



Head of School Mrs Nicki Henderson  
Executive Head Teacher Mrs Lyssy Bolton  
Telephone 01225 703428  
Fax 01225 700340  
email [office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk)  
 @TweetRiverMead

RE: OFSTED REPORT 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find attached a copy of the school's Ofsted Report following the inspection on the 12th & 13th July 2016.

We are delighted that the Inspectors have recognised that River Mead School has made **'significant improvements'** since its last inspection in January 2015 and that its **'capacity to improve further is strong'**. In two years under the sponsorship of Mead Academy Trust the school has moved from a judgment of Special Measures to one of Requires Improvement (two categories up).

Inspectors noted:

***'Leaders have established a culture of aspiration and ambition. They are systematically tackling any underperformance to ensure that pupils receive a good quality of education. This is resulting in significant improvements in the quality of teaching and learning.'***

Inspectors recognised a culture change in the children's attitudes to learning and commented on how positive they are about their learning and the school. They highlighted how well behaved the children are, noting their good manners and high levels of respect and tolerance.

Whilst inspectors confirmed that the teachers **'strong subject knowledge; high expectations of pupil's presentation; and ability to ask probing questions to challenge and deepen pupil's thinking'** is **'helping to secure better progress.'** they also recognised that the **'legacy of low achievement'** and the **'historical weak teaching'** over time is still impacting on some of the older children's ability to achieve. Inspectors confirmed that **'the determined action of school leaders to reverse this underachievement is having a positive effect on progress.'** In the Early Years, where the children's teaching has been good since they started school, Inspectors noted good progress, particularly in their writing, reading and number.

Inspectors have agreed that the targets that the school needs to address to improve further are already in our action plans and that these will enable the school to fully overcome the legacy of low achievement.

We are proud of the children, our committed team and progress that the school has made on its road to good. Thank you for your support and loyalty as we continue this journey together.

Members of the Senior Leadership team will be available next week during parent conversations should you wish to discuss the report.

**Lyssy Bolton**

Executive Head  
The Mead Academy Trust

**Nicki Henderson**

Head of School  
River Mead School

**Helen Holland**

Chair of Governors  
River Mead School



River Mead School  
Lowbourn  
Melksham  
SN12 7ED  
Telephone 01225 703428  
Email [office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk)



The Mead Academy Trust: a company limited by guarantee  
Registered in England: Company Number: 08024396