



Dear Families

I am delighted to share with you our Ofsted report, from our ungraded inspection on 25th and 26th February 2025. I would like to thank our wonderful staff, governing body, children, families and community for their 'overwhelmingly' positive feedback during the inspection and their support and dedication.

The very first paragraph, I feel reflects our school beautifully:

Pupils thrive in this happy and welcoming school. They behave exceptionally well and show consistently high levels of respect towards each other and staff. The St Swithun's mission, 'love one another as I have loved you', can be seen being lived out through the actions of the whole school community.

I would to share with you some of the key strengths identified in the main report:

Positive School Environment:

- Pupils thrive in a happy, welcoming, and respectful atmosphere.
- The school's mission, 'love one another as I have loved you', is evident in daily interactions.
- Pupils settle quickly and feel valued and cared for.

Outstanding Behaviour & Pastoral Care:

- Behaviour is exemplary; pupils show high levels of respect and responsibility.
- Strong pastoral systems ensure pupils feel safe and supported.
- Clear policies and expectations underpin excellent conduct.

High-Quality Teaching & Learning:

- Teachers have strong subject knowledge and provide clear explanations.
- High expectations lead to enthusiastic pupil engagement and strong outcomes.
- Professional development is prioritised, enhancing teaching practice.

Ambitious & Broad Curriculum:

- A well-structured, balanced curriculum from pre-school to Year 6.
- Learning is enriched by local context and meaningful connections across subjects.
- Effective use of enrichment activities (e.g., trips, theme days, clubs) supports personal development.

Strong Reading Provision:

- A robust reading program begins early, fostering a love of reading across all year groups.
- Well-trained staff provide effective phonics teaching and prompt support for those needing extra help.

Effective Support for SEND Pupils:

- Needs are identified early and met with personalised, sensitive strategies.
- Staff are well-equipped to adapt learning for all pupils.

Leadership & Community Engagement:

- Leaders have a clear, accurate understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development.
- Staff feel valued and supported.
- Parents express high levels of satisfaction, praising the school's positive impact on their children.

Safeguarding:

- Safeguarding arrangements are strong and effective.

The area for development, was one we had already identified as a school and have started to work on. We are building on the school's existing good practice, enhancing how assessment information is used in real time. Focusing particularly on wider curriculum subjects, to ensure that all pupils' learning continues to be carefully adapted to meet their needs and support consistent progress.

Kind Regards,

Mrs J Verhiest

Head Teacher

