



CEO: Martyn Skinner

**EAST BRIDGFORD ST. PETER'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY**

***'Together in Achievement'
Take Care***

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Dear Parents/Carers

Ofsted report announcement

As you probably know our school underwent a full two-day Ofsted inspection on 21st and 22nd April, two days after returning from the Easter holidays. Although the three-strong Ofsted inspection team gave feedback to senior school leaders and governors at the end of the inspection, the Ofsted outcome has been kept confidential until the final report is published by Ofsted.

The outcome is that Ofsted have judged St Peter's to be GOOD but with OUTSTANDING features. We were judged GOOD for Quality of Education, Behaviour & Attitudes, Early Years and Leadership & Management, and OUTSTANDING for Personal Development, evidenced by children demonstrating our Take Care ethos in everything they did, both inside and outside the classroom. In fact, verbal feedback given to Senior leaders commented strongly on the exceptionality St Peter's offers its children from extra-curricular activities to enhanced learning experiences.

That is not, however, the full story and the outcome needs to have some context to fully understand what this really means for St Peter's. The last Ofsted inspection for St Peter's was in 2007 from which the school was judged to be Outstanding. We all feel that 15 years between inspections is too long for two main reasons. First, few of our staff have ever experienced an Ofsted inspection in their careers and therefore had very little appreciation of what to expect. Second, the process, rigor and depth of inspections has changed significantly several times in that period. In 2007 an Outstanding judgement was awarded to nearly 20% of all schools nationally. In 2022 around 2% are being awarded Outstanding due to the new very tight criteria. In addition, we are just coming out of two years of educational disruption. We have been advised that our result of Good with Outstanding features is equivalent to Outstanding achieved in 2007.

When you read the report you will see that the (3) areas identified by Ofsted for improvement are mainly related to refining parts of the curriculum that are currently being introduced into our school and ensuring that there is continuity of curriculum delivery and being able to rigorously show how our children are retaining the knowledge gained from their lessons.



However, the more important part of this message is to recognise the enormous effort and contribution that our staff and governors made, and the extreme stress and pressures that were experienced, as the two days unfolded. It was, to say the least, an emotional roller-coaster. Mr Tomlinson (Head Teacher) and Mrs Gibbens (Deputy Head) bore the brunt of this pressure whilst giving support and reassurance to teachers and staff who were at the sharp end – everyone stepped up the mark, went above and beyond, and achieved a remarkable outcome under the current circumstances. We should all be very proud of our school and its staff. However, in saying all this, we must not forget the pivotal role our children played – without their massive positive part in the process the outcome would have been different regardless of the efforts of staff.

We would also like to thank the team of governors who rearranged their personal and professional lives at 24 hours notice to support the school. Six of our governors were interviewed intensively by the lead inspector which, although challenging, went incredibly well because of the preparation and team approach to governance issues. Although the Ofsted team acknowledged the strength and quality of governance it is not mentioned in the written report. We would also like to thank Martyn Skinner, Aspire MAT's CEO, who supported the school in its Ofsted preparation and during the inspection and through his own interview with the inspectors. Thanks also to you, the parents and carers of our children, for supporting the school, not just through your Ofsted survey responses (just over 60 responses received), but every day in our journey together.

Link to the Ofsted report <https://www.eastbridgfordstpeters.co.uk/ofstedsiams/>

As Head Teacher and Chair of Governors of St Peter's we are immensely proud of what the school has achieved and to be part of the team of dedicated professionals and volunteers that make St Peter's Academy what it is. We know that the challenge for an all-round Outstanding outcome next time is both realistic and achievable, but that's for the future and why we are part of a MAT called ASPIRE.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Tomlinson

Mr P Golightly

Head Teacher

Chair of Governors

