

Inspection of a school judged good for overall effectiveness before September 2024: Milby Primary School

Milby Drive, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 6JS

Inspection dates:

3 and 4 December 2024

Outcome

Milby Primary School has taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at the previous inspection.

What is it like to attend this school?

Pupils are happy and polite at Milby Primary. They enjoy coming to school and are keen to learn in lessons. The school has high expectations of pupils across the curriculum. This means that most pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), achieve well.

Pupils are safe at this school. They have staff they can talk to or seek help from should the need arise. The school places a high priority on pastoral care and it is at the core of all the school does. Pupils benefit from support by the dedicated pastoral team, parents and pupils appreciate this.

There is a calm and purposeful learning environment. Pupils behave well in lessons. They play well with one another in the outdoor space.

The curriculum is enriched with trips, outdoor learning and visitors, which help bring learning to life. Pupils get the opportunity to stand for election in the school council and apply for other roles of responsibility, such as prefects and foundation stage lunchtime helpers. These opportunities are valued by pupils and help them to prepare for life in modern Britain.

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

The school has developed a broad and ambitious curriculum. Leaders at all levels support colleagues in developing their expertise across the curriculum. The school gives clear guidance which enables staff to deliver the curriculum effectively in the 'Milby way'. Teachers have strong subject knowledge and present information clearly. As a result, most pupils progress through the curriculum and achieve well.

Teachers provide pupils with the chance to recap prior learning before presenting new knowledge. However, teachers do not consistently check pupils' understanding within lessons. This means that opportunities to extend some pupils' knowledge are lost. In addition, gaps that may exist in some pupils' knowledge are not identified and addressed. This slows their learning. On occasion, the work given to pupils does not match their stage of learning. This means that, sometimes, pupils have to overly rely on support from adults.

The school promptly identifies the additional needs of pupils with SEND. The use of individual targets and interventions are effective in enabling pupils to learn the curriculum. For pupils with the most complex SEND needs, the school works effectively with external professionals to develop their expertise and identify appropriate next steps.

The school prioritises reading. Staff have the expertise to deliver a well-sequenced phonics programme. Pupils recognise the sounds they need to blend words. The school identifies pupils who need additional support to improve their fluency. These pupils receive interventions to enable them to catch up.

In the early years, children experience a variety of planned learning opportunities to prepare them for the next stage in their education. These help to develop their key knowledge and skills in early reading, writing, and mathematics. Routines are quickly established, which mean children interact well with one another and adults.

The school has high expectations of pupils' behaviour and attitudes. The school's rules 'ready, respectful, safe' help pupils to remember the expectations for learning and playing. This means that behaviour in the school is typically calm and purposeful. Occasionally, the agreed expectations are not consistently applied to address low-level distractions in lessons. While this behaviour does not impact others' learning, it means that these pupils do not fully engage. While attendance is typically high, the school works alongside families well to ensure pupils attend school regularly.

Pupils, parents and carers appreciate the broad range of clubs and activities, which develop their talents and interests. Pupils can experience choir, craft, languages and a range of sporting clubs. All pupils learn several musical instruments as part of their music curriculum. Pupils learn about living and thriving in modern Britain in an age-appropriate manner.

Leaders at all levels in this school are highly effective. Governors are skilful and diligently carry out their roles, providing effective challenge and support. Staff are proud to work at this school. The school's vision is central to a shared drive to improve the outcomes for all. This results in the school providing the pupils of Milby with the educational, social, and emotional skills to access the next stage of their education.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

What does the school need to do to improve?

(Information for the school and appropriate authority)

- On occasion, the work given to pupils does not match their stage of learning. This means that sometimes pupils have to overly rely on support from adults. The school should ensure all staff have the expertise to make appropriate adaptations within lessons to enable all pupils to learn the curriculum successfully and build their knowledge over time.
- Teachers do not consistently check pupils understanding and address misconceptions within lessons. This means that pupils do not routinely secure their learning into the long-term memory. The school should continue to develop staff expertise so they can successfully identify and address any gaps or misconceptions.

Background

Until September 2024, on a graded (section 5) inspection we gave schools an overall effectiveness grade, in addition to the key and provision judgements. Overall effectiveness grades given before September 2024 will continue to be visible on school inspection reports and on Ofsted's website. From September 2024 graded inspections will not include an overall effectiveness grade. This school was, before September 2024, judged to be good for its overall effectiveness.

We have now inspected the school to determine whether it has taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at that previous inspection. This is called an ungraded inspection, and it is carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005. We do not give graded judgements on an ungraded inspection. However, if we find evidence that a school's work has improved significantly or that it may not be as strong as it was at the last inspection, then the next inspection will be a graded inspection. A graded inspection is carried out under section 5 of the Act. Usually this is within one to two years of the date of the ungraded inspection. If we have serious concerns about safeguarding, behaviour or the quality of education, we will deem the ungraded inspection a graded inspection immediately.

This is the second ungraded inspection since we judged the school to be good for overall effectiveness in October 2015.

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	130894
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10343915
Type of school	Primary
School category	Community
Age range of pupils	4 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	420
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair of governing body	Karen Price
Headteacher	Matthew Archer
Website	www.milby.warwickshire.sch.uk
Date of previous inspection	17 July 2019, under section 8 of the Education Act 2005

Information about this school

- The headteacher, deputy headteacher and assistant headteacher have been appointed since the previous inspection.
- The school does not use any alternative provision.

Information about this inspection

- Inspections are a point-in-time evaluation 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 inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the school and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the school.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, deputy headteacher, assistant headteacher, who is in charge of SEND, the school business manager, subject leaders, teachers and the pastoral manager.

- The inspector met with a group of governors. She also spoke to the local authority school improvement lead commissioner and a school improvement advisor.
- The inspector visited a sample of lessons, spoke to teachers, spoke with pupils about their learning and looked at samples of pupils' work.
- The inspector listened to a sample of pupils read to a familiar adult.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding, the inspector: reviewed the single central record; took account of the views of 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 inspector examined a range of school documentation.
- The inspector considered the responses to the staff survey and spoke to a range of staff about their views of the school.
- The inspector took account of responses to Ofsted Parent View questionnaire and the free-text responses. The inspector also considered responses to the staff and pupil surveys.
- During the inspection, the inspector met with groups of pupils, both formally and informally during different parts of the day.

Inspection team

Donna O'Toole, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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