



**Halsall St Cuthbert's
C E Aided Primary School**
'Let Your Light Shine'



Ofsted Statutory Inspection of Halsall St Cuthbert's C.E. Primary School 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that our school was visited by Ofsted in February. We had a very professional team of inspectors, who were both thorough and collaborative in their approach. The Ofsted inspection process itself is extremely intensive, being conducted over just 2 days, but everyone worked together to show the inspection team all the fantastic things we do at Halsall St Cuthbert's CE Primary School. The inspectors commented on the exceptionally warm welcome they received at our school and how well-behaved and respectful our pupils were. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the pupils and families who contributed to the OFSTED process, including the Parent View feedback. Your input was greatly valued by the inspection team and discussed in detail, and they commented on how overwhelmingly positive the survey results were from parents, pupils and staff.

Halsall St Cuthbert's was last inspected in February 2015 and the inspection framework has changed significantly over the last 10 years, with more of an emphasis on safeguarding, personal development and achievement rather than just attainment or results. Inspections were paused during the COVID-19 pandemic and it is worth noting that when they resumed only 17% of schools previously judged to be outstanding retained this status. Indeed, the overall proportion of primary schools judged outstanding has decreased to just 12%. From September 2024, Ofsted no longer give one overall judgement; instead they focus on 5 key areas. Each of these areas does still receive a one or two-word judgement but please do read the full report to gain a greater understanding of our school. With all this in mind, we are thrilled with the outcomes of our latest Ofsted inspection and are pleased that the exceptional provision within our EYFS has been rightly recognised:

The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Early years provision	Outstanding

Here are some of the comments from the report that we were particularly proud of:

St Cuthbert's is a friendly and happy place in which to learn. The recently established leadership team has developed an ambitious curriculum for pupils to learn. The school mission, 'let your light shine', inspires pupils to achieve the best that they can in most subjects.



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*In the early years, children get off to a flying start. They find their learning **irresistible**. Children benefit from an **exceptional curriculum**. Children build very **positive relationships** and cooperate consistently well with each other. Staff use their expertise to help children to use new vocabulary and extend their talk.*

*The school has consistently **high expectations of pupils' behaviour**. Pupils follow the school routines and conduct themselves well. Pupils extend their skills and contribute to the school community by taking on leadership roles. They support each other well. Older pupils act as **positive role models**.*

*Pupils receive a **well-considered personal development offer**. The school broadens pupils' experiences by providing opportunities to widen their interests. Some pupils learn musical instruments, while others participate in the many sporting opportunities on offer. A number of pupils contribute as Play leaders.*

The report also includes recommendations closely aligned with our own ongoing efforts for improvement, particularly around curriculum design and the adaptation of teaching strategies. These areas resonate with our own self-evaluation and School Improvement Plan, and we are committed to building on the progress we've already made to further enhance the experience for **all** learners.

The full report is attached to this letter, and it will also be available on the school website and the main OFSTED website. I would like to thank staff, pupils, parents, governors and all school partners for playing their vital part in our ongoing journey. Well done Team Halsall!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Kate Hampson
Headteacher