21st July 2023

Ofsted Report

Dear parent or carer,

I am writing to provide an update on the outcome and report from our Ofsted inspection conducted on 19^{th} and 20^{th} April 2023.

I am able to share with you that the report will be published on the Ofsted website by 28th July 2023 and is included with his letter. As this falls within the summer break, I wanted to ensure you were informed of the arrangements for publication, the timings of which are directed by Ofsted. The report will also be placed on our website. Whilst the overall judgement is Requires Improvement, the school was judge as Good in four out of the five categories and this represents significant progress for the school.

I would encourage you to read and review the report in full. The report rightfully recognises and praises the strengths of the school. Pupils are, 'safe and happy' at Nether Stowe and they 'appreciate the improvements that leaders have made' to the school. The report recognises the 'high expectations' of the curriculum for all pupils, including those in the Sixth Form. The report also praises the school's drive for high standards of behaviour, noting that the behaviour policy is applied consistently and that poor behaviour 'rarely disrupts lessons'. It is also pleasing that the report recognises how we have 'prioritised support for pupils with SEND'.

The judgement for Quality of Education, whilst recognising the 'strong subject knowledge' of teachers and that a 'range of learning activities and methods' are used to 'help pupils to know and remember more' also identified that, sometimes, assessment was not always used well enough to ensure that gaps in learning are addressed'.

Nevertheless, we are confident that the historic, current and future work of the school is quickly addressing our areas for improvement identified in the report.

As always, we are committed to the ongoing improvement and development of the school. We want the very best for our students and they deserve the very best. We also know that this happens most effectively when we work in close cooperation, together, with parents.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who have shown amazing support for the school. I also want to rightly recognise and thank all staff, before, during and since the inspection for all of their incredible hard work, dedication to the school and service to our students. I am thoroughly proud to lead Nether Stowe School and we are resolutely determined to ensure that Nether Stowe is rightfully recognised as a good school.

Yours faithfully,

Mr G Langston-Jones **Headteacher**

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