



Rigby Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 2EP

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“Valuing every achievement”

Dear Families,

After a rigorous and thorough Ofsted inspection, the inspectors have concluded that Rigby Hall remains a ‘good’ school. This is particularly highlighted in the following areas;

- ‘The Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body are teams that the Local Authority should be proud of’ as quoted to the Local Authority in our feedback session.
- Expectations are high.
- Leaders want the very best for the pupils who attend
- Many pupil’s needs are met well
- Parents & Carers think the school is a very special place
- Teachers work hard to ensure the pupils get the right support and overcome their barriers to learning
- Behaviour is positive and most pupils engage well with learning
- Leaders are now systematically working to ensure that all pupils have their special educational needs and/or disabilities met well
- Visits, Life skills village, facilities, mean varied and exciting experiences are on offer
- Leaders investigate where pupils believe that bullying happens and act swiftly
- Pupils can talk to staff who will help them
- Before COVID-19 pandemic, leaders and governors had developed an accurate understanding of strengths and weaknesses of the school
- During the pandemic, leaders prioritised keeping children safe and ensuring that many attended school.
- Attendance for pupils during COVID was higher than the national average
- Children in early years get off to a strong start at Rigby Hall.
- Older pupil’s individual needs are also often met well
- Making sure that pupils can communicate well with the world around them is a high priority at Rigby Hall
- High quality learning in all subjects is rightly leaders’ ambition for all pupils



- There is a clear long-term plan for what leaders want pupils to know and learn
- Leaders recently identified schemes of work in some subjects such as communication and reading, helping staff know what they need to teach
- Recently leaders have renewed their drive to develop reading
- A new phonics scheme is currently being rolled out across the school
- Reward tokens to purchase books from book-vending machines excite and motivate pupils
- Leaders want all pupils to have experiences that will enrich their lives and their understanding of the world.
- The desire to make sure that pupils experience exciting and diverse opportunities is a strength of the school
- Morale is high
- Staff are proud to work at Rigby Hall and enjoy their work
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective

Alongside these many good points, Ofsted also confirmed our view around where we need to make further improvements;

- We are not as far along our journey with our curriculum plans as we had hoped due to COVID. We started our new curriculum in Autumn Term 2019 and then went into a pandemic, coming out of this partly, in Autumn Term 2021.
- We are not as far forward in ensuring all staff have received training due to COVID-19 restrictions and the inability to continue with this as planned
- We also experienced a restricted ability to monitor the curriculum through Teaching and Learning as we would normally have done up to February 2020. This is due to the introduction of bubbles for health and safety, and our thorough and stringent risk assessment that enabled us to keep the school open throughout the whole of the pandemic; ensuring little or no disruption to pupils and families.

They agreed with our judgement as to where we are with our curriculum and the monitoring of this and stated we should have a further inspection within 12-24 months where we will then be able to provide more detailed evidence. This confirms that your child is still receiving a 'good' education, however, we are on a journey as a school to get this exactly as we want it to be. Thankfully, with the lifting of COVID restrictions nationally and also more locally within the school, we will now be able to run the curriculum as we had planned to before the pandemic hit.

On behalf of us all, I'd like to say a huge thank you to you all for your incredible support throughout this experience. It's never an easy process but your words, comments and support not only 'wowed' the Inspectors, but meant a lot to everyone.

As staff and Governors, we continue our journey forwards, and as planned with unrelenting passion, commitment and determination, to ensure our pupil's always feel that they get the very best of opportunities with us, as well as feeling safe and happy within their school environment.

Kind regards

Tracey

