



Wednesday 16th July 2025

Dear CSPA Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share our recent Ofsted report with our school community following the ungraded inspection carried out on the 20th and 21st May 2025. I would like to thank you for your patience whilst we have challenged Ofsted since the inspection to ensure the report is more accurately and truly reflective of our school's achievement and progress. We raised concerns about disproportionate judgements, inconsistencies between the written report and oral feedback, and specific comments regarding curriculum development and governance. In order to help explain this, I would like to share some further context.

Our last graded inspection was in November 2019 under the current inspection framework where the school was graded as 'good' with some 'outstanding' aspects. The inspection carried out in May 2025 at CSPA was an ungraded inspection which involves a single inspector over 2 days inspecting every aspect of a school including: the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development of our pupils, leadership and management, attendance, governance, safeguarding and special educational needs provision.

In addition, the inspector also needs time to give verbal feedback, meet with stakeholders and write their draft report. For further context, this type of inspection is being abolished. A new inspection regime, under the new government, has been designed which is expected to be introduced in November 2025.

During further discussions with Ofsted, it was made clear that the remit of an ungraded inspection is not to evaluate the journey of the school but to instead evaluate a 'point-in-time'.

The gradings from the previous inspection remain unchanged. We are pleased that the inspector found that the school remained 'Good' in all areas and with Behaviour and Attitudes graded as 'Outstanding'. We are disappointed that CSPA maintaining these gradings is not as clearly highlighted in the report itself.

Following our challenge, we received written feedback from Ofsted, alongside the final report, to highlight some changes to the draft. This written feedback and the changes better reflects the school's evidence base, '**which recognises the work undertaken by the school to redesign and strengthen its curriculum since the previous inspection, particularly in English and mathematics. While the report must focus on what is currently working well and what still needs to improve, some of the changes acknowledge the school's improvement journey and the strategic intent behind its curriculum development.**' This quote is directly from the Ofsted feedback letter following our challenge.

Similarly, the written feedback highlights that whilst governors may have to improve some of their monitoring process across the wider curriculum, a review of the evidence base shows, '**it is apparent that governors do have some oversight of the curriculum that is effective.**' Governors have a rigorous curriculum monitoring plan in place for the next academic year.

In verbal feedback, the inspector shared that when visiting classrooms she observed that our teaching staff are committed to delivering high quality lessons that engage and inspire all children. We were praised for having high expectations for all pupils and both challenge and support were evident. The children were incredible advocates for their teachers highlighting to the inspector the positive relationships we work so hard to create and maintain.

The inspector also shared her observations that pupils are safe, happy and genuinely enjoy coming to school. Expectations for behaviour are clear, helping pupils to understand what is expected of them and any child who needs additional support receives the necessary assistance.

During the inspection, the inspector shared it was clear that at CSPA every child matters and our drive for providing an inclusive and nurturing school is very clear. We are committed to enhancing opportunities, promoting character development, celebrating the diversity of our school family and preparing all children for the next stages of their educational journey.

The inspector highlighted many strengths in our educational provision. This progress was particularly evident in English and Maths - our starting point. Since the last inspection, we have made impressive strides to develop the teaching and learning in these subjects, including reading, which, as a given area for development since the last inspection, is very highly commended in the 2025 report. In 2023, we reached the highest ranking we have achieved (6th in Buckinghamshire) in the league tables and this academic year, we are proud to have recently announced some fantastic End of KS2 SATs results and the highest number of pupils moving onto grammar school (56%).

The inspector, both written and verbally, also highlighted further areas for development which we are already aware of and had already included in our School Development Plan. Our curriculum development has been in phases and we know what we must do next to ensure this work is complete in a timely, manageable and effective manner. In phase 1, the curriculum was redesigned with a focus on what we teach, when we teach it and most importantly why. We focussed on developing progressive skills and knowledge as well as enrichment opportunities. We acknowledge the latest feedback from the Ofsted inspector regarding the wider curriculum so in phase 2, we now want to replicate the progress we have made in English and Maths in other subjects so there is even greater clarity, even better connections and further improved assessment, ensuring that pupils know and remember even more but continue to enjoy their learning in the wider curriculum. We have already begun working on a robust action plan to develop our wider curriculum which we will share more of with parents in September at an in-person meeting where I will share the school's development plans in greater detail.

Reading other reports, including those of local schools, it is evident that many schools have similar areas for curriculum development as we do, they also have other areas of development around behaviour, wellbeing and personal development which we do not.

The inspector observed that leadership at CSPA provides a supportive environment of positive relationships, nurture, care and expectation where wellbeing and safeguarding are priorities and a strength of the school. Alongside the Leadership Team and Governing Body, I am privileged and dedicated to continue to lead the school forward and address future objectives in our School Development Plan. With a strong culture in place and the foundations already laid, we are determined and committed to addressing the continued development of CSPA whilst empowering and facilitating an incredibly enthusiastic and dedicated team of staff. We invite and welcome Ofsted to conduct a full inspection under the new regime to review all aspects of our school

I trust that this letter alongside the report from Ofsted, demonstrates that there is much to be proud of. I hope that it also demonstrates our high level of reflection, our acknowledgement that there is further work to do and our unwavering commitment to further developing CSPA. Your continued support and partnership are invaluable as we work towards enhancing the educational experience for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Alburg (Headteacher)