



Hellifield Community Primary School
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Maddocks

A member of The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools – Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:14)

21st October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted Inspection Outcome

As communicated to parents at the end of September, the school was subject to a Section 5 Ofsted Inspection lasting 2 days on the 24/25 September 24. The school was inspected under Section 5, because during the last Section 8 Inspection in January 2023, the school was judged to be good with declining standards.

I am delighted to inform you that following our recent Ofsted Inspection, Hellifield Primary School has secured the following judgements, which reflected my recent evaluation to the Governing Board in my Headteacher report. Please note there is no longer an overall effectiveness grade. This judgement has been removed. The report evidences that key areas previously identified in February 2023 have rapidly been addressed.

The quality of Education: GOOD

Behaviour and Attitudes: GOOD

Personal Development: GOOD

Leadership and Management: GOOD

Early years provision: GOOD

I have attached a copy of the short report the school has received for your attention. This is also available on the Federation website. The report is only a snap shot of the comments shared during the inspection, but it truly captures what a wonderful and happy school it is.

“Pupils are happy to attend this welcoming school. They feel part of a close school family and are proud to wear the Hellifield uniform.”

The report is testimony to the children, dedicated Hellifield teaching and support staff team, parents, Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Federation SENDCo and the Federation Governing Board. I am so proud of the Hellifield school family and all their wonderful achievements. We have been on an incredible school improvement journey and we will continue to strive to provide the very best education we can for all the boys and girls at Hellifield, addressing the actions identified by Ofsted and our own school and Federation priorities for improvement.

“Leaders have brought about rapid and sustained improvement since the previous Ofsted Inspection. Governors have a clear and incisive overview of the school.”

There are so many people who have contributed to the rapid and swift improvements at the school, including the SLT, Federation Governing Board, Local Authority advisors and all the Federation subject leaders, led by our curriculum leader, Miss Houghton, who have worked so hard to design an ambitious curriculum that is not only available to the pupils at Hellifield but at Long Preston and Giggleswick too.

“The school provides a broad and ambitious curriculum. Pupils enjoy learning because teachers make lessons fun and interesting.”

“The school has designed and implemented a broad and ambitious curriculum across all subjects. It is planned in a logical and sequential manner.”

***The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools** comprises:
Giggleswick and Hellifield Community and Long Preston Endowed (VA) Primary Schools.

I would like to thank you all for your hard work, determination and support since I joined the Federation as Interim Executive Headteacher in January 2023. I am proud to lead both the Hellifield and Federation team as Executive Headteacher.

A special thank you to the boys and girls at Hellifield who are amazing; they certainly shone during the inspection and we are all very proud of them.

“Pupils work diligently and behave well in lessons.”

“Pupils know and follow the school’s values of kindness, love, respect and friendship. They care for each other.”

Thank you to all the parents who completed the parent questionnaires for the inspection and spoke to the inspection team during their visit and for your support and patience over the last 18+ months.

There are so many areas to celebrate in the report, which demonstrate that the education and provision at the school is good.

“The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.”

“Teachers’ subject knowledge is strong.”

“The school ensures that the curriculum meets the needs of pupils with SEND.”

“The school has made reading a high priority.”

“The early years curriculum is ambitious. It is designed to prepare children for learning in Year 1.”

“Children in Reception get off to a flying start in reading.”

During the inspection, the SLT met with the inspection team, during various team meetings. The Lead Inspector noted that her report would only summarise the visit and advised us to make notes so that we could reflect on these. Please note the following other comments:

“The phonics leader, Miss Mounsey, ensures this subject is well led, prioritising staff training and development, so that teachers can effectively teach this key area.”

“There are high expectations for pupils with Special Educational Needs and the Special Needs Leader is experienced and effective in her role.”

“The school does a lot of work to promote the value of attendance.”

“Children have a strong sense of fairness and justice.”

“Leaders have ensured staff receive high quality professional development.”

“The Geography Leader has planned an interesting and well-planned curriculum.”

“The Mathematics leader is knowledgeable and has high expectations for all pupils.”

“Leaders are ambitious for the school.”

I could go on!

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I look forward to working with parents and carers and the Hellifield team as we continue to work together in the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions; I would be happy to listen.

Kind regards

C. Maddock

Mrs Catherine Maddocks
Executive Headteacher – The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools