Monday 16th November 2026

Dear parents and carers,

Today, Ofsted has published its report following its inspection of Rainford Brook Lodge Community Primary School in mid-July. The report is now live on the school's website. Of the seven areas assessed, one met the expected standard, three were identified as needing attention and three as requiring urgent improvement. Safeguarding was judged as 'not met'.

We accept the findings of the report and recognise that the school has fallen short of the standards that you and your children have every right to expect. We understand that these findings will cause concern for parents and carers, and we are deeply disappointed that the school did not meet those standards.

Since the inspection, Rainford Brook Lodge and Everyone Matters Schools Trust have taken decisive action to strengthen leadership and safeguarding at the school. Significant work began before the summer break and has continued into the autumn term.

The appointment of executive headteacher, Mrs Sue Farrimond, at the start of the new academic year has seen her effectively leading the school's improvement work, alongside the Trust. With over 30 years of experience in education, including senior leadership and headship roles, she brings valuable expertise in school improvement.

Her leadership is visible across the school with a focus on clearer expectations, strengthened safeguarding practice and greater day-to-day accountability.

Safeguarding is our number one priority. We have taken significant action to address the weaknesses identified, tightened safeguarding procedures, updated training for staff and governors, and reinforced day-to-day oversight. The work undertaken has strengthened the arrangements in place to keep pupils safe, and we continue to monitor these closely, with a clear focus on effective practice. Furthermore, we have actioned external review which has confirmed that all safeguarding processes, administration and culture are robust.

The report also highlights the need to ensure that pupils who are disadvantaged and those with special educational needs and disabilities receive the right support and make better progress. We have overhauled our inclusion strategy so that all pupils with SEND and other vulnerabilities get the support they need to thrive. We are working alongside EYFS specialists to implement a developed early years curriculum. We have established a strengthened interim local governing board to ensure challenge and accountability. Like safeguarding, all these actions have been subject to external review, providing independent scrutiny of the work undertaken and the progress already made. The Trust will continue to use external assurance to assess progress, identify where further work is needed and support the improvement of the school.

The report also recognises many strengths of the school, including high attendance (target for 2026/27 is 98%), established pastoral support, positive personal development and wellbeing, a wide range of enrichment opportunities for all, as well as calm classrooms Within its report, Ofsted highlighted how children are proud to be pupils at Rainford Brook Lodge.

In addition, it acknowledges that attainment in reading, writing and mathematics, and phonics outcomes, are above national averages. Last year's outcomes can be accessed via the school website: Rainford Brook Lodge Primary School: SATs Results These findings are encouraging and recognise valuable aspects of school life that contribute to pupils' wellbeing, personal development, readiness to learn and achievement.

The changes implemented have already shown measurable impact, and we hope that your children are feeling the difference of these. However, if you have any questions regarding the report or would like to find out more about the improvements we are making, please feel free to drop in to talk to us after school on Monday 16th November 3:45-6:00pm or Thursday 19th November 3:45-6:00pm. Alternatively, to arrange an appointment please email brooklodge@emst.org.uk.

Please be assured that Rainford Brook Lodge, with the support of Everyone Matters Schools Trust, is fully committed to ensuring the actions taken bring about rapid positive change for children and families. Progress will continue to be closely supported and reviewed, and we will keep you informed of this work as it continues.

We would like to take this moment to thank you for your ongoing support and trust. It is very much valued and appreciated.

Kind regards,

pp. J.Lloyd

Ian Young
CEO of Everyone Matters Schools Trust

Jayne Lloyd
Chair of the trust board