

Ramsey Manor Lower School 2017-18

Report on the School's Performance from the School Improvement Consultant

Dear Parents

This report aims to provide a summary of the work and achievement of Ramsey Manor Lower School for the academic year 2017-18, together with an indication of its future priorities. The information contained within this letter has been gathered from the School Improvement visits made since September 2017 to meet with staff, the Headteacher and governors in order to discuss and evaluate the school's progress. I have also carried out an analysis of children's achievement in Year R, Year 2* and Year 4*.

*A greater focus is placed nationally on Year 2 and Year 4 results (than Year 1 and 3) because the former measures standards at the end of Key Stage 1 while the latter provides the school's exit data.

Standards and progress 2017-18

Ramsey Manor Lower School has achieved standards that are above the local averages for a number of years. I am pleased to report that this trend was maintained in 2018 and that the majority of children achieved in line with and better than the average Nationally (2017 figures).

Ramsey Manor Foundation Stage

In 2018, 73% of children achieved a Good level of development, with 88% attaining expected levels and above in Communication and Language, 90% in Physical Development and 90% in Personal, Social and Emotional development. This exceeds the National figures (e.g. 82% attained expected and above in C and L Nationally in 2017).

Year 1 phonics screening check

85% of the children in Y1 reached the expected standard. This compares with the National figure of 81% in 2017.

Key Stage 1 (results at the end of Year 2) – Headlines

Percentage of children attaining at or above the expected standard (56 children in Y2)

Reading 2018

School 84%

National **2017** 76%

RMLS outcomes better than National 2017

Writing 2018

School 73%

National **2017** 68%

RMLS outcomes better than National 2017

Mathematics 2018

School 79%

National **2017** 75%

RMLS outcomes better than National 2017

It is clear that the children attain to a standard above the National average at the end of Y2.

Results at the end of Year 4

The children make expected progress in Years 3 and 4. This means that because of the good start they make in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, the standards they attain by the end of Year 4 are above those expected Nationally.

A revised National Curriculum was introduced in 2014-15. Children are now assessed as “below”, “at the expected standard” or “greater” than the age related expectations for their Year, sometimes expressed as “at expected or greater” for the percentage of children who have done well.

Percentage of children “at expected or greater” by subject (61 children in Y4)

	At expected or greater	Greater
Reading	89%	38%
Writing	77%	21%
Maths	84%	16%

Assessments are moderated by schools working together, looking at and evaluating pupils’ work so that teachers can agree precisely what “at expected or greater” looks like. Ramsey Manor staff work with teachers in the Harlington area so that their judgements are moderated by a wide group of professionals. Last year, in addition to local moderation, a senior officer from Central Bedfordshire moderated the Ramsey Manor Y4 assessments officially. Her report notes in particular that the assessments the Ramsey Manor teachers have completed are extremely accurate and consistent. The report praises the quality of the evidence used to make judgements.

Historically, many children at Ramsey Manor reach the standard expected of pupils at the end of Year 6. Arnold Academy reports that the standards that the children from Ramsey Manor enter the middle school with are typically above the average of the cohort.

It is clear that the standards achieved at Ramsey Manor Lower School are at least good and that the children do well and flourish in the care of the Ramsey Manor staff. This year the outcomes were slightly up on last year in all areas. Standards remain high across the board.

I have also been involved in helping the school (including the Governors) set targets for the future. These are ambitious and challenging, based on the teachers’ knowledge of the children as individuals, designed to ensure that there is no complacency and helping all children to reach their potential.

The Headteacher and Governors set priorities for school improvement and this year these include ensuring that children are meeting the requirements of the English curriculum in spelling, punctuation and grammar throughout the school and in maths that the strategies learned are applied to solve real-life problems. The school knows the children well as individuals and continues to identify the needs of those children at risk of falling behind and making sure they receive appropriate support and targeted teaching so that they can do their very best. The Ofsted report confirms that the school is good and highlights the many positive qualities that the school fosters in its pupils. It draws attention to the fact that teachers and Governors know the school’s strengths well and have correctly identified improvement priorities in writing and maths. The school is focused on ensuring that children do even better in these areas than they have been doing.

Ramsey Manor Lower School is a good school that sets high standards and successfully encourages the children to achieve consistently better than the National average.

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