

26/04/2011

Dear Parent

Shiphay School and Orchard Nursery: Ofsted's interim assessment

I am pleased to provide some important information about Shiphay School and Orchard Nursery.

As you may know, during its last inspection in October 2007, Ofsted inspectors judged your child's school to be outstanding. The 2011 Education Bill proposes that, from January 2012, schools that were previously judged to be outstanding will not be subject to routine inspection unless concerns are raised about their performance.

To help decide whether we need to inspect an outstanding school, Her Majesty's Inspectors look at various sources of information, as listed below. This is called an 'interim assessment.'

The results of the interim assessment

In carrying out the interim assessment, we considered the following:

- pupils' academic performance
- pupils' attendance
- any inspection visits carried out by Ofsted since the last routine inspection
- qualifying complaints¹ about the school by parents or carers
- any other significant concerns brought to Ofsted's attention.

I am pleased to inform you that our interim assessment indicates performance has been sustained and that we will not be inspecting your school unless we receive further information that raises concerns. We will continue to undertake annual assessments of the school's performance.

¹ Ofsted has specific powers (under section 11A-C of the Education Act 2005, as amended) to investigate certain complaints, known as qualifying complaints.

I wish everyone involved in the school continued success in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Christine Gilbert

