



# GILLIBRAND Primary School

Grosvenor Road, Chorley PR7 2PJ  
Headteacher: Mrs A Clayton

September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am attaching with this letter the OFSTED report which will also be published online tomorrow. As I always say, I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher at Gillibrand and to be a part of an amazing team of staff supporting our wonderful children. The report reflects so much of the wonderful things that are happening in our school, however as it is limited to 600 words, I thought I needed to tell you all, in my letter, about the other things that were seen and commented on during their visit, which makes Gillibrand the amazing school it is, where we always put our children at the heart of everything.

We will remain outstanding with just one thing to work on that had already been identified by myself and the SLT well before Ofsted arrived. The inspector recognised that our school is a great school and this was evident in everything she saw and heard from the children. We do have a brilliant and bespoke curriculum that has been specifically designed for our children in our community and this was definitely recognised during the 2 days.

The children all spoke very highly of the staff, the pride in their school, the support they receive and the learning that takes place, including all the wide range of opportunities and activities provided for them including the wide range of after school clubs.

The high level of nurture, support and care for all the children, including children with SEND, was also seen as a great strength of our school and I had many discussions with the inspector about this and what she saw.

The teaching and learning in maths across school received high praise. The inspector looked at a large number of maths books across school (from Reception – Year 6) and identified that the teaching of maths adopts a structured approach that meets the needs of all pupils within every lesson. Pre-learning was highlighted as a clear strength as it is ensuring all pupils achieve their potential by taking into account pupils different learning needs across the different areas of maths. The inspector commented that the work in maths books shows that teaching and learning across school is of a consistently high standard and that we have high expectations for all our children.

The inspector was blown away, when she did a deep dive in art, by the children's knowledge when talking to them, and the work in the children's sketch books showing their learning journey in art! "The colours I used in my work reflect the flora and fauna of the rainforest that we looked at during our work on The Maya!" was a line she quoted to me from a Y3 child!

The inspector also loved our book vending machine and the Reading Gnomes Wishing Well, and recognised the commitment we have to ensuring all our children develop a love of books and reading and reading for pleasure. Many of our children spoke in detail about their love of reading.

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The inspector recognised the strength of our school vision, and how this is being intertwined into the whole school curriculum and how we do “Nurture Children’s Dreams.”

I believe that the Inspector “felt” this school (something I am told by many visitors) and it was clear that the curriculum is strong, children are wonderful and staff have the interests of all at heart.

The children shared their dreams and aspirations with her and spoke with pride about their roles and responsibilities within the school community and also about their desire to make a difference to others and leave a legacy in the world. Litter picking and gardening were topics of conversation with her, as well as the discussions around how the community, including parents, also are involved in the life of the school. Gillibrand definitely came across as being a community primary school!

I have always known this school is wonderful and I hope that you too all see this in the commitment the staff have to always ensuring the very best outcomes for your children. The inspector also spoke with me about some of the lovely comments and conversations she had with parents on the playground and the overwhelming praise and support for the school and staff. Thank you!

We will always aim high at Gillibrand, have high expectations for all and we will continue to nurture your children’s dreams.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

Mrs. A Clayton  
Headteacher