



# Gaddesden Row JMI School

Headteacher: Mr David Merriman  
[www.gaddesdenrow.herts.sch.uk](http://www.gaddesdenrow.herts.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be able to share the outcomes of our most recent Ofsted Inspection with you. **The inspection that took place was a section 5 lasting two days and the overall judgement is Good.**

We are all very pleased with the very many successes that the report highlights and the recognition of the challenges that small schools face and that the areas we have already identified as requiring development have also been validated by Ofsted. Whilst I would encourage you all to read the whole report carefully, I have summarised some of the main points below.

## Strengths:

**We are a good school** – ‘Pupils treasure their small and happy school.’ ‘Pupils feel safe and happy.’

‘The school has high expectations for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Teachers effectively adapt their teaching for pupils with SEND.’

‘The school has high expectations of pupils’ behaviour. Consequently, they behave well.’

‘The school has ensured the new curriculum is well thought through in all subjects.’

**EYFS** – ‘The school prioritises teaching pupils to read. Leaders have constructed a well-sequenced phonics curriculum which ensures children learn sounds quickly.’

## Safeguarding is effective.

**Pupil Progress** – ‘Rigorous checking identifies any pupil who is falling behind. Additional teaching, including tutoring, supports them to catch-up.’

## Next Steps:

‘Checks on pupils’ recorded work can lack rigour. Leaders should ensure that staff consistently insist that pupils realise the high aims of the school curriculum, through the appropriate completing of the activities.’

‘Though attendance is improving, there remains a proportion of pupils who do not attend school frequently enough. This creates gaps in pupils’ knowledge and understanding. The school should ensure the timely support and challenge offered to pupils and their families quickly to improve attendance.’

We will continue to update you on further strategic school planning and look forward to sharing a great deal more successes with you as we move forwards into an even brighter future at Gaddesden Row JMI School.

May I take this opportunity to thank the great many parents and carers who completed the online questionnaire and sent messages to the Ofsted Inspector in support of the school. The Staff, Governors and I greatly appreciate this.

Kind regards,

Mr David Merriman