



27<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to share our Ofsted report from 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February with you. This is the first report for Dorridge Primary, following the amalgamation of the Infant and Junior schools in September 2014. My staff and Governors are thrilled with the report, as it reflects the hard work that has been undertaken to ensure that we are a cohesive primary school.

For those of you who are new to Dorridge, the schools were amalgamated in 2014, following a period of informal federation. Dorridge Infant and Nursery school affiliated with Dorridge Junior school to become one primary. This was not without its challenges; the schools, although on the same site, had been run in distinctly different ways with a separate ethos and approach. They were assessed by Ofsted independently; the grading of Outstanding was held by the Infant and Nursery School from 2008, and the Juniors was assessed as Requires Improvement in 2013. Dorridge Infant School was the lead school in the amalgamation, therefore the Ofsted judgement for the Infants became the overall judgement for the Primary whilst we awaited the next visit.

There have been huge benefits of working across the Primary for all involved, most importantly for our children. It has enabled the discussions necessary for transition and assessment: historically this did not happen. The reason that the Junior School was graded as Requires Improvement was due to poor progress. Progress is the measure taken between Key Stage 1 SATs and Key Stage 2 SATs results. Ofsted have now taken into account that Key Stage 1 results were not always accurate and made achieving good progress at Key Stage 2 impossible. This has rightly been a priority to ensure thorough systems are in place. Further to this, it has been our aim to ensure that the standard of teaching, learning, behaviour, and safety is consistent throughout and that the provision meets our high standards and ethos as a Primary school. We are delighted that the report reflects this and celebrates how far we have come in achieving an *'effective school community in which pupils have every opportunity to thrive academically, socially and emotionally'*. **Ofsted 2018.**

We have all been on an exciting journey, which is reflected in this report. We continue to build on these firm foundations and work together as a cohesive community. We strive to achieve the very best for our children within an environment that enables them to feel safe to take risks to challenge their own learning, ensuring they achieve their personal best.

Thank you for your continued and invaluable support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Ros Ashe

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