



Silsden Primary School

18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to send to you a copy of the report from our OFSTED inspection which was undertaken in the last week of the Summer Term. OFSTED introduced a new inspection framework in Autumn 2025 looking at seven areas of school with new grading descriptors.

OFSTED have graded all areas of our school as at least the *“expected standard”* which they describe as *“a high and reassuring bar reflecting everything that school should be doing”*. They have identified that there are no areas of the school which require attention and that some of the areas inspected are considered, by them, to be *“Strong”*.

The official grading and the comments written within the report are a real achievement considering that the school was inspected during the last few days of the school year, when children were rehearsing for plays and taking part in their sports days. Throughout the inspection, and as at any other time of the school year, the children were a credit to us all, and Inspectors were very impressed by the levels of exemplary behaviour and engagement both within and outside of the classroom.

Highlights inspectors picked out include; our notably high phonics outcomes and the effective teaching of phonics, our carefully sequenced curriculum in both Early Years and KS1 and KS2, effective governance that holds leaders properly to account, and a rich personal development offer — from beekeeping and our climbing wall to the "Silsden Seven" qualities we build in every child. Inspectors even gave a special mention to Fergus, our school dog!

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the section entitled *“What it is Like to be a Pupil at this School”*. Reading this should give parents huge confidence and pride that their children attend Silsden Primary School and have a positive experience full of different opportunities which prepares them well for Secondary School. It paints a picture of school life, which I feel any parents would be delighted to have their child experience.

As with any inspection, we have been given some *“Next Steps”* to help us improve the school further while maintaining the current strengths and opportunities that we offer you and your children. We will consider these and continue to work on all areas of school to improve Silsden Primary School even more!

Finally, I am well aware that none of this happens by accident. It reflects the dedication of our staff, the hard work and curiosity of our pupils, the commitment of our governors, and the trust and partnership of you, our families.

Thank you for your support thus far, and we are looking forward to continuing to develop Silsden Primary School further for your children.

Yours faithfully,

K.S.Russell
Headteacher