



# Redmile Church of England Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs JV Hopkins

Diocese of  
Leicester  
Academies  
Trust

12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents,

### **Feedback from recent Ofsted inspection visit**

I am pleased to inform you that I have now received a letter regarding the recent visit from Her Majesty's Inspector (Ofsted), which I shall make available for you to read via our website. It is a very positive letter, which I am delighted with.

As we are an 'Outstanding' school, we are generally exempt from regular inspections. However, last year our published data (end of key stage 2) took a dip from our usual high standard, which automatically triggered an inspection as '...Her Majesty's Chief Inspector was concerned about a possible decline in standards...' After inspecting us for one day, with this specific line of enquiry, he was satisfied that standards **HAVE NOT** declined and that the results last year were cohort specific. Consequently, we have not received an extensive report that details outcomes in all aspects of school life; instead, we have a letter which summarises his findings from the key line of enquiry.

The CEO of our Academy Trust (DLAT), David Morris, and the Director of the Board of Education for the Diocese, Carolyn Lewis, have both expressed their sincere congratulations and delight at such a successful outcome. The progress and drive for school improvement that this whole school community has been committed to since our last inspection in 2013 has ensured that we remain an outstanding school.

Some highlights from the letter-include:

*You, the governing body, the senior leaders and other leaders at the school are highly effective in identifying things that need to be improved and then in dealing with them. You have responded promptly and vigorously to the dip in the progress of the pupils who completed key stage 2 suggested by the provisional national test and assessment results for 2017. Your explanation of what happened for each pupil is detailed, well-grounded in evidence, and convincing.*

*You have introduced new topics that provide better opportunities for the pupils to learn and to practise their skills. Currently, the pupils are making solid and secure gains in their knowledge, skills and understanding in a range of subjects.*

*The pupils learn very well at the school and become confident, self-aware, reflective and articulate young people. They enjoy their education very much. The school helps them to develop very positive attitudes to learning and to life in general. These attributes equip the pupils very well for the next stage of their education. They reflect the school's singular success in promoting the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and excellent behaviour.*

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Learning together, having fun

*The pupils converse, with very obvious enjoyment, on a range of topics. Encouraged by the teaching at the school, they are brimming with curiosity and eager to discuss things.*

*The pupils say that the teachers know them personally and their learning needs very well. They are very confident that, routinely, they get the support that they need and that it helps them to make strong progress.*

*The pupils value very strongly the friendliness of the school community.*

*The teachers plan lessons carefully...The teachers use what they know about the pupils to set challenging work for them.*

*The pupils who have SEN and/or disabilities are helped to take part fully in lessons, so that they make secure progress.*

*In lessons, the pupils respond rapidly to instructions. Typically, they concentrate on their work well and apply themselves to it earnestly. They are very well motivated and want to do well.*

*The school pays careful attention to safeguarding the pupils... The responsible leaders 'go the extra mile' to check that potentially vulnerable pupils are safe and to assist families who may need help.*

*The school is very outward-looking. You capitalise on the support that is available from the trust [Diocese of Leicester Academies Trust].*

*You adapt practice to meet the particular needs at the school... This ensures that, when changes are made, you are able to put them into practice throughout the school quickly and efficiently. There is an active process of continuous improvement at the school.*

There remains nationally an issue concerning the uncertainty and inconsistent guidance around assessment and progress against the new standards, particularly with regard to "working at greater depth" and "mastery". This is something clearly already identified in our development planning as something we must work on with the Trust and was brought to the attention of the inspector. This is therefore also an area highlighted for development within his report: *Ensure that the teachers have a secure understanding of what is needed for the pupils to achieve greater depth in their learning and to demonstrate mastery in mathematics.*

We have a fantastic team of staff and governors here at Redmile and I thank them for all of their continued hard work. On behalf of us all, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your continued support in making this such an exciting, highly successful school. As one parent has recently said to me, "The teaching at Redmile is exceptional...We are lucky to have children at your school." This makes me especially proud to be the Head teacher.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J V Hopkins  
Executive Headteacher