



Beulah Junior School

Beulah Road • Thornton Heath • Croydon • CR7 8JF

Tel 020 8653 4921

E-mail: office@beulah-jun.croydon.sch.uk



Thursday 18th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had our Ofsted Inspection last month and have now received the report which we have attached for you. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain the report and address some questions you may have. As this report is coming out so close to the end of the school year, I will be holding a meeting in September to allow all parents and carers time to talk about the outcome of the inspection and what this means to us as a school and your children's education.

Overall, we have been given judgement of Requires Improvement; two areas have been judged to be good.

The judgement areas

The Ofsted inspection looks at four key areas and gives judgements:

1. The quality of Education – Requires Improvement
2. Behaviour and attitude – Good
3. Personal development – Good
4. Leadership and management – Requires Improvement

We are very proud of our children and the outcome of the report for both Behaviour and attitudes and Personal development. We have worked hard to support the children with their behaviour both inside the classroom and around the school during breaks and lunchtimes. We have also been improving children's personal development opportunities through a range of strategies such as school trips, after school activities, inviting visitors into school and by giving the children key responsibilities such as prefects and school council. The report findings reflect this work.

Since my appointment as Head Teacher, we have also been developing our curriculum to make it more engaging for the children and include new practical lessons. The inspectors noted '*Leaders have developed a curriculum that is ambitious for all pupils, including pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)*'. A great deal of this started this school year and we have been working hard to implement the use of new resources and lesson structures.

Although these have begun well, we have been looking at ways to make them even better. In line with inspection findings there are two key areas of focus. The first is ensuring that children's understanding is routinely checked and consolidated during lessons before moving onto new learning. The second is ensuring that activities in lessons are even more carefully selected to help the children to practise and master subject-specific knowledge and skills. The Quality of Education and Leadership and Management judgements show that we need more time to embed the changes we have started.

We are incredibly proud of the progress our children are making in Reading (including phonics) and how this was seen as a key strength across the school during the inspection. This is also evident in our Key Stage Two SATs Reading Result which is above 70% for 2024, showing the significant improvement from our work so far.

Head Teacher – Mrs B Warwick
Deputy Head Teacher – Miss C Budd

Beulah Junior is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our pupils and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

What does this mean for your child/children?

Your children will continue to receive an engaging and practical curriculum using resources and assessments which will enable them to make links in their learning. We will carry on working to develop a consistent approach in all classes across all lessons. Further training for staff has already been planned and booked for the coming school year.

What is being done to embed the necessary improvements?

Further curriculum development had already been planned prior to the inspection and training sessions booked to support the staff with this. For the INSET days in September, we have training with a consultant from Literacy Tree – a resource we have been using this school year to develop the children's writing through the use of high quality texts. We have had great feedback from the children about the lessons and the books being used for these. We are excited by the positive results we are starting to see in the children's writing. With the training booked for our INSET days in September, we know we will see even further improvements.

Even though our Key Stage Two SATs result for Grammar, Punctuations and Spelling is also above 70% this year, we also have additional training, for all staff, with a focus on these areas and are looking forward to a positive impact across the children's writing in all areas of the curriculum.

Throughout the coming school year, we will also be working with a Maths Hub, to support the staff in a mastery approach to Maths. This will support the children in embedding their learning in Maths and being able to apply their learning in a variety of contexts.

Does this mean our school will now join an Academy?

With the changes that have been made across the school in the last two school years and the changes planned for the coming school year, now is not the right time to join an academy. We need to take time to embed the changes we have put in place, continue with further developments and review their impact before considering joining an academy.

However, we will continue to work closely with the infant school and ensure the children have a smooth transition from Year 2 into Year 3. Our teachers also work closely with the teachers from the infant school to support this transition, as well as working with the subject leads across the curriculum.

When will we be inspected again?

This is difficult to answer at the moment because of the change of government. However, as it stands, schools who are judged as Requires Improvement are usually inspected within 30 months (2 ½ years). By that time, we will have worked on all the areas identified in the inspection and we are confident these strategies will lead us to achieve a Good Ofsted grading when the inspectors revisit.

As mentioned, I will be holding a meeting in September to address any further questions you may have. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and wish you all an enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs B Warwick

Head Teacher
Beulah Junior School