

4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted Inspection 2022

Our Ofsted report is now available for you to read.

In the report, the inspectors praised and confirmed the many positive things that we know about our school: that your children think it's an amazing place; that our Early Years Foundation Stage is superb and offers our youngest children a strong start to their education; that your children are safe in school and have good relationships with trusted adults; that your children behave well and understand our expectations of them; that the teaching of reading and mathematics is strong, and that together we are collectively ambitious for our community.

As you know, the inspectors came to see us in the summer - on two of the hottest days in history, when many other local schools were closed – when there were very few children in school to show how hard they all work on a daily basis. Although I wish that circumstances had been different, I accept that the inspectors gathered evidence and made judgements based on what they saw on those days, and essentially commented on the progress we have made in the four terms we have been fully open postpandemic.

You will see that the Ofsted report identifies some areas for improvement - we are already addressing those aspects. For example, staff are already working hard with you as parents to ensure that the targets for our 157 children identified with special



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or additional needs (SEN) are accurate and achievable. In addition, we all still need to ensure more children attend school regularly - I hope that you will help us out with this, so we continue to improve our attendance figures.

Importantly, Ambleside Academy has been removed from the category of Special Measures. While I am naturally disappointed that our school does not yet carry a good Ofsted rating, this report recognises the significant improvements that the hard work of staff and pupils and the support of parents have achieved. Behaviour is now good; personal development is a strength; children with SEN are fully included in the life of the school; and safeguarding is effective. We have come a long way together, and will continue on this track, always striving to be the very best we can be.

This summer we had our best ever results for Reception and Key Stage 1 – with Ambleside Academy pupils' standards of attainment in English and maths, and those reaching a Good Level of Development all well above the national average. This brings me great optimism for the future of our pupils, and motivates us all as a staff to keep striving for the very best for all of your children.

I thank you for your support, and am available if any one of you would like to discuss the content of this Ofsted report – please message me on DoJo, or call the school office if you would like to arrange a meeting with me.

The final report will be posted on the school website today: <u>OFSTED</u> - <u>Ambleside (raleightrust.org)</u>. I am happy to provide paper copy for anyone who requests it - please speak with staff in the school office if this is something you would like.

Yours sincerely,

## Ms Bromley

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