



St Mary's

CE Middle School Puddletown

Inspire Today to Shape Tomorrow

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LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mr L MITCHEM - B.Sc, PGCE, NPQLT - Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum)

Miss N SIBLEY B.Sc (Hons) – Assistant Headteacher (SEND/CO)

Miss L OSBORNE B.Ed (Hons) – Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)

Mrs R ROSS – DSL / Pastoral Lead

Mr B TRIM – Support Services Manager

HEAD OF SCHOOL Dr T Ennion BSc (Hons), PhD, NPQH

Dear Parents / Carers

6th March 2025

Ofsted Inspection of St Mary's CE Middle School – 21 & 22 January 2025

I am writing to let you know that the report of our recent inspection is now available to view on the school website as follows: Home - Key Information - Ofsted

As I have shared previously with parents, the inspection was a positive experience for us. We formed a good working relationship with the Ofsted team and they were keen to thank us for the warmth of the welcome and our openness and honesty regarding our own evaluation of the school's strengths and areas for development.

We remain a 'good' school, although we understand what work we need to do to ensure standards continue to improve in advance of our next full inspection. We are pleased that the findings of the inspection validate our own assessment of the school's strengths and weaknesses, and the report is helpful to explain the changes we are making and why they need to be made. We are ambitious for St Mary's to achieve the very highest standards.

The report also outlines the key priorities for improvement moving forward and I will keep you informed about our progress. For example, we are already working with trust leaders and experts in special educational needs to ensure that all our pupils consistently benefit from the best teaching in all classrooms, and that all our teachers and TAs have the knowledge and skills they need to provide high quality support for our children with SEND.

I am really pleased that the inspectors recognised the aspects of our school that provide the foundations of what makes St Mary's so special, that is the strength of our pastoral support.

As you will read in the report, the inspectors found that "Pupils behave and attend well." That "The school is typically calm and purposeful." And that "Staff establish positive and trusted relationships."

They recognised that "Bullying is exceptionally rare."

Of utmost importance to us is that the inspectors acknowledged that our children enjoy coming to school and are well looked after:

"Pupils are happy. They contribute to a strong community ethos by looking out for each other. Older pupils act as positive role models." They report that "Pupils are well cared for. They make an active contribution to their school and wider communities. For example, older pupils raise money for charities by leading creative events."

We are also pleased that the strength of our wider curriculum offer was appreciated by Ofsted: "The curriculum supports pupils' spiritual, social and emotional development very well. There are plentiful opportunities for pupils to explore their interests and abilities in clubs and other school events."

Once again, thank you to all our parents and families for your continued, valued support. Ofsted recognised the community focus and positive relationships that underpin our school and we will continue to work in partnership with our community to achieve the highest standards at St Mary's. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or questions about our recent inspection.

Yours sincerely,

Dr T Ennion (Head of School)