



St. Peter's

Church of England Primary School

Love Learn Shine

Friday 17 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As leaders within our Trust, headteachers maintain a continual commitment to rigorous self-evaluation, strategic review, and the ongoing development of our schools. This ensures that our provision reflects the needs of our local context, meets the requirements of our children, and aligns with the national expectations set by the Department for Education (DfE), Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) and Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted).

As you may be aware, Ofsted has recently implemented a comprehensive reform of its inspection framework. I would like to reassure families that we are fully engaged with these updates and are carefully reviewing and refining our provision in accordance with the most current standards. Considering these changes, I am pleased to share the following information to support families' understanding of the new inspection arrangements.

Ofsted's new report cards and grades

As you may be aware, Ofsted is now inspecting using a new assessment framework which no longer includes one-word judgments of a school's overall performance. The previous inspection grades of Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate have been replaced with a five-point scale with 'Expected Standard' being the new benchmark for a high-performing school.

Ofsted is keen to update parents on the new inspection framework and has produced a useful guide on their new report cards and grades which you can watch on YouTube here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g

As outlined in the Ofsted video, schools are inspected against six key areas (seven if the school has Early Years or Post-16 provision) and receive a grade for each area. Schools are also assessed on whether they have 'met' or 'not met' their safeguarding responsibilities.

New Inspection Areas New Inspection Grades

New Inspection Areas

- Achievement
- Attendance and Behaviour
- Curriculum and Teaching
- Early Years or Post-16 Provision (if applicable)
- Inclusion
- Leadership and Governance
- Personal Development and Wellbeing

New Inspection Grades

- Exceptional
- Strong Standard
- Expected Standard
- Needs Attention
- Urgent Improvement

Ofsted has stressed that the **old grades cannot be compared to the new outcomes** due to its different approach to inspections and the new way of reporting to parents and carers. The first report cards from new school inspections have started to be published based around the Expected Standard being a high benchmark to reach.

Expected Standard (Green)

The new Expected Standard demonstrates that all students are receiving everything they need and deserve in that area. The Expected Standard also indicates that a school is doing everything it should to meet all statutory and non-statutory legislation.

Strong Standard (Dark Green)

Moving up the grades, the new Strong Standard is even harder to secure than the Expected Standard and marks out areas where excellent and consistent work is making a real difference to children and young people.

Exceptional (Blue)

This is the top tier and is reserved for practice that truly stands out on a national level. Exceptional means exemplary - approaches that are so effective they should be shared widely to inspire and support improvement elsewhere. It's rare, and it's intentionally so.

Needs Attention (Orange)

Schools not meeting the Expected Standard in a particular area will receive a Needs Attention outcome. This is not a fail but highlights where further improvements are needed to secure the Expected Standard. It also indicates that Ofsted is confident school leaders are likely to be able to make the necessary improvements.

Urgent Improvement (Red) and Exceptional (Blue)

The lowest grade, Urgent Improvement, is used when schools need to urgently address any problems preventing them from providing the Expected Standard of education. Exceptional is the highest standard to achieve and recognises practice that is among the very best nationally which should be shared with other schools to help them improve.

Ofsted Report Cards

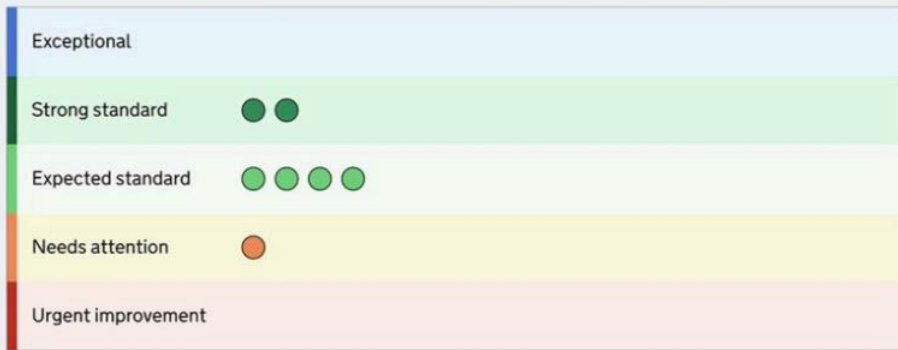
How inspection outcomes are shared is also changing. Ofsted reports are being replaced with new online report cards.

Primary School

Address: School Lane, Old Town, Home County, HC4 5DF

Unique reference number (URN): EG12345

Inspection report: 25 June 2024



✓ **Safeguarding standards met**

⌵ [Show](#)

As you can see in this example report card, it is perfectly possible for a school to achieve highly in some areas whilst requiring more focus and development in others.

Alongside the grades a school achieves in each area, the report card also provides detailed descriptions of what inspectors found during their inspection. This is to help parents and carers understand why Ofsted has awarded the different grades and what it's like to be a child or young person at that school.

At Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust we are proud of our strong track record of successful Ofsted outcomes and the support we provide our children and young people. All our Ofsted outcomes over recent years have been Good or Outstanding and we will be striving to maintain and improve on these high standards under the new inspection framework.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk or call our friendly office team on 01423 569684. For non-urgent queries, email is best.

Best wishes

Mr Paul Griffiths – Headteacher