



Headteacher: Mr N. Coleman B.A. Hons NPQH

*'Rich opportunities and memorable experiences'*

## Birchwood Primary School

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### OFSTED Inspection report of Birchwood Primary School



Dear families

We are pleased to share with you the report from our recent school inspection conducted on the 1st and 2nd of April 2025. We are delighted that our entire school community has been recognised so positively.

Inspection reports provide only a brief summary of practice and the evidence observed during an inspection. The Inspection Team delivered detailed feedback at the end of both inspection days. Our Senior Leadership Team ensured that we captured all their thoughts and comments so that we could celebrate and share these more widely with staff.

To complement the report, we thought that parents would also appreciate hearing some of the kind words shared with us about our school. Below is a small selection of the positive comments from the Inspection Team:

#### **Grading:**

- What has been seen during inspection is exceptional and the school is a flagship for others.*
- Everything is not just secure and consistent, it is more than that. The school is right up there – it is an exceptional school.*

#### **Quality of Education:**

- There is a huge amount of evidence here as to why the quality of education is outstanding.*
- Support and challenge is a school wide approach and is coherent and consistent. There is a shared ambition and vision to learning.*
- Talking to the pupils, you can clearly see that the mentality of learning here is that it is fun and they want to know more.*
- Reading is a priority here; it underpins everything. It is everywhere.*
- Writing standards are far beyond what you would expect to see.*
- The maths builds through the school, carefully sequences to build the knowledge over time. You expect high standards and deliver.*
- The science curriculum is well planned, well sequenced and clearly ambitious. The links with local businesses bring the wider world into science.*
- Children naturally make links with their other learning. This is very rarely seen. It is magical and the children do this without being asked to.*
- The way the school has broken down the curriculum into substantive and disciplinary knowledge gives real focus and this is seen in every subject. The impact of the school's work is the children. They are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and know the curriculum in depth.*

#### **SEND:**

- Staff, including teachers and TAs, are multi skilled and experienced and so they meet the needs of the pupils.*
- There is a clear range of adaptive strategies that the school use in all lessons to ensure that all pupils learn well: targeted questions, flexible grouping, help sheets, vocabulary etc. We have seen breadth here.*



**Safeguarding:**

*-Safeguarding is effective - more than effective. It is robust and there is a strong training programme.*

**Behaviour and Attitudes:**

*-All children were focussed and engaged in lessons. You could feel the engagement. The children show high levels of self-control, self-regulation and they are motivated.*

*-Behaviour and attitudes are exceptional. Culture and relationships are so strong here. A pupil said, 'Everyone is kind. People copy each other's kindness.'*

**Personal development:**

*-The personal development here is exceptional. There is a breadth of opportunities to take learning beyond the classroom.*

*-Everything is coherently planned; there is impressive well -joined up thinking about what will deliver a positive culture and what will help the children to grow as well-rounded individuals.*

*-Children are very happy in the school. Everything the children said in the inspection is authentic: it comes from them.*

*-The children are fantastic ambassadors of the school. They are polite, well informed and articulate. They are very proud to go to school here.*

*-The pupils are the impact of the carefully constructed personal development offer. They are definitely ready for high school.*

**Leadership and Management:**

*-Leadership is very, very strong at all levels. There is no complacency here. Everything shows rigour.*

*-You have very happy staff and moral is high – they are always keen to emphasis the positives of which there are many.*

*-Parents are overwhelming positive in their praise of the school leadership with the regular communication, good support for pupils with needs. They used words such as 'amazing' and 'outstanding'.*

*-What the schools does really well is to identify a marginal gap and they will do something about it, they don't rest on their laurels. They are always looking for marginal gains and areas to further develop. The school will continue to move forward after the inspection because that is what they do.*

**EYFS:**

*-The children make a really strong start and the curriculum is the start of the whole process. The coherence across the school starts at early years.*

*-There is a vast range of activities in a well-organised free flow system. Children are deeply engaged: engagement is at a high level.*

*-Everything in there says learning. Tasks are clear and children are completing these and seeking out adults to check their work. This level of motivation is outstanding.*

**Final Feedback:**

*-This school is right up there. It is a very, very exceptional school.*

*-The staff give everything to the role and more, and they are happy. You go beyond the expected time and time again.*

*-We all feel the school is exceptional and it's been a privilege working with your children. Your pupils are the measure of your impact.*

*- It is special here. We really saw the heart of your school- thank you.*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families, staff, and of course, our children for their continued support of our school. While it is nice to receive such positive formal recognition for all our efforts, at Birchwood it remains business as usual as we continue to ensure that all of our children receive the highest standards of education.

Yours sincerely



Mr N. Coleman  
Headteacher