



# Post OFSTED Parent meeting

10<sup>th</sup> January 2018

WELCOME



Introductions

Housekeeping

# Agenda

- \* OFSTED report and outcome
- \* SWOT analysis of school position
- \* Next steps
- \* How can you help?

# OFSTED

- \* Initial reaction from all was surprise.
- \* Then disappointment. (Not just parents - governors and staff; the LA too, who have supported school improvement since 2013).
- \* Nevertheless we have to acknowledge that three RI reports in a row has a major impact.
- \* Our SIP already acknowledges the need to improve the areas picked up by OFSTED. (See handout for further information).
- \* The only specific area cited for improvement which is not in the SIP is attendance.

# SWOT

A working document

| <b>Strengths</b>  | <b>Weaknesses</b>   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increasing staff stability</li><li>• HT and DHT know the school well – their accurate self-evaluation has consistently been noted</li><li>• Sound improvement strategy supported and endorsed externally which is showing sustained improvement.</li><li>• Explicit parental support</li><li>• PTA</li><li>• Our children</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High staff turnover leading to regular restructuring of responsibility and frequent need to revisit expectations and develop consistency</li><li>• Composition and skillset of governing body, especially parent governors and C&amp;S.</li></ul> |
| <b>Opportunities</b>  | <b>Threats</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A new chair of governors with capacity to regularly spend time in school</li><li>• Time to make the right decision regarding academisation</li><li>• Building of new homes in Timsbury</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local reputation</li><li>• LA future role</li><li>• Falling school roll</li><li>• Financial sustainability</li><li>• Recruitment and retention of staff</li><li>• Forced academisation</li></ul>  |

# Next Steps

## **Leadership**

It is the strong belief of the governors, staff and the LA that the journey of improvement is sound and should continue.

These conversations have already been had at a meeting of the governors, and between the LA and the HT, where all options for more radical change were considered and rejected.

Responsibilities are shared according to experience, skills and aspirations... identifying potential and supporting that development.

## **Teaching and Standards**

The report does not indicate a need for a fundamental shift, despite the frustration and disappointment of an RI judgement.

With two exceptions, all teachers are new to year group and/or the school since the last inspection. It is vital to establish stability as this will impact on consistency. However decisions about deployment will always be based on cohort needs, not OFSTED.

Quote from report: “The head-teacher and senior leaders, supported by the local authority, understand the school’s priorities and have worked tirelessly to address weak teaching.”

# Next Steps

## Academisation

- \* It is still government policy that all schools will become academies.
- \* Many schools have jumped early and not all appear to be accruing all of the perceived benefits.
- \* The school governors remain committed to taking St Mary's into the right academy.
- \* Being in a MAT does not guarantee financial security.
- \* Being in a MAT does not guarantee a Good Ofsted judgment.

# What Can You Do?

- \* Continue with appropriate challenge. Your kids are important to you. All of the children are important to us.
- \* Make sure they come to school. On time. Lateness counts as absence. Don't take term time holiday.
- \* Be positive about the school within the community. You have a powerful voice and therefore a responsibility to use good judgement.
- \* Consider, support and encourage the election of governors with the required skills to support the school.

# Quote

- \* “Getting or keeping an outstanding judgment should never be a school’s main aim. If our horizons narrow down to just an Ofsted grade then something is seriously wrong.”
- \* Amanda Spielman, Head of OFSTED