



# ST LEONARD'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Moor Lane, Padiham, Burnley, BB12 8HT

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are delighted to announce that our recent Ofsted inspection at St Leonards C of E primary school has now been published, with the conclusion that our school continues to be a **Good** School. This reflects the hard work, commitment, and resilience of our wonderful school community – pupils, parents, staff and governors.

The process was detailed and rigorous throughout the two-day inspection. The purpose of the section 8 inspection was to confirm whether the school remains good under the definition of overall effectiveness as set out in the school inspection handbook. As such, the inspection did not result in individual graded judgements for different aspects of school provision. Instead, the school received a report setting out the overall inspection findings.

We will be receiving a section 5 inspection within the next two years to confirm that all aspects of school life remain 'good'. This will include a larger team of inspectors and we are looking forward to showing off all the wonderful aspects of our school that were not covered in the section 8 inspection.

At St Leonard's C of E Primary we strive to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for our children whilst instilling our school Christian values to prepare our children for their future. As a school we invest in building trusting relationships, so our children feel safe and can flourish both academically and emotionally.

We are extremely pleased this was highlighted in the report which states:

*'Pupils enjoy being part of this warm and caring school community. They are happy and respectful of each other. They benefit from the strong and supportive relationships that staff forge with them.'*

*Pupils appreciate that staff listen to them when they have problems or are upset. They know that their teachers will always help them to resolve any harmful behaviour. Leaders deal effectively with any incidents of bullying. Pupils trust adults in the school. They feel safe.'*

*Leaders have high expectations for pupils' behaviour and pupils rise to these. In lessons, pupils focus and work hard.'*

*Leaders support pupils' wider development to ensure that they become well-rounded and responsible young people. Pupils take on roles in school life, for example by becoming a sports ambassador, eco-representative or school librarian. This helps them to develop their social skills and a sense of independence.'*

*Through the curriculum, leaders ensure that pupils are well prepared to live healthy and safe lives. They are taught to understand diversity and celebrate difference. More broadly, leaders ensure that pupils develop a sense of character and responsibility. For example, they have opportunities to take part in residential visits, trips and clubs. In addition, older pupils are paired up with children in the Reception Year to guide them through school and help them as they grow.'*

*Staff appreciate the actions that leaders take to support their well-being and help with their workload.'*

*Governors are committed and know the school well. They are keen to provide support.'*

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We acknowledge there are areas for next steps on our school's continual journey of development. These are outlined below:

- We will continue to refine assessment strategies in the foundation subjects.
- The school will look at how we can continue to raise standards in phonics including those children with SEND. (Covid-19 has had a huge impact on the last two years phonic screening check).
- We will continue to develop the curriculum in our SEND unit whilst holding onto our values that our children must feel safe and regulated first to ensure they reach their full potential. This is something that is already established in our unit and something we are extremely proud of.

The report will go live on the Ofsted website in the next 8 days if you wish to read the full report.

We look forward to moving our school onto the next phase of its journey and would like this opportunity to thank the staff, parents, children and governors for their continued commitment and devotion to making our school something very special.

From the Staff at St Leonard's

### **Message from the Chair of Governors**

*I would like to personally thank Bev Holmes and the whole team at school, for their amazing hard work, dedication, support, commitment and enthusiasm in helping our pupils have an amazing time, experience, and journey through our school, achieving the best educational outcomes to take forward in the future. I would also like to thank the pupils who always behave exceptionally well and achieve great results and pieces of work. The whole OFSTED inspection was extremely tough, challenging, and with a high degree of pressure, and I know that it did impact the team and pupils. The team acted with great integrity and devotion and the pupils behaved perfectly, as they always do, so as Chair of Governors, I could not ask for anything more and I am very proud of everyone at our great school.*

*I was really pleased that the HM Inspector was able to see all the great work that goes on in school by both the Leadership team and staff including the great progress has been made with our pupils learning opportunities and results. Also, the great work put in to create positive environments giving our pupils the best space and opportunities to become the great individuals that they can be. However, I was disappointed with the HM Inspector's comments concerning areas for development, because her schedule was busy and limited, which I believe didn't give her the opportunity to truly see all the great work and results that are achieved every day. However, we have already taken next steps and will use this experience, learning from it, so when OFSTED visit again we are even more prepared to show and shout about all that we do exceptionally well for the benefit of our pupils, school and community.*

*Finally, I fully support our Head Teacher Bev Holmes and the whole team, and as governors, we are excited to see what the future brings and continue to work with the School, to support them to continue to achieve these great outcomes.*

Simon Butterworth  
Chair of Governors

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