

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Pinewood School Academy Trust was inspected by OFSTED on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, where it was graded overall as “Requires Improvement”. The final report can be viewed on the OFSTED website as of Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. There will be a link on our school website.

Whilst we are disappointed with the grading, we acknowledge the inspection findings and will design and apply improvements that are right for Pinewood's setting.

Trustees and school leaders have already introduced several new measures and are taking a positive approach towards the outcome, using the OFSTED judgement to look at ways to develop, and as part of our continuous improvement. We are confident that we know what we need to do to improve and have begun working on these areas already.

Examples of measures taken so far include:

- Whole staff CPD training on the delivery of phonics
- A review of and work on all curriculum documentation
- A revised, and in places, a new reading assessment system
- A re-structure of Leadership
- Engaging “Herts For Learning” in school improvement activities

Whilst we fully acknowledge that the report does not reflect where we want to be, we firmly believe that our current actions and strengths outlined in the report, such as the opening sentence: *“Pupils are happy at Pinewood. They are polite and welcoming. They enjoy spending time with each other and make good friendships”*, provide us with a firm foundation to allow all pupils to reach their full potential academically as well as socially and emotionally. Our staff body are hardworking and dedicated individuals who always put the needs of the pupils first which the report also reflects. We are also very proud that our safeguarding arrangements were judged as effective.

We want to reassure all pupils and parents/carers that we are fully committed to working hard to ensure that any issues raised in this Inspection are amended and improved at an increased rate, whilst also maintaining the strengths that were highlighted by our visitors, so that when we are next visited, we can be seen as “Good” or better in all four areas of the OFSTED Framework.

We look forward to continuing to work with all stakeholders more closely and we hope that we can rely on your support as we move forward on our journey to be the best school we can be.

Yours Sincerely.



Robin Cregan  
Chair of Governors

Todd Baines  
Acting Headteacher

