

OFSTED grades Wicklewood leaders 'Outstanding'



'The school is exceptionally well-led; rapid improvements have been made in a short time.' (OFSTED, 2025)



Wiklewood Primary School welcomed a team of two OFSTED inspectors. During their visit they interviewed senior leaders, governors, teachers, support staff and families. They talked extensively with children about their view of school and a parent questionnaire was sent out to families, giving a brief opportunity for families to feed back to the OFSTED team. The team reviewed the school's website and accessed key strategic information through documents shared on the OFSTED Portal.

Praise for pupils

'Pupils talk enthusiastically about how their teachers bring learning to life through practical activities and experiences.'

'Pupils are kind and respectful towards others. They demonstrate kindness towards others.'



'Pupils at Wicklewood are happy and enjoy learning' (OFSTED, 2025)

Headlines from our report

Students at Wicklewood primary school were praised for their strong sense of diversity and respect across the school' and also that: 'Children shared they are confident and resilient - stating they face challenges with positivity.' Students reported that they loved the increase in educational visits and have enjoyed experiencing life in the wider world.



Students as Leaders

Students say they have valued the increased opportunities to be leaders and are looking forward to leading exciting projects which will have a real impact on our school community.



'Leadership is outstanding'

'Leaders are extremely ambitious for what the school can do for pupils and how highly they can achieve.'

'The school is exceptionally well-led and managed. Rapid improvements have been made in a short time. The schools in the federation have worked highly effectively to address weaknesses. This has been done in a way that staff appreciate and ensures that improvements are sustained.'

'The governing body provides strong support and challenge to leaders at all levels' (OFSTED, 2025)

Teaching and learning

OFSTED found that 'Pupils, including the very youngest, have lots of opportunities to develop independence and confidence.' Furthermore, they saw that 'Pupils work hard, meeting the school's high expectations.' Importantly, inspectors concluded that 'The teaching of reading is precise and enables pupils to quickly learn to read...They love reading and spending time in their well-loved library'. Additionally, they saw that 'staff use questioning to quickly find out what pupils know and to help them progress through the curriculum well.'



Early Years

In feedback to leaders, the OFSTED inspectors praised the 'Outstanding nursery provision. A place where children are fully prepared to transition to Reception' and 'The quality of all interactions in the nursery provision were positive and purposeful' from our team of wonderful professionals.



SEND at Wicklewood

'Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) have their needs identified and understood well. Pupils, including those with SEND, benefit from a range of adaptations, where needed, to help them access work, for example visual images and word banks.'



Wicklewood's next steps

OFSTED found that 'some staff use interactions with pupils expertly to support learning' and want us to continue to develop this work, something we have already been addressing in our staff development and training with Shirley Clarke. Inspectors praised the 'interesting indoor and outdoor play opportunities' for Early Years and asked us to ensure that this is developed for all year groups equally. We have already begun our Play Project as well as changes to our playground and lunchtime play provision.



Finally...

We are acutely aware that the very positive outcome from OFSTED's inspection is a community effort and we continue to value and recognise the huge role that our families play in the success of the school.

"Leaders, governors and the parent association work closely together. Many parents appreciate this and feel they know more about what their children are learning"

Well done to all our staff who work tirelessly to ensure Wicklewood Primary School continues to be a wonderful place.

Thank you, we are really looking forward to our next adventure...

Mrs Clements Mcleod, Mr Hughes and Mrs Burr Wilby

