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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Gemma Martin

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Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### **OFSTED INSPECTION – MARCH 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, our school was inspected by Ofsted on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023. This was a full 2 day graded inspection. We thank you for the part that you played in the inspection process, whether that was completing the survey or speaking to the inspectors.

We are pleased that the final report has now been released and will be published on the Ofsted website from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. As parents/carers of a child registered in our school currently, we have a duty to share the report with you before this happens. Your copy will be sent via email from our Office account.

We are fortunate to have an incredibly hardworking and dedicated team of staff and governors here at Himbleton, who are committed to ensuring that the children receive a great start to their educational journey. Since becoming Headteacher in September 2019, I have felt privileged to work with a team who recognise the value of reflection, research and ongoing improvement.

As you will know from our ongoing communication with you, we have worked hard to redesign and develop our curriculum offer, review and improve specific aspects of provision e.g. phonics, as well as ensuring an effective transition from First to Primary status. At the same time, it has been of fundamental importance to us that we are faithful to our vision and ethos, with nurture at the heart of all that we do. We are very pleased that all of these elements were recognised by the inspection team.

As Headteacher, some points that I feel are particularly pertinent in relation to our journey to date are:

- *'They enjoy the caring, family-like atmosphere of the school. Pupils feel safe at school because staff look after them well.'*
- *'Leaders and staff have a strong focus on ensuring that all pupils fulfil their potential.'*
- *'Learning is well organised to build up pupils' knowledge and skills from Reception to Year 6. The curriculum prepares pupils well for secondary education.'*
- *'Children get off to a good start in the early years. They enjoy a stimulating learning environment and the attention of caring staff.'*
- *'Pupils collaborate with each other and focus well on their learning in lessons. They do not disrupt lessons.'*
- *'Staff adapt learning activities when required to ensure that pupils with SEND can access the full curriculum.'*
- *'Pupils have many opportunities to develop as well-rounded individuals.'*
- *'The arrangements for safeguarding are effective... Staff are vigilant.'*
- *'Governors provide effective support and challenge to leaders.'*

We are pleased that our identified development point is one that we are already working on as a staff team, in relation to our ongoing curriculum work, and we look forward to continuing to grow and develop as a school.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin