

Ofsted highlights – July 2026!

I am delighted to share our wonderful Ofsted report following our inspection in July. We are incredibly proud of what inspectors said about Nelson Infant School, and I would like to thank all of our families for the support you give our school every day. Together, we create a community where children feel happy, safe and able to thrive.

One of the strongest messages in the report is that children enjoy coming to school and feel safe, cared for and valued. Inspectors found that *"Pupils enjoy coming to school. They feel safe because there is always an adult there to listen to their worries."* They also noted that staff *"get to know pupils and families well"* and *"value, appreciate and cherish each pupil."* The report highlights the importance we place on children's emotional wellbeing, recognising that *"Pupils learn to communicate their feelings and understand their emotions. There is always time to talk to a trusted adult who will help them."*

The inspection highlighted the school's deep understanding of its community and the challenges some families face. Inspectors commended leaders for ensuring personal development and wellbeing are central to school life, with staff providing targeted support and working closely with external agencies to help families access additional assistance where needed.

We were particularly pleased that inspectors awarded the school a **Strong Standard for Personal Development and Wellbeing**. They recognised the extensive support available for children and families, our commitment to inclusion, and the way we help children develop confidence, resilience and positive relationships. Inspectors highlighted that pupils are *"accepting of others and take pride in what makes them unique"* and that *"Pupils value the diversity of their community and take pride in the variety of languages spoken by pupils and families."* They recognised how children learn about different cultures, beliefs and backgrounds, helping them develop respect, kindness and understanding for others.

The report also praises our ambitious curriculum, finding that *"The curriculum is ambitious, with clear endpoints and goals. It reflects the starting points and prior experiences of pupils joining the school."* Inspectors highlighted our strong focus on speaking, listening and vocabulary development, as well as the way personal, social and emotional development is woven throughout school life. As a result, children develop into confident communicators and successful learners.

Particular praise was given to our support for children with additional needs. Inspectors recognised the work we do to remove barriers to learning and ensure that all pupils feel safe, included and ready to learn. They highlighted the tailored interventions, specialist provision and personalised support that help children with SEND achieve their individual goals and thrive alongside their peers.

Inspectors also recognised the positive culture throughout the school. They described *"purposeful, happy classrooms"* where *"Pupils are inquisitive. They ask questions and show*



Headteacher: Ms Anna Catlin

part of



Ambition - Collaboration - Responsibility

care and consideration for each other." They also found there is *"high morale among staff"* and that staff *"feel part of a team that values everyone and where the wellbeing of staff and pupils is a priority."* We are incredibly proud of this recognition and of the dedicated team who work so hard to support our children and families every day.

Our new nursery was highlighted as another significant strength. Inspectors praised how *"Adults respond to and extend children's interests. They create engaging learning experiences,"* alongside the strong focus on speech, language and communication that helps children build confidence and develop the skills they need for a successful start to school.

As Headteacher, I could not be prouder of our children, staff and wider school community. This report recognises what makes Nelson Infant School such a special place: children who are happy and eager to learn, staff who care deeply, and families who work together to help every child succeed.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. This achievement belongs to our entire school community, and we look forward to building on these strengths together in the years ahead.