



18th January 2024

Dear parents and carers,

OFSTED

I am delighted to enclose the report from His Majesty's Inspector following our recent OFSTED inspection, which confirms that **"St Thomas' CofE Primary Academy continues to be a good school."**

The full report into the two day section 8 inspection that took place on 6-7th December 2023 will also be available via the academy website and published on the official OFSTED website from tomorrow.

The lead inspector commented that *"St Thomas'... is a warm and welcoming school where all staff promote the school's inclusive and Christian values"*. And that *"Pupils say that they are happy and that they feel safe."*

Focussing on teaching and learning, the inspector stated *"The school has developed an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum that sets out the key knowledge and skills pupils should learn from early years to Year 6."*

When discussing pupils, their feedback reports *"The school has high ambitions for every pupil, including disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Pupils are keen to find out about new things and contribute well during their lessons. They have positive attitudes to learning."*

There have been many changes at St Thomas' over the past twelve months, including my appointment as Executive Principal, the appointment of a new Head of School and Deputy Head, other staffing changes and class organisation. However, our focus has always been our children and providing the best opportunities and quality of education for them which OFSTED fully recognises and supports: *"Trustees have appointed a new leadership team and the leadership team has taken determined steps to get the school back on track. Leaders' actions are helping pupils to make the progress they should."*

The report also rightly recognises the impact that historic changes in staffing have had on communication between school and parents and has provided positive feedback which Mrs Pierpoint and the academy team are already addressing this term.

It has been heartening to experience a robust inspection which focused on so many aspects of school life. We remain resolute and focused in our pursuit of an excellent education for every child at St Thomas' and will use the positive inspection feedback to drive us on to improve further.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Pointon
Executive Principal.

Mrs D Pierpoint
Head of School

