

SENT BY EMAIL

Ms Lesley Roche, Headteacher
Linda McSweeney, Chair of Governors
Our Lady Immaculate School
Chelmsford, Essex.

Date: 24th February 2023

Dear Lesley

We were very pleased to receive the report of the recent inspection at your school which judged your school as a good school overall.

The report is clear that the school has much strength which includes:

- Pupils' enthusiasm for their learning is palpable. They work hard and enjoy their lessons. They learn to read and write very well. They grin and talk excitedly when showing visitors their work.
- Pupils value the opportunities to learn beyond their classroom. Trips, visits, assemblies and visiting speakers all help pupils enhance their understanding of their class work.
- Pupils treat each other with kindness and respect. Pupils feel safe and confident in their community. Their behaviour is often exemplary.
- The headteacher has focused systematically on the development of a curriculum that provides pupils with meaningful learning across the range of subjects and leaders' commitment has remained unwavering. Pupils access a broad curriculum offer which is well planned.
- Pupils learn to read quickly and fluently. Many come to love reading. Pupils of all ages talk excitedly about their books. Their strong foundation in reading is also reflected in their writing, spelling and high-quality work.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities are identified carefully through the school's thorough screening processes and the support and intervention, most notably to support pupils' speech, language and communication needs, help those pupils when they need it. Often these pupils thrive in their learning and development.
- Almost all staff and parents are effusive in their praise for leaders. Staff feel that workload is manageable because leaders make it so. Parents feel that leaders care for them as well as their children.
- Governors, several of whom are new, bring a range of expertise.

The report is also clear that you know what needs addressing and are taking the appropriate steps to do this.

It has been a most challenging time for you, your team and the school community. We know that such a report is the outcome of huge amount of dedication and hard work by staff, and from careful oversight by governors who give freely of their time and energy.

All the very best to you and your school community as you reflect on all the very positive comments in the report, and also as you move on to the next stages in the school's work on your journey to outstanding. Please can you pass the letter to your Chair of Governors, we do not appear to have her email address.

Very best wishes in the important work you do.

Yours sincerely



Clare Kershaw
Director of Education
E Mail: clare.kershaw@essex.gov.uk



Catherine Hutley
Assistant Director of Education - Mid
E Mail: catherine.hutley2@essex.gov.uk



Head of Education and Early Years – Mid Essex
alison.fiala@essex.gov.uk