



Market Drayton Infant and Nursery School

'An excellent, happy school where we enjoy learning'

A summary from the Governors - July 2023



It has been great welcoming you all back in to our school for parent lunches, open sessions, sports days and many more events. It has been an extremely busy year for us and included a visit from Ofsted. If you have not had chance to read our report, you will find it on this link [MDIS Ofsted Report](#). We were delighted with their findings and how positive they were about all aspects of our school.

Trips and visits have been enhanced the curriculum and children have had the opportunity to visit Stoke on Trent, observe physical features of Market Drayton, visit an exotic zoo and a farm on wheels even came in to our school. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the work that has been going on over the past year.

The development of the curriculum has remained a focus for the school to ensure that there is a progressive and cohesive structure in place. This year, we have had the opportunity to learn more about the Art, Writing and PE curriculum through visits to school and during governor meetings. School leaders and teaching staff have reviewed many areas of the school curriculum with a big focus on the implementation of the new phonics programme, Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS). We have adapted the way that we teach writing and have seen some amazing writing from the children. Ros Thomas (Vice Chair) has helped our school to revalidate the Wellbeing Award and we were able to welcome you all in for you to learn about the importance of getting this right for our children.

School Improvement Plan (SIP):

'Another positive visit, from which I came away very confident about the subject lead's knowledge of this area of the curriculum and her passion and determination to ensure opportunities for and attainment by all pupils at the school.' (Governor feedback after termly visit)

Each term, as Chair of Governors, I meet with all the other Chairs of Governors from schools within the Empower Trust; this allows us to share best practices and discuss how to further develop our roles when working with our individual schools. The role of being a governor is a voluntary one, where we support and challenge keeping the children's education at the heart of everything we do.



Exploring in Science

Feedback from the parents and staff throughout the year 2022 - 2023:

- *'A lovely school, very caring and it does some very important work in the town.'*
- *'My child is very supported and there has been a big change in him, it's been really comforting.'*
- *'It is all these little things they put in place that help to build my child's confidence but make sure every child has a safe place.'* Parent response to Ofsted
- *'The wellbeing award has had a very positive impact especially with the introduction of the wellbeing days and we are very grateful to have a child and family worker. The children are always happy.'*
- *Staff say - 'Our school is very much about the mental health and wellbeing of all, not just the staff, but also the children and their parents/carers.' 'Mental Health is the responsibility of everyone in school, not just the Senior Leaders'*

I am sure that you will join me in thanking all of the staff in the school for their dedication and hard work. I would like to thank all of the children, parents, governors and wider community for their continued support and working with the school.

Julie Meijueiro - Chair of the Local Governing Body

Ofsted views on our curriculum

Leaders are ambitious for pupils to achieve well. They have revised the curriculum and prioritised the important knowledge and skills that they want pupils to learn to ensure important concepts are learned and rehearsed. Teachers have good subject knowledge. They use this well in their teaching to help pupils develop their vocabulary and make rapid progress.

In the early years, close relationships between staff and parents mean that children from the age of two settle quickly and play well together. The environment is well organised and there are lots of appealing activities for children to explore and develop their independence.



Revalidation of our Wellbeing Award

We know that it is important to make sure Wellbeing and Mental Health is at the heart of everything we do. Without this work, academic progress will not be achieved. The revalidation of our Wellbeing Award was so important for us to achieve again. The report states:

'Market Drayton Infants demonstrates a thoughtful approach to its work around Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health and is mindful of the needs of its diverse community where there is high deprivation and high speech and language needs. The school have worked strategically to maintain and improve this area since the final verification and there is a comprehensive new wellbeing strategy in place recognising wellbeing as being central to everything the school does in terms of education, collaboration, culture, communication and the environment.'

Royal Events

Over the year, we have seen lots of changes with our Royal Family. It has been a mixture of emotions for everyone but together we have worked through this and shared our thoughts and ideas. The children had a great day celebrating the crowning of the new King and even created a collaborative art piece that was displayed at Market Drayton Library. We held a crown competition in school and saw some brilliant creative entrants.

Parent Lunches

This year we have been able to welcome back our successful parent lunches. These have been very popular and we have enjoyed being able to share with you how your child learns in school. We hope this helps you when supporting your child at home. It is always a delight to see at the end of the sessions parents taking the time to share a lunch with their child in school.

Changes of school day

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind you that after our consultation of the school day, our opening hours will be changing from September. Gates will be open from 8.30am and registration will take place at 8.40am. School will close at 3pm.

Our Strategic Plan and the Year Ahead

Over the next year the work will be around the following aspects of the strategic plan:

- Strengthen the broad curriculum with a focus on assessment, English and SEND
- Becoming a Trauma Informed School with all staff accessing training
- Developing personal development—piloting a new initiative, working with Futures in Mind and developing the role of the Mental Health Team link worker
- Continue to develop leadership at all levels through support and collaboration with other schools within the Trust

The Local Governing Body

The [Governors' page](#) on the school website tells you who we are, who appointed us and our attendance record. It also lists our relevant business or other interests. It is our job to make sure that everything is in place so that children can do their best learning. We agree our strategic direction, monitor and evaluate the school's work, acting as a critical friend to the Executive Headteacher and Head of School.



Library artwork



Dodgeball



Market Drayton Infant and Nursery School - Collaboration, Aspirations, Respect and Positivity