

Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,

OFSTED REPORT - MESSAGE TO PARENTS

We are pleased to share the final report following our Ofsted inspection on 23 June 2026.

An Ofsted inspection provides an opportunity for a school to reflect on its strengths and consider where further improvements can be made. We have carefully considered the report and, while there are areas where we can continue to develop, there is also a great deal that makes us proud of our children, our staff, our families and our school.

Ofsted has recently introduced a new report card and a 'secure fit' approach to inspection, replacing the previous 'best fit' methodology. This means that inspectors consider each area separately and make judgements based on the evidence they see against the expected standard. Strengths in one area do not offset areas where further improvement is needed.

We would therefore encourage parents and carers to read the full report card, which gives a more detailed and balanced picture of our school, recognising our strengths while also identifying the areas we will continue to develop and improve.

What makes Westgate special?

There are a number of comments within the report that we are particularly proud of, and we were delighted that the inspection team saw and recognised the ethos of Westgate and the things that matter most to us — our children, their wellbeing, the relationships we build, our strong sense of belonging and the commitment of our staff.

A few of the comments that mean the most to us are:

"The wellbeing and pastoral care of pupils are the cornerstones of this school."

"Pupils are proud to attend this welcoming community primary school."

"The school's ethos of 'be kind in what you do and say' is well embedded among the school community."

"Pupils are clear about 'what makes Westgate special'."

"Staff relationships with pupils are open, friendly and caring."

These comments, and the 'What it's like to be a pupil at this school' paragraph in the report, mean a great deal to us because they reflect what we believe is at the heart of Westgate.



At Westgate, we want our children to feel safe, valued, included and proud of their school. We develop positive relationships, help build confidence and create a strong sense of belonging. Staff know our children well and provide the care, support and opportunities that enable every child to flourish.

We are particularly proud that these are the things our pupils themselves spoke about and that the inspection team recognised. It was also lovely to hear how positively our parents spoke about Westgate and the work that we do.

We are pleased that the report also recognises important work across the school, including our approach to safeguarding, inclusion and personal development, the improvements made to our curriculum and teaching, and the wide range of opportunities available to our pupils.

These strengths are the result of the hard work and dedication of our staff and governors, the enthusiasm of our children and the support of our families.

We are constantly striving to be the very best school we can be for every child. We welcome challenge and recognise that, as with all schools, there will always be areas where we can continue to develop and improve.

We are particularly proud of the journey Westgate has been on over recent years. There has been significant hard work, commitment and positive change across the school, and we know how much has been achieved by our staff, pupils and governors.

We were therefore naturally disappointed that some of the judgements and comments in the report do not, in our view, fully reflect where we are today, the progress we have made or the considerable work that has taken place across the school. These were not the areas in which we had anticipated the greatest need for further development, given the progress and pace of change across the school.

At the same time, we recognise that an Ofsted inspection is a snapshot of a school at a particular point in time and that the process provides valuable external challenge and opportunities for reflection. We will of course use all the feedback, alongside our own self-evaluation and development priorities, and use it constructively as we continue to move forward.

There is more to do, and we accept that. We are also confident in the progress we have made and in the direction in which Westgate is moving.

The report identifies writing as an area where we can continue to develop our practice across the school, including ensuring that letter formation is consistently developed and embedded from the earliest stages. This is, however, one part of the much broader experience we provide for our youngest children.

Our dedicated Early Years team know their children exceptionally well and work tirelessly to create a warm, nurturing environment where children feel secure, develop confidence and are excited to learn. They are committed to ensuring that children develop the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to be successful as they move into Year 1.

We are incredibly proud of the team who provide this important foundation for our children and have great confidence in their dedication and expertise. The inspection report itself recognises these strengths, highlighting the established routines, friendly environment, caring and nurturing relationships, creative and varied curriculum and support for children with additional needs. We will continue to build on these strengths while refining our approach to writing.

The report also identifies areas where we can continue to develop the precision of our monitoring, tracking and evaluation and the ongoing development of governance. We have worked at pace to strengthen these areas and are proud of the significant progress made across the school in recent years.

We believe there is clear evidence of our commitment to improvement and the pace at which we have worked to bring about positive change. We will continue to strengthen our systems and ensure that leaders and governors have the information they need to evaluate impact, provide strong oversight and drive continued improvement.

The report gives us further clarity about where we need to focus next. We will continue to improve outcomes for all pupils, build on the many strengths recognised within the report, further develop our systems and ensure that every child has the support and opportunities they need to succeed.

We are ambitious for our pupils, confident in our staff and committed to continuing our journey of improvement.

Thank you to our children, staff, governors and families for the part you each play in making Westgate the school it is. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and commitment of our whole school community.

The full Ofsted report can be found on our school website [here](#).

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership,

Rhonda Kidd

(Headteacher)