



14th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, we were visited by a team of Ofsted inspectors on 8th and 9th of April. We are pleased to share the report with you and celebrate some of the excellent improvements that have been made since the school was last inspected in June 2022.

We are delighted by the comments made about our school.

On what it is like to attend Blaby Stokes:

Staff have high expectations of pupils' attitudes and conduct. They apply the school's behaviour policy consistently. Classrooms are calm places where pupils can concentrate on their work. There are clear rules and routines to make sure that social times are safe and fun. In lessons, most pupils behave well and focus on their learning, trying their best and taking pride in their work.

On how pupils are supported to be safe, happy and successful:

The school ensures that pupils are safe. Staff carry out daily well-being checks to see how pupils are feeling. The school provides pupils with high-quality pastoral support. Pupils know they can share any worries with staff.

On behaviour and the transformational change that has happened at our school:

The school has transformed the way it manages behaviour. Staff model and incentivise positive, respectful attitudes. They deal with any poor behaviour well. The school handles any allegations of bullying effectively.

On attendance:

Pupils attend school well. High expectations and a robust attendance strategy have led to a significant reduction in absence. The school monitors attendance closely. It intervenes early when pupils have too much time off.

On pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities (SEND):

The school identifies additional needs swiftly. It provides extra help and modified resources so that pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) can access the curriculum successfully. Some pupils with SEND benefit from going to 'the nest' in the mornings. These pupils receive individualised support for English and mathematics.

On ensuring our pupils are the citizens they need to be for our school community and beyond:

The school's personal, social and health education curriculum provides pupils with the knowledge they need to be well-rounded, open-minded citizens. Pupils know how to live

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healthy lifestyles and how to stay safe online. They understand the importance of British values. Pupils are knowledgeable about world faiths. They respect the differences between people. One pupil summed this up perfectly when they said, 'People are treated as equals here.'

On the curriculum:

The curriculum is ambitious for all pupils. The school has designed it around key themes and to tell Blaby's story. In history, for instance, pupils learn how Blaby contributed to the war effort in the 1940s. Teachers model new concepts clearly. They revisit prior learning to help pupils remember important content. In writing, the school has identified the things that pupils find most difficult, and it has adapted its curriculum accordingly. There is now a much sharper focus on grammar and punctuation, for instance, which is enabling pupils to write ambitious and accurate sentences.

On Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the teaching of phonics:

Children in the early years benefit from being in an environment where communication and language are prioritised. Reception staff interact skilfully with children while they are playing to develop children's vocabularies. Children begin to learn to read as soon as they start at the school. Phonics is taught well by most staff. The school checks closely on pupils' progress learning phonics. It provides support for any pupil who falls behind.

Inspectors acknowledged that: 'Leaders have improved many aspects of the school since the previous inspection.' However, they pointed to low attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 in 2024. Inspectors felt that leaders haven't made enough progress on addressing and improving standards in Reading and Mathematics and, as in all school inspection reports, they have suggested some areas for improvement.

We want to reassure you that these issues are well known to school and trust leaders. Everyone is working hard to ensure that all of our pupils leave Blaby Stokes with the skills, knowledge and experiences they need to be successful in the next phase of their education and beyond.

We are looking forward to continuing to work in partnership with you on the next stage of our improvement journey to ensure that our children – and the entire Blaby Stokes community – continue to flourish and thrive.

Yours faithfully

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