Friday 6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share an update regarding our recent Ofsted inspection and to provide you with a full summary of the report's findings. The outcome of the inspection was in line with our self evaluation while we are in a period of rapid improvement. I am pleased that the inspector recognised several key strengths across our school that reflect the hard work and care in our school community:

- **Warm and Welcoming Environment:** The inspector highlighted the positive, supportive atmosphere where pupils feel safe, valued, and ready to learn.
- **Positive Relationships:** Strong, respectful relationships between staff, pupils, and families were commended as a foundational strength of our school.
- **Commitment to Pupil Wellbeing:** Ofsted acknowledged our ongoing efforts to support pupils' personal development, emotional wellbeing, and broader growth.
- **Curriculum and Practice Strengths:** Key areas of effective practice and recent improvements in our curriculum were noted as solid stepping stones for our continued journey forward.

I am pleased that inspectors highlighted the "green shoots" of improvements already underway. They agreed we have the right plans in place but we need more time to show the impact. We are already implementing a post inspection action plan that complements our improvement plan.

Over the past term, our Interim Headteacher, Mrs Tunnacliffe, has been working in Widden regularly to support teacher coaching and support transition. Mrs Tunnacliffe and I worked together during the inspection to ensure that she is able to provide stability and continuity and further accelerate improvements during my maternity leave. To ensure a seamless, smooth transition and uninterrupted support for our pupils, staff, and families, Mrs Tunnacliffe and our Interim Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Ali, have been working directly with me. This collaborative period has allowed us to work closely together on strategic planning, school priorities, and daily management, ensuring complete continuity across all aspects of school life.

I am immensely grateful for the ongoing support of our school community, including when Mrs Tunnacliffe leads during my maternity leave. Together, we remain fully focused on building upon these positive foundations to ensure the very best education and care for every child. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the Ofsted report in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on admin@widdenprimary.co.uk.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Couto
Head Teacher
Widden Primary School

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