



Dear parents, carers, and colleagues,

Following the recent inspection of St Mary Redcliffe Church of England Primary School on 6 January 2026, I am writing to share my reflections on the report and the work that we are doing together.

As you will see, the school has been graded as 'Needs attention' across all categories. Under the current inspection framework, this means that while expected standards are not yet fully met, inspectors believe that leaders are capable of making the necessary improvements.

It is important to view this report in the context of the school's journey; St Mary Redcliffe Primary joined the Lighthouse Schools Partnership just one year ago following the dissolution of the Diocese of Bristol Academies Trust. In the year that the school has been with us we have been working very hard with our colleagues at the school to invest in their professional development and also to tackle a backlog of buildings and site issues. The Ofsted Report is very clear that while provision is not yet where we want it to be, the school is in safe hands and is moving steadily in the right direction.

I want to express my full confidence in and backing of our Headteacher, Christina Brugger, who has been at the school for 18 months. The report acknowledges that under her leadership, and with the support of the Trust, the school has 'secured greater stability' and established 'a clear and ambitious vision'. Inspectors noted that leaders have 'an accurate understanding of the school's context' and that our actions are 'guided by a commitment to acting in the pupils' best interests'.

I am incredibly proud of our staff, who are working very hard indeed. They have adapted quickly to a high-quality, evidence-informed professional learning programme. Their dedication is already showing results:

- Curriculum: 'Leaders have implemented a well-sequenced curriculum from Nursery to Year 6.'
- Mathematics and Phonics: 'Recent work to strengthen mathematical knowledge is having a positive impact, and the teaching of phonics is now a clear priority.'
- Environment: 'Staff have maintained a welcoming and nurturing atmosphere, where relationships are positive and pupils feel safe and secure.'

**Chief Executive: Dr G J Lewis**

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We are committed to seeing through the positive improvements in teaching and curriculum so that we achieve stronger outcomes for all pupils, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and disadvantaged pupils. We are also focused on ensuring our strengthened attendance and behaviour policies are implemented consistently across the school. Ant Couzens, Chair of the Local Governing Body, and the governors at the school are sharply focussed on these priorities.

Inspectors observed that our pupils are happy, welcoming, and live out the school's vision of being 'rooted in love'. This provides the strongest possible foundation for the work ahead. With the continued support of the Trust and the hard work of Ms Brugger and her team, I am certain that St Mary Redcliffe will continue its progress toward becoming the great school this community deserves.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Gary Lewis** Chief Executive of Lighthouse Schools Partnership

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