

12th June 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you are aware, Exeter – A Learning Community received a special measures monitoring inspection on 1st and 2nd May 2018. We have now received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection. **The report will be published on the OFSTED website on Tuesday 12th June 2018 and a copy will also be available on our school website.**

The inspection was the fourth monitoring inspection since the academy became subject to special measures following the inspection that took place in November 2016.

Inspectors highlighted successes since the last visit.

These include:

- Leaders have implemented strategies to improve the teaching of reading, writing and mathematics.
- There is evidence of, although in pockets, stronger practice in classes.
- Although in early stages of development, teachers are beginning to use assessment information to plan learning appropriate to pupils' needs.
- Pupils with whom the inspector spoke say that behaviour is generally good in school for the majority of pupils'. They say that bullying does sometimes occur, but they agreed that they could speak to an adult in school who would deal with it for them.
- Where teachers have high expectations and provide pupils' with clear explanations, pupils' engage well with their learning.

Inspectors highlighted key *areas which require further attention*.

These include:

- Improve pupils' personal development, welfare and behaviour by reducing the rates of absence and persistent absence.
- Improving the overall quality of teaching across school – there is some good teaching, but it is inconsistent.
- Pupils across school from EYFS to Y6 need to make better progress in the core areas of reading, writing and mathematics and staff need to monitor progress more closely.

It is obviously very disappointing for all members of staff that the outcome of the inspection has found that leaders and managers are not taking effective action towards the removal of special measures and will undoubtedly be very disappointing for you as parents also. However, we would like to bring to your attention, the inspector felt that there was a clear shift since the last visit and is hopeful that leaders, with effective school development and planning

will continue to demonstrate and evidence that the school has built on the successes highlighted in the report and swift action has been taken to address the areas for improvement.

It must be said that *all staff in school are committed to providing the best education for the children of Exeter – A Learning Community.*

With the publication of the report, *now is the time to look forward and continue to address the issues that you as parents are most concerned about* – that is ensuring that *the children of Exeter – A Learning Community receive the high quality education that they deserve in a safe environment where all children are supported to reach their potential.* We hope that you as parents will continue to support us with this aim.

To give parents more opportunity to discuss concerns you may have regarding the OFSTED report and the progress that we are already making in improving the school, **we encourage you to talk to staff and leaders at the beginning and end of each day. Alternatively, if you would like to meet with senior leaders then please approach the office for an appointment.**

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Julia Kitson

Vice Principal

Mrs Joanne James

Vice Principal