

Inspection of Oliver Goldsmith Primary School

Coniston Gardens, Kingsbury, London NW9 0BD

Inspection dates:

21 and 22 November 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Early years provision	Good
-----------------------	-------------

Previous inspection grade	Good
---------------------------	------

What is it like to attend this school?

This school is a respectful and welcoming place to be. There is a real sense of community spirit here. Pupils are friendly and kind. They show good manners. Pupils enjoy being taught about cultures and faiths that are different to their own. The curriculum gives pupils experiences that encourage them to aim high for their futures. The school encourages pupils to become global citizens and prepares them well for life in modern Britain.

Pupils behave sensibly and enjoy their learning, both inside and outside the classroom. Pupils know they can share any worries or concerns they may have with a trusted adult or place a note in worry boxes in classrooms. All this allows pupils to flourish. They are happy and kept safe in this school.

The school provides an ambitious curriculum for all pupils. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) have support to access the same curriculum as their peers. The school provides many opportunities for pupils to experience a wide range of interesting visits and visitors.

Parents and carers praise the school for its caring attitude and for the learning experiences provided for their children.

What does the school do well and what does it need to do better?

The school's curriculum is broad and ambitious. Subject plans identify the key knowledge and vocabulary that pupils must learn, including for children in the early years. The school's commitment to the creative arts is evident in the high-quality provision in music and art and design. Staff feel that leaders value them and are considerate of their workload. All staff are proud to work at the school.

Generally, staff understand subject curriculums, including how they are sequenced and implemented from the early years onwards. Staff are appreciative of the time and training that they receive to carry out their roles and responsibilities. Where staff training has not been as effective, teachers' subject knowledge and expertise are not as routinely secure, which sometimes hinders the delivery of the curriculum.

Teachers check pupils' learning carefully in early reading and mathematics and some other subjects. However, the school does not check pupils' learning and recall as routinely in all subjects.

Children in the early years settle in quickly and learn to follow the routines of the school day. The school encourages children in early years to develop their independence. This ensures that they are ready for the start of Year 1, particularly in reading, art and number work.

Reading is treated as a key priority in this school. Staff strive to develop pupils' love of reading. The school ensures that phonics teaching is systematic. Children begin

learning phonics in the early years. Staff ensure that the books that pupils read closely match the sounds that they know. This helps pupils to read with increasing fluency and confidence. The school ensures that any pupils who are at risk of not keeping up in reading receive appropriate support to catch up with their peers.

Pupils with SEND are identified and get the support and adaptations to teaching and resources that they need, at the right time and in the right way. Pupils with SEND are encouraged to be as independent as possible.

Personal, social, health and economic education is of a high quality. Pupils are taught to keep themselves away from harm, including when they are online. They are taught about caring for the environment, helping others less fortunate than themselves and encouraged to be responsible. Pupils are introduced to British values and taught why they are important.

Pupils behave well in lessons and at break times. Pupils' attendance at school is closely measured and the school's records show that it is improving. There are a variety of music and sports clubs that pupils attend, as well as opportunities for pupils to take on leadership roles including as members of the school council and playground buddies.

The governing body supports the work of the school well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

What does the school need to do to improve?

(Information for the school and appropriate authority)

- Staff training has not made sure that teachers' subject knowledge and expertise are routinely secure, which sometimes hinders pupils' learning. The school should ensure that, in all subjects, teachers are trained to implement the school's ambitious curriculum so that pupils achieve highly across all subjects.
- Checks on pupils' learning vary between subjects and across the school. This affects pupils' learning and recall of key content because identifying and dealing with gaps in pupils' knowledge is uneven. The school should ensure that staff routinely check what pupils have learned and remembered, and identify and address any gaps in their understanding.

How can I feed back my views?

You can use [Ofsted Parent View](#) to give Ofsted your opinion on your child's school, or to find out what other parents and carers think. We use information from Ofsted Parent View when deciding which schools to inspect, when to inspect them and as part of their inspection.

The Department for Education has further [guidance](#) on how to complain about a school.

Further information

You can search for [published performance information](#) about the school.

In the report, '[disadvantaged pupils](#)' is used to mean pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND); pupils who meet the [definition of children in need of help and protection](#); pupils receiving statutory local authority support from a social worker; and pupils who otherwise meet the criteria used for deciding the school's [pupil premium funding](#) (this includes pupils claiming free school meals at any point in the last six years, looked after children (children in local authority care) and/or children who left care through adoption or another formal route).

School details

Unique reference number	101528
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	10293219
Type of school	Primary
School category	Community
Age range of pupils	3 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	439
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair of governing body	Himesh Patel
Headteacher	James Simmons
Website	www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk
Date of previous inspection	19 June 2018, under section 8 of the Education Act 2005

Information about this school

- Oliver Goldsmith Primary School is a two-form entry school.
- The school uses no alternative provision.
- The school runs a breakfast club.

Information about this inspection

The inspectors carried out this graded inspection under section 5 of the Education Act 2005

- Inspections are a point-in-time judgement about the quality of a school's education provision.
- This was the first routine inspection the school received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspectors discussed the impact of the pandemic with the school and have taken that into account in their evaluation of the school.
- The inspectors met with the headteacher, the deputy headteacher and other school leaders. They held discussions with representatives from the local authority and spoke with members of the governing body, including the chair.

- The inspectors carried out deep dives in these subjects: reading, mathematics, design technology, geography and music. For each deep dive, the inspectors met with subject leaders, considered the curriculum, visited a sample of lessons, spoke to teachers and pupils, and looked at samples of pupils' work.
- The inspectors considered the curriculum in other subjects.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding, the inspectors: reviewed the single central record; took account of the views of school leaders, staff and pupils; and considered the extent to which the school has created an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts pupils' interests first.
- The inspectors met with parents at the start of the school day and considered the views of parents, pupils and staff, including through responses to Ofsted's online surveys.

Inspection team

Sean Flood, lead inspector	Ofsted Inspector
David Bryant	Ofsted Inspector
Alison Colenso	Ofsted Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023