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3rd July 2017

Dear Parents,

As you are aware Gorefield Primary school has recently undergone an Ofsted inspection. We have now received the inspection report from Ofsted, a copy of which is attached and will be published within the next 5 days

The main finding of the report is that our school has Serious Weaknesses. There are many challenging judgements in the report, most important of these being that safeguarding of children is inadequate. I would like to reassure parents that when the inspector spoke with the children they all said they felt safe and observations demonstrated they were happy and enjoyed being at school.

The children also said teachers were kind and helpful and felt the head teacher was approachable and listened to their concerns. The online survey that some parents responded to and those parents the inspector spoke to also said they were confident their children were safe, happy and well cared for at school.

Many of the areas for improvement around safeguarding focussed on staff knowledge of statutory requirements and the monitoring of vulnerable children. We will be receiving a follow up inspection by Ofsted within the next term. Much work has already been done to improve this situation and we are confident that a robust system is now in place.

The inspection suggested the quality of teaching, learning and assessment required improvement, however our results at the end of the key stages are consistently in line with or above the national average. The attendance figures are also above the national average which could be an indication the children are happy at school.

The head teacher, staff and governors are all working together with the local authority to address and rectify the judgements made within the report. However it is expected that any school placed in this category will convert to a multi-academy trust (MAT), and we will keep you informed as the process progresses.

The Inspector highlighted the head teachers' partnership and communication with parents is a great strength of the school and we, as governors, hope this will continue during this very difficult time.

Finally on behalf of the governing body I would like to reassure parents that we, and all the staff at the school, are determined to work tirelessly to rectify the issues that have been highlighted by Ofsted and hope that you will support us in this endeavour.

Yours faithfully

Sally Bruce

Chair of Governors

