



## **Black Horse Hill Infant School Governing Body**

Chair of Governors: Jenny Horner  
Clerk to Governors: Debbie Harris  
Tel: 0151 625 5238  
Fax: 0151 625 9041  
Email: [schooloffice@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.blackhorsehillinfant.co.uk](http://www.blackhorsehillinfant.co.uk)

Headteacher:  
Mrs J Morris B.Ed.

5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, before February half term Black Horse Hill Infant School was inspected by Ofsted. Owing to strict rules surrounding the confidentiality of Inspection outcomes, this is the first opportunity we have had to share the findings with our school community. The Inspection took place under a new framework (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-handbook-eif>) which was introduced in September 2019. I have attached a copy of the Ofsted Inspection report.

Anyone who spends time at Black Horse Hill Infants will know what an amazing school community we have. It is therefore pleasing that the Ofsted team noted that "children are happy and proud of their school", "pupils are keen to learn and try their best", "staff know pupils well", "staff identify the crucial knowledge that they want pupils to learn". We were immensely proud of how our children conducted themselves during the Inspection with many of them desperate to tell the Inspectors about our school. Quite rightly they are proud of their learning and the achievements they make. The Lead Inspector also commented that the views of parents were overwhelmingly positive. In addition, the report clearly identifies the improvements that we have made in our mathematics curriculum to raise standards in this area. This was a focus of our school development plan.

Ofsted were less complimentary about some aspects of our curriculum. Firstly, despite consistently being above National standards in reading for expected levels for the past five years and in the top 20% of schools in 2018, our reading curriculum was not deemed to be structured in a way which met the approval of the team. Similarly, our Year 1 phonic results have improved year on year since 2016 and have been above National standards for the past two years.

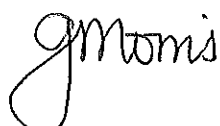
Secondly, we have always offered a broad and balanced curriculum at Black Horse Hill Infants and have felt strongly that our curriculum should not be narrowed to achieve results in tests. In light of the new Ofsted focus on the curriculum, we have as a staff and governing body looked at how we have sequenced and planned units of work across all curriculum areas. This is a major piece of school improvement work and we had identified, like Ofsted, that all subjects need to be planned in the same detail. Our work will continue in this area in order that all subjects in the curriculum are planned to the same high standard.

We will accept their assessment, reflect upon their findings and focus our team on improving our provision in order for all children to achieve the best possible outcomes during their time at the School and in the future.

Whilst we are disappointed with the outcome of the inspection we would seek to reassure all of our school community that we will continue to provide the highest quality education for your children.

There will be an opportunity for parents/carers to raise any concerns that they might have regarding the Ofsted report at a meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. We recognise that this time might not be convenient for everybody so alternatively you could communicate with us, in writing, via the School office. Our whole school team including our governors will work on the findings of the report and, with great determination, strive to return our school to its Outstanding status when Ofsted return in two years. We thank you for your continued support of Black Horse Hill Infant School which is highly valued and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J Morris  
Headteacher



Mrs J Horner  
Chair of Governing Body