



Bradon Forest School

13 May 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

It is a pleasure to write to you and share our Ofsted Report following our inspection on 19 and 20 April 2016. As you will see the inspectors judged Bradon Forest School to be a 'Good' in all categories.

This marks an excellent achievement for the staff and students at our school showing the exceptional progress we have made in the two years since our last inspection. You will recall that in 2014 the school was judged as 'Requires Improvement'. Getting from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good' in two years is no small feat. Since 2014 we have been on a massive journey of improvement that was recognised by the inspectors:

"The pace of progress has been rapid. As a result, both the quality of teaching and the behaviour of pupils are better, which has led to higher levels of achievement."

As parents and carers you will be aware of all the work we have done to ensure students leave our school best prepared for the next stage in their lives. By ensuring students are successful we have enabled our school to similarly receive positive recognition. Over the last few years we have had record results and, as the recent letter from Nick Gibb, Minister of State for Schools, indicated, your children are attending one of the most improved state schools in the country. It is therefore fantastic to read in the report that "pupils' achievement is rising over time and the attainment of pupils leaving the school is now well above average".

Improving results show that we are getting our core role in educating your children right. However, as important to myself and other staff at Bradon Forest School are the inspectors' comments about the culture of our school:

"Pupils across different year groups and subjects achieve well... pupils are confident, happy and articulate, keen to talk in an animated way about their school..."

Pupils are fiercely proud of their school and its recent journey of improvement. They are well looked after and feel safe at school..."

Inspectors noted the 'warm' relationships that exist between teachers and pupils; a reflection of mutual trust and respect... the pupils at Bradon Forest are known as individuals and cared for by staff who value the relationships they share with pupils.

Parents were overwhelmingly positive about the leadership of the school."

We often talk about how special Bradon Forest is as a school. It is therefore fantastic to have Ofsted recognise the contribution of students and the support of parents and carers. I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your children for your contribution to our success over the last few years.

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While there are many positives in the report we all know that Bradon Forest School is on a journey of improvement. Our journey does not stop with an Ofsted 'Good' judgement. Inspectors were impressed that we saw our most recent inspection as a step on our journey of improvement, rather than an end goal. Ofsted inspectors noted that "senior leaders have an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the school... They are clear about the school's areas for improvement and are fixed firmly on the right priorities". You will see from the report these areas include Modern Foreign Languages, "broadening pupils' cultural experiences" and challenging "some of the most-able pupils".

As Ofsted commented, over the last couple of years we have laid the foundations for Bradon Forest School's future success. We are a school "that nurtures ambition and aspiration" and "fosters success and self-belief". The staff at Bradon Forest School and I look forward to working with you and your children over the next few years to make our school an even more special place to learn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Morrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Andrew Morrison
Headteacher