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Dear parents/carers

Ofsted report

Please find attached the Ofsted report for Millthorpe School, following our inspection on 12th and 13th March 2024. We are delighted to share with you that the school was judged by inspectors to be **GOOD in all areas**.

We feel that inspectors got to know the school incredibly well over the two day inspection and we are pleased that this is reflected in the report: **“Millthorpe School is an inclusive community. Pupils value difference and diversity.”** Our reputation as an inclusive school is important to us, our pupils, our parents and the wider community.

Inspectors also noted a number of strengths in the school’s quality of education, which we would like to highlight:

- **The school has designed an ambitious curriculum that is taught well by teachers.**
- **Teachers ensure that the new content that pupils learn builds on what they have been taught previously.**
- **The school’s curriculum helps pupils to learn the important content that leaders have identified in each subject.**
- **Leaders are successfully developing a culture of reading across the school.**

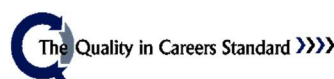
We are delighted that inspectors recognised the work that we have done on significantly restructuring and improving our SEND provision over the past two years, stating **“This has improved the support for many pupils with SEND”** and **“...has led to improvements in school systems, staff training and the ways in which pupils are supported in lessons.”** We agree with inspectors that prior to this improvement work and reshaping our SEND provision, some pupils may not have received support quickly enough. However, as a result of our work, this is no longer the case and pupils now receive timely support which effectively meets their needs.

As a school, we prioritise personal development and see this as a real strength of our provision. Inspectors agreed with this. The report states: **“The school has designed a new and detailed curriculum for personal development”** and **“Pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain through a carefully considered form time programme, assemblies and the taught curriculum. The school offers an array of extra curricular opportunities that pupils make good use of.”**



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www.southbanktrust.co.uk

Company Number: 10067116
Registered Office: Millthorpe School,
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We have made a number of changes in recent years and we are pleased that inspectors could see that these changes have been for the better: **“Leaders, including those from the multi-academy trust, have an ambitious vision for Millthorpe School. Their actions have improved the school. This is recognised by most parents, staff and pupils. Staff are proud to work at the school.”**

The improvement areas that inspectors identified reflect the areas that we continue to work on and that we hope you are able to continue to support us with:

Attendance

Inspectors noted that our “tenacious approach to tackling poor attendance” is working and has resulted in an “improvement in overall attendance”. We know that post-covid, attendance is an issue both locally and nationally. We know that despite our significant improvement, we still have more work to do and agree that the school should “be even more robust in its approach to securing improved attendance.” This is because pupils need to be in school to learn and to benefit from our excellent curriculum.

SEND Provision

Inspectors praised the improvements that we have made over the past two years on our provision for pupils with SEND. We know that we need to continue to embed these changes and ensure that the provision for these pupils remains strong.

Engagement

We know that the vast majority of our parents are happy with the way we engage with their views but agree with inspectors that there is a small number of parents who remain disconnected from the improvements that we have made to the school. We will continue to do all we can to provide opportunities for parents to engage with the school. Details will continue to be sent out each Friday in our newsletter.

Finally, inspectors also noted that governors and trustees “are well informed and have an accurate view of the school’s strengths and areas for improvement.”

We would like to thank all parents, pupils and staff for their work to make Millthorpe such a special place to learn and to work.

We hope you enjoy reading the report.

Yours faithfully

Gemma Greenhalgh
Headteacher

Mark Hassack
Chief Executive

