the heart of decisions. I would like to thank Mr Parsons for his significant leadership of the school.



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I know he would also agree with me that a school is not about one person. A thriving and flourishing school is only possible with everyone playing their part. The report recognises the whole school community and the vision of the Trust for every child to succeed. Our support, strength and challenge comes from our Local School Committee Governance members, Initio Trust staff members, and also from Emmanuel Middle School. Thank you to everyone for working so hard for this special school.

All staff are fully committed to the school and as the report states 'Morale is high in the school.' We will continue to work hard on the areas of improvement and keep children at the heart of our daily work.

Yours sincerely

Katharine Anstey
Executive Headteacher