



## The Overwhelming Positive Comments

- Pupils relish school. They eagerly participate in lessons.
- Parents value the 'family feel'.
- Parents praise the school's caring and approachable staff and hold the headteacher in high esteem.
- They speak positively about the school's, 'fantastic support' and the inspiring remote learning over lockdown.
- Pupils benefit from the strong nurturing environment.
- Leaders have high expectations of staff and pupils.
- Leaders ensure that the teachers have the training they need to meet these high expectations.
- Staff training ensures that teachers use effective teaching approaches to match pupils' needs.
- The school's calm and purposeful atmosphere helps pupils to feel safe and content.
- The school instils a strong sense of what is right and wrong in pupils, so that pupils manage friendships well.
- Staff follow the shining example set by the headteacher and are ambitious for all pupils.
- Governors bring a wealth of expertise to their roles. They have an accurate understanding of the school's priorities for improvement and challenge leaders appropriately.
- Teachers foster a love of reading through the books they share in class and in displays outside of classrooms.
- The school's phonics programme is well structured and staff are well trained in how to teach reading.
- The school has established a highly effective approach to the teaching of mathematics and the leader provides staff with clear guidance.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported, and leaders train staff well, so that pupils' needs are identified quickly and acted upon.
- Leaders ensure that there is strong provision to develop pupils' personal, social and emotional health and pupils learn how they can make a positive contribution to society.
- Pupils behave well and lessons are free from disruption.
- Staff appreciate leaders' actions to reduce their workload and enjoy working together.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.
- There is a strong culture of safeguarding within the school. Staff know their pupils very well and are quick to act on any concerns. Staff are able to spot potential signs of abuse or neglect because of the effective training they receive. Leaders are vigilant in making sure that families get the right support in a timely manner.

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## More Positives

And let's not forget the comments that didn't even get into the report:

- All elements of the teaching were exceptional.

- HLTAs, TAs, lunchtime staff, office staff and all support staff were superb in all of their roles during the inspection.
- The children were amazing throughout (she described behaviour in and out of the classroom as exceptional).

The parent feedback was unheard of:

- 100% of parents would recommend the school to another family.
- Children feel safe here.
- Parents were sending letters and queuing up outside to talk to Tracy to highlight how exceptional we have been with their vulnerable children, how amazing we were during lockdown and what an exceptional school we are.

**These were the best quotes from Tracy during the inspection:**

- "If my daughter was still this age, I would send her to this school."
- "I would happily steal any of your staff to work in my schools." (Tracy is a CEO of a large group of schools).
- "The most positive parent feedback I have seen in 10 years of inspecting".
- "Sorry I was late, I was just wiping a tear away after talking to one of your parents." (Happy tears)!!
- "The teachers are using finely tuned pedagogical approaches, which are having a huge impact on the children's learning."
- "The governors were very strong."

### **What do we need to improve on?**

The following paragraph is directly from the report...

"Leaders should continue their work to develop the school's curriculum. In a minority of subjects, curriculum plans lack detail. Therefore, pupils do not understand or remember enough of what they have learned. Leaders should strengthen the detail of their curriculum plans to better build the knowledge and skills that pupils need."

However (and this highlights why the Outstanding judgement is nigh on impossible to get), this is in reference to the fact that a very small selection of books did not have evidence that **Geography (and only Geography, not a minority of subjects - one subject, Geography!!)** was embedded enough. In one year group particularly, they do not do Geography in the first half term as it is their History unit, so there would only ever have been 2 weeks worth of Geography in the books anyway! Hardly fair!

You can therefore see our frustrations. With all of the amazing comments about our teachers, our parents and our governors, how the children are superbly nurtured, how exceptional the behaviour of

the children is, how our safeguarding processes are so good (and I could list many more), the one reason why we didn't achieve an outstanding judgement is because there wasn't embedded Geography in a small selection of books.

### **What does this mean for the future of Carbeile?**

As the headteacher of Carbeile Junior School, this inspection has highlighted to me that under the current Ofsted framework, EVERYTHING needs to be perfect for one inspector to make a subjective Outstanding judgement about our school during a 7 hour visit! For this to be the case, I would have to put the staff under huge pressure to be perfect. Subsequently they would be putting the children under huge pressure to be perfect. No one is ever perfect. And this is not something I am willing to do to the staff or the children at Carbeile Junior School.

Therefore, we will continue to do everything to our exceptionally high standards but ensuring that the physical and mental health of our adults and children is as good as it can possibly be.

We will continue to nurture our children and provide exceptional learning opportunities for them.

We will continue our aim of zero bullying and zero disruption in lessons.

We will continue to work really closely with you, our exceptional parents, who support us and challenge us.

And most of all, we will continue to look after your children as if they were our own, making sure they are healthy, happy, safe and learning while in our care

**But...we will no longer be pushing for an Outstanding judgement, in fact I have banned the use of the word in school as I feel it is unachievable without compromising our beliefs about how the school should run.**

### **Exciting Times**

After the exceptional report and now not being inspected for 4 years, we feel it is a time for change! Therefore, we will be asking some parents and children to attend our September 2022 INSET day to look at a complete rebranding of the school. We would like to investigate a change of:

- The uniform

- The school logo
- The mission statement
- The Golden Rules
- The motto

All of this will be done with the opinion of all stakeholders, including the children, so that we get this right! It is time for a change for Carbeile and we are all so excited about where these changes will take the school.

Keep a look out for numerous short Google Form surveys so we can get a view of your opinions on certain things so we can go into the September INSET with some amazing plans.

In the meantime, if you would like to discuss anything about the Ofsted report, or if you have any comments or ideas about where you would like the school to go in the coming decades, please don't hesitate to email me, phone me or see me on the drive.

**Carbeile is an exceptional school (not outstanding, exceptional).  
We will continue to be exceptional, and look at ways to improve further!  
I look forward to your support on this journey.**

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## **The Full Report**

<https://carbeile.cornwall.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Carbeile-Junior-School-November-2021-Ofsted-Report.pdf>