



Hamstead Junior School *The Friday Newsletter* *An Inspection Report special.*



Inspection judgements

Overall effectiveness:	Good
Effectiveness of leadership and management:	Good
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment:	Good
Personal development, behaviour and welfare:	Good
Outcomes for pupils:	Good

This Newsletter is a summary of the Ofsted Report, written after the Inspection that took place on 8th-9th June 2016.

The full report is also provided and available to view on the school and Ofsted website. The Good judgements reported, and the very positive comments made by the Inspection team members, reflect the hard work of children, parents, staff and Governors to improve on the areas highlighted in our previous inspection of May 2014.

I hope that parents find the report pleasing as it confirms that Hamstead Junior School continues to provide good education for the children of our community, and recognises that the ambition of the school is clear as it aspires to become outstanding.

T.Bowen
Head Teacher

Good because...

'The school's effectiveness has improved since the last inspection and continues to do so.

Teaching is now consistently good.

Work set, challenges pupils of varying abilities.

Standards of attainment have risen considerably and are now much higher than average.

Pupils are well prepared for secondary school.

Pupils enjoy learning at Hamstead.

The curriculum motivates pupils well.

Pupils are well behaved, polite, considerate and respectful.

Pupils feel safe at all times.'



Leadership and Management.

The leadership and management of the School was judged as Good in 2014 and the governors and senior leadership team, along with all staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that School continues to improve.

“ Effective action has been taken to address the areas for improvement identified at the last inspection.

Leaders have ensured that teaching across the school has improved. As a result, standards of attainment have risen considerably and pupils now achieve well.”

“ Leaders are determined to ensure that pupils learn through a wide range of subjects. This has resulted in lessons which enrich their learning.”

“ Pupils enjoy learning and show this through their positive attitudes.”

“All ethnic and faith groups work and play together harmoniously. Cultural diversity is celebrated and time is made available to learn about tolerance and respect.”

“The Governing body asks challenging questions of the headteacher and senior leaders.”

“Governors know which pupils need additional support. Such knowledge enables Governors to hold the school to account well.”

“Governors are very involved in the school...they have gained a thorough knowledge of how the school measures its own performance.”

Teaching, learning and assessment.

Since the last Inspection much work has been focussed on improving teaching and learning. The new National Curriculum has been introduced, with Hamstead developing a broad, balanced curriculum whilst this year new assessment procedures have been introduced in order to meet new national expectations. Parents will have noticed the heightening of expectations as the old system of levels has been replaced.

Judgements on teaching and learning were made as inspectors observed lessons, examined books, viewed displays, and worked with and listened to children's views. The judgements made recognise the impact of work since the last inspection.

“Teaching, learning and assessment have improved since the last inspection and are now consistently good.”

“Pupils say that teachers' comments in their books help them to make better progress.”

“Teachers identify what pupils need to do next and use this to design and present activities which enable pupils to develop their understanding securely. Pupils who were previously anxious about taking risks in their learning are now more confident learners.”

“Strong, trusting relationships are evident between pupils and teachers. These relationships contribute to the pupils’ enjoyment of learning.”

“Pupils are keen to talk about their reading and are making good progress.”

“The teaching of mathematics is consistently strong in each year group.”

“Teachers use their secure subject knowledge to ask questions of pupils which expect them to articulate their understanding clearly.”

“The teaching of writing has improved over the last two years.”



The report feed backs very positively on the enriching curriculum at HJS, and particularly on the teaching and learning in the core subjects of English and Maths. School has also just received the news that it has been awarded the Basic Skills Quality mark for Schools, which recognises improving provision, practice and performance. This is the fifth time this national award has been gained/ retained by HJS.

Personal Development, behaviour and welfare.

In the report of 2014 this area was judged as good and this judgement has also been made in this inspection.

“ The school’s work to promote pupils’ personal development and welfare is good.”

“The curriculum encourages pupils to take risks in their learning. They understand that making mistakes can be valuable in helping them develop a better understanding of different topics.”

“Equality is well promoted at Hamstead.”

“Pupils display positive attitudes in their interactions with each other.”

“Pupils have a good understanding of bullying and how it differs from poor behaviour.”

“The behaviour of pupils is good.”

“Pupils show manners and are courteous to pupils and adults alike.”

“The indoor and outdoor environments are well presented and maintained. Pupils are proud of their work.”

“Pupils behave well at break times.”

(Low level unsatisfactory behaviour) “ is dealt with by staff effectively.”

Outcomes for pupils.

Parents will already be aware of the very positive results achieved by children in the last two years. In 2015 Year 6 attained the highest average point score of any of the schools in the West Bromwich North Learning Community. Inspectors made the following judgements of outcomes for our children.

“Standards of attainment by the end of year 6 have risen considerably in the last two years and are now much higher than average in reading, writing and mathematics. As a result, pupils are well prepared for their transfer to secondary education.”

“Senior leaders and governors check carefully to ensure that most groups of pupils achieve well.”

“Achievement in reading is good and continuing to improve.”

“Attainment in mathematics is above average. Inspection evidence and school achievement information shows that pupils continue to make strong progress.”

“As a result of more effective teaching, lower attaining pupils are making faster progress so that they catch up their classmates.”

“Most able pupils do well, particularly in reading and mathematics.”

“In year 6 in 2015, a much higher than average proportion of pupils reached the higher levels of attainment.”

From the Governors.

As a governing body we are delighted to be able to share with parents the results of our recent Ofsted inspection. The inspectors clearly acknowledged the hard work that has been put into making HJS such a strong, exciting, happy and vibrant place in which to work and learn.

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has played a part in achieving this result. This is undoubtedly a team success and as such we do not really like to single out individuals, but we would nonetheless like to take this opportunity to record our thanks to Mr Bowen and Mr Fowler for their leadership of school throughout our journey.

They set the framework within which we all work and it is testament to their tireless determination and commitment to school improvement that we have come so far in such a relatively short space of time.

Work has already started to address the action points identified by the inspectors. Plans are being developed and we look forward to sharing these with parents next term. We are very proud to be governors of HJS. We are excited for the future and we look forward to working together with you as we build upon these strong foundations and move ever forward.

*Mrs L. Howard
Chair of Governors.*