



Ivy Lane School

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Head of School: Mrs Helen Lammin (BSc Hons QTS)

16th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ofsted Remote Visit

I am writing to share the outcome of our remote visit in November from Ofsted. As you are all aware, this was a one day visit rather than an inspection and no judgements were made. Inspectors were keen to gather information about how the school has responded to the Covid-19 pandemic, managing the learning and welfare of children and staff.

The report letter reassures you that Ofsted have verified all the work we have, and still are doing to continue the education at Ivy Lane. The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector.

Part of the afternoon discussions were surrounding the current Curriculum provision for our children, with Inspectors recognising that schools would be adapting this due to current restrictions. As our report letter summarises; "*Staff are teaching all the subjects in your usual curriculum apart from modern foreign languages*". We would like to share more information for the reasons for this temporary change, in order to hopefully pre-empt any questions you may have.

We are extremely proud of the opportunities we provide to all of our pupils to learn about many different cultures and traditions from around the world and this is thoroughly embedded in our school curriculum. This year, our pupils will continue to develop their understanding of the world around them and we will once again be linking up with schools abroad to complete joint learning projects. This is an area we have been commended on by the British Council as part of our International School Award accreditation. At Ivy Lane we are also very fortunate to be able to offer pupils the choice of two languages to learn, however, whilst we are still able to provide many international learning opportunities in the current climate, unfortunately our delivery of both Spanish and French has had to be postponed. This is due to the restrictions we face in the movement of both staff and pupils within the school in order to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved. Nonetheless, this is a situation we are monitoring regularly and we hope to be able to reintroduce Spanish and French lessons back into our school curriculum in the summer term 2021.

Emphasis was also placed upon 'Remote learning' and we identified that "*plans are in place to deliver remote education to individual pupils and class bubbles. We will provide pupils with a daily timetable for lessons that will align with the school's existing curriculum plans*". Our Year 5 children who recently isolated at home due to a positive case in school, experienced this provision and I would like to personally thank all the children, families and staff for their hard work with this. We appreciate learning from home is never the same, however, we recognise the importance of maintaining routine as much as possible.

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At the beginning of next term, I will be sharing with you our 'Blended and Remote Learning' guidance for parents and carers, so the expectations are clear. We will be adapting slightly our weekly home learning in order to provide a more blended approach through a set of challenges, in which a child would then be able to access should a family need to isolate. There will be more detailed guidance for whole class bubble closures.

I would like to wish all our Ivy Lane families a safe and happy Christmas.

Best Wishes



Mrs H Lammin
Head of School

