

# St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School



Dene Road • Ashted •

SURREY • KT21 1EA

HEAD TEACHER : Mrs Nicola Angus

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Dear Parents,

We have now received the final copy of our Ofsted report following the inspection on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

We are delighted to share that the inspectors have judged the school as 'Good' overall with 'Outstanding' in one area under the new, more rigorous framework, which came into effect in September 2019. The report as you may notice, is more streamlined than in previous inspections.

I thought it would be helpful to clarify information in relation to the current inspection landscape.

- The school was inspected in January 2016; this inspection took place under the **previous framework**
- In 2019, a new inspection framework came into place. Our inspection under this framework in November 2021, was a 'Section 8' inspection.
- In September 2022, further changes were made to the Ofsted inspection process and 'Section 5' inspections are now referred to 'graded inspections' and 'Section 8' inspections of good and outstanding schools are called 'ungraded inspections'.
- Therefore, St Giles' has recently undergone a **graded inspection**, under the **2019 framework**.



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The inspection was very thorough over the course of two days. There were two inspectors who looked at all aspects of the school including: safeguarding; pupil attendance; reading; curriculum; our wider curriculum offer; behaviour and pupil attitudes. Our inspection was also quality assured by a third inspector.

There were 'deep dives' in Reading, Maths, History and Music. Evidence was gathered through discussions with the Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher/SENCo, class teachers, support staff and Governors. The inspection team also gathered evidence through lesson observations, talking to pupils about their learning, looking at pupils' work, observing playtimes and through the staff, pupil and parent surveys.

There are many wonderful aspects of our school that have been highlighted in the report, including:

- Our '*tenacious*' approach to safeguarding and ensuring support is put in place when pupils need it.
- Our reading provision and our curriculum offer - '*leaders...have organised and selected the knowledge that pupils will learn clearly and sensibly...*'.  
The inspection team observed phonics lessons and read with selected children. They also spoke to some of the children about reading in school.
- We are very proud of our 'outstanding' status in personal development. Personal development includes our enrichment activities such as our themed days (such as Kenya day or Abba day), our club provision, our lunchtime provision and our mental health and well being support and provision including the Jigsaw programme and our Thrive approach.

Ofsted recognised that '*every pupil is known as an individual, and staff expect all pupils to succeed and flourish. This includes pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities, who receive carefully tailored support*'.



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There was a focus in our inspection on attendance and parents will note that there is an action point in relation to this. The inspection team looked at the attendance data for the whole school, as well as for individual pupils. Inspectors were interested in the level of persistent absenteeism (pupils with 90% or below attendance), which for St Giles', is a significant number of children in the school. They noted that:

*'Despite leaders' efforts, too many pupils are persistently absent. This leads to some pupils missing out on vital learning. Leaders should ensure that their methods for ensuring all pupils attend regularly are effective'.*

Moving forward, this will be a specific focus for the school, which will be monitored by our school improvement partners and our Inclusion Officer.

As a reminder, your child's attendance percentage will be detailed on their end of year report. This will include the number of authorised and unauthorised absences. Please do be mindful of the above before submitting special leave requests for holidays and days out in term time.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the children, staff, governors and parents for all of your support. We are delighted with the outcome of the inspection, under what is a very rigorous and robust process. We are proud of the school's strengths and achievements and that these have been recognised by Ofsted.

I have attached a copy of the Ofsted report for your perusal and we would welcome any feedback you may have on the contents.

Dominic Pioli

Chair of Governors

Nicola Angus

Headteacher



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