Whitegrove Primary School
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Wednesday 18th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted inspection report – Acknowledging the past, responding to the findings and looking to the future

As Interim Headteacher and Chair of Governors we are writing to inform you that Whitegrove Primary School has been placed in Special Measures following the Ofsted inspection on 14th July 2026. Please read this letter in conjunction with the copy of the attached Inspection Report.

The inspection report identifies the school's previous leadership arrangements, safeguarding culture, SEND provision and systems of accountability requires urgent improvement. Due to the safeguarding standard not being met at the time of inspection and other areas graded as urgent improvement, His Majesty's Chief Inspector concluded that Whitegrove requires special measures.

We recognise that the findings will be deeply concerning for many of you, particularly those relating to safeguarding, special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and leadership and governance. We want to begin by acknowledging the seriousness of the report and fully accept these findings. The standards that children and families have every right to expect were not consistently met in July, and we are sorry that this report reflects a challenging period in our school's history.

Responding to Ofsted's findings

Although the report identifies serious weaknesses, it also recognises that positive changes are already taking place.

Since the initial inspection in July, and particularly following the appointment of a new Interim Headteacher in September, significant action has been taken to address the concerns raised. Ofsted recognised that "the new headteacher has acted swiftly to address weaknesses in the school's safeguarding culture" and that leaders have taken "rapid action to address weaknesses in the school."

Safeguarding is the highest priority. From the point of the July inspection, we have strengthened our systems for reporting, recording and responding to concerns, increased leadership oversight, reviewed safeguarding procedures and provided additional staff training. Safeguarding arrangements are now subject to much closer monitoring, scrutiny and external challenge.

We also recognise that our provision for pupils with SEND is not yet where it needs to be, and that this will be of particular concern to families whose children require additional support. We have appointed a new SEND Assistant to strengthen the administration and coordination of SEND provision. We are also strengthening our oversight of statutory responsibilities and working closely with Bracknell Forest Council and external specialists. Our focus is on addressing the weaknesses identified and ensuring that every child receives the appropriate support to meet their individual needs and enable them to thrive. While we are encouraged that these changes are beginning to make a difference, we are very clear that there remains significant work to do. Improvement will not happen overnight, and we do not suggest that everything has already been resolved.

Looking to the future

Whitegrove is entering an important new chapter. We are determined that the findings of this inspection will be a turning point for lasting improvement. Our focus is not only on addressing the recommendations in the report, but on ensuring every child receives the high-quality education, care and support they deserve.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff team who care deeply about our pupils. Throughout a challenging period, they have continued to demonstrate commitment and professionalism, and we will ensure they receive the support needed to deliver these improvements.

To drive progress, we have developed a Rapid Action Plan covering safeguarding, SEND, behaviour, attendance, leadership and governance. The plan sets out clear priorities, responsibilities and timescales, with progress closely monitored by school leaders, governors and the Local Authority to ensure strong accountability and sustained improvement.

As Interim Headteacher and Chair of Governors, we are united in our commitment to strengthening leadership, improving inclusion, ensuring effective safeguarding and enabling every child to thrive.

Keeping you informed and giving you a voice

We recognise that many parents and carers will have questions about the report and what it means for the future of the school. To support open communication, we will be holding two open meetings for parents and carers on Thursday 19th November at 6.00pm and Friday 20th November at 2.15pm. These sessions will last an hour and provide an opportunity to hear more about the inspection findings, our improvement plans and the next steps for Whitegrove.

Parents and carers will be invited to submit questions in advance, and further details, including booking information, will be shared shortly. Both meetings will cover the same content, allowing families to attend the session most convenient for them. These meetings form part of our wider commitment to rebuilding trust, strengthening communication and keeping our community informed about the progress being made.

Our commitment to you

We cannot change the findings of the report, but we can take responsibility for addressing them and ensuring the necessary improvements are made. There is a shared determination among staff, governors and the Local Authority to move the school forward with urgency, transparency and purpose.

We know this is a difficult moment for the Whitegrove community. However, through strong leadership, accountability and working together, we are confident that we can rebuild trust, deliver whole-school improvement and create the school our children deserve.

Our commitment is simple: to make Whitegrove a safe, inclusive and successful school where every child can thrive**.**

Should you have any questions, concerns or require further clarification regarding the Ofsted report or the school's response, please contact us at communications@whitegroveprimary.co.uk

All enquiries will be reviewed and directed to the appropriate member of the Senior Leadership Team or Governing Board.

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Harrison
Interim Headteacher



Katy Bridgwood
Chair of Governors