



Dear students, parents and carers,

29th June 2023

Please find enclosed a copy of the Ofsted report from our inspection which took place on 10th and 11th of May.

An inspection is only ever a snapshot in time of the strengths and areas for improvement within a school and as a trust. We feel the report accurately reflects **the improved culture** and the journey that Benfield School has been on in recent times, as well as identifying areas that we must continue to develop and improve.

We are delighted that the Inspection team recognise the **positive impact new leadership is having in educational standards, behaviour and attendance**. We are particularly pleased with the recognition that the vast majority of our **young people are polite and respectful** and that our **staff are kind and caring**.

The report highlighted that teachers have **strong subject knowledge and are determined to help pupils succeed** and that **leaders have ensured an increasingly strong curriculum is in place**, all of which form vital foundations as we continue to move Benfield forward as one community.

The exciting **wider offer at Benfield**, was also noted in the report through **the varied programme of extracurricular activities available for pupils to develop their leadership skills**. Pupil leadership groups were highlighted as a further strength which is so pleasing as the school has worked very hard to bring to life it's motto '**growing leaders and inspiring the extraordinary**'.

Benfield is proud to part of the NEAT Academy trust, unique in our local area for having both primary and secondary schools. Our trust is focused on developing strong relationships with all stakeholders and it was pleasing to have the strength of our trust and wider governance recognised. The report stated that **governors and trustees are skilled, experienced and determined strategic leaders**. This helps to drive our collective determination to continue the improvements across all aspects of the school.

Importantly, the report also highlights the work that is still to be done and the need for school to repair and build relationships and trust. Leaders and staff continue to work tirelessly to improve the school in all aspects, with particular attention to the issues highlighted. We are working collectively to define our vision for Benfield and we would like to take the opportunity to thank our pupils, parents and staff who have contributed to this process already. We will share the final outcome with everyone in due course. Only by working together can we achieve the vision for our community and Benfield School. We are one community, stronger when we work in collaboration and we ask for parents, families and communities to help us by supporting our policies and reinforcing our expectations around behaviour and attendance.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and faith in Benfield. As a trust, we have had to take action to ensure our pupils receive the best education they deserve and we acknowledge that any change brings anxiety and disruption. We have total confidence in the leadership at Benfield as we continue on this journey of improvement and acknowledge we have seen significant progress made this academic year. Benfield is absolutely an improving school and it is improving at a real pace. It is a very exciting time for our pupils to attend Benfield School.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. It is, as always, very much appreciated.

We are Benfield.



Growing leaders, inspiring the extraordinary
WE ARE BENFIELD.

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**BENFIELD
SCHOOL**

Yours Faithfully,

Anthony Martin - Headteacher Benfield School

Debi Bailey - NEAT CEO

Phil Anderson - Chair of Governors Benfield School

Dr Anne McNall - Chair of the Trust Board of Directors



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