

Milldene Primary School achieves a 'Good' rating in its latest Ofsted inspection.

Staff and children at Milldene Primary School in Tiptree have been celebrating after being given a 'Good' rating by Ofsted.

The school was inspected on 5th and 6th October and it was found that "Milldene Primary has significantly improved since its last inspection".

The 'Good' rating stretched across all areas of school life including the quality of teaching, learning and assessment; Early Years provision; personal development, behaviour and welfare; and outcomes for pupils. Additionally, the effectiveness of leadership and management was commended with the "school continuing to develop at a good pace because of the strong determination of the headteacher, ably assisted by the deputy headteacher".

The report stated that, "Classrooms are a hive of purposeful activity because pupils' very positive attitudes to learning mean they approach every new day with a thirst for new knowledge". An overall improvement in the quality of teaching since the last inspection was highlighted with particular strengths in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Early Years was also commended, with its "well-planned curriculum offering a range of interesting activities" in an environment where children "move from activity to activity, inquisitive and keen to learn" supported by teaching staff who "use every opportunity to practise basic skills, such as letter sounds and numbers".

Led by Head Teacher Susan Locke, Milldene is attended by 169 pupils. Mrs Locke said: "We are very pleased that Ofsted has recognised the significant progress we have made since the last inspection in 2014. To be rated as 'Good' in all areas is a fantastic achievement; this has only happened because of the full and unwavering support of our incredible young people, our diligent and talented staff, our loyal and enthusiastic parents and our dedicated Governing Board."

In the report, published on 1 November, inspectors also shared comments from the children's families, including one parent who said, "My daughter says it's not fair school is closed at the weekend". In the same survey, conducted by Ofsted as part of the inspection, 100% of parents would recommend the school.

Chair of Governors, Mr. Vic Prior, said "This Ofsted report is a positive endorsement of the huge commitment undertaken by staff to drive forward change, with passion and enthusiasm. The Governing Board are thrilled with the outcome of the inspection, which is richly deserved".

View the Ofsted report at www.milldene.essex.sch.uk .