



Caversham Nursery School

Federated with Blagdon and New Bridge Nursery Schools

Executive Head Teacher: Benedict O'Shea B.Ed, M.A.

Head of School: Jean Read BA (Hons)

Nursery Manager: Claire Taylor



"Making every moment matter"

2nd September 2026

Subject: Celebrating Our Ofsted Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the attached Ofsted report for Caversham Nursery School following the inspection that took place in June 2026.

Before I say anything else, it is important to recognise that this inspection took place before I joined the Reading Early Years Schools Federation as Executive Headteacher on 1 September 2026. These outcomes reflect the leadership, vision and dedication of Mrs Joanne Budge and the team at Caversham Nursery School at the time of the inspection, and they should be immensely proud of what has been achieved.

This report is a wonderful celebration of the school and everyone who contributes to its success. I would like to thank our dedicated staff team, our children and their families and our governors. The report highlights the strength of the relationships that exist across the school community and the positive impact these have on children's development, wellbeing and achievement.

The inspection took place under Ofsted's new inspection framework, which no longer gives schools a single overall grade. Instead, schools receive separate judgements across different areas of their work. Ofsted describe the new "Exceptional" judgement as one that will be awarded very rarely and only where a school is performing at the highest national standard.

I am therefore particularly proud that Caversham Nursery School was recognised as **Exceptional for Personal Development and Wellbeing**, alongside **Strong Standard** judgements for Achievement, Attendance and Behaviour, Curriculum and Teaching, Inclusion, and Leadership and Governance. Safeguarding standards were also fully met.

There are many wonderful comments throughout the report. Inspectors found that:

- Personal development is "woven into the fabric of the school".
- Children develop "exceptional social and self-care skills".
- The impact of the school's work is "especially profound for the most vulnerable children".
- Children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Behaviour is excellent and children show extremely positive attitudes to learning.
- Inclusion is embedded throughout the school, ensuring every child feels welcomed, supported and able to thrive.
- Children leave the nursery confident, highly independent and very well prepared for the next stage of their education.

One of my favourite sections of the report is where inspectors describe what it is like to be a child at Caversham Nursery School. They write that "children love coming to this nursery" and that they thrive from the moment they arrive. This captures perfectly what I have already seen during my short time within the Federation.

Although I have only been in post for a matter of days, everything I have experienced so far confirms what this report so clearly demonstrates: Caversham Nursery School is an exceptional place for children to learn, grow and flourish. The passion, expertise and commitment of the staff team, together with the support of families and governors, has created something very special.

Please do take the time to read the attached report. It is a well-deserved recognition of the outstanding work that has taken place at Caversham Nursery School and a celebration of a school community of which everyone should be incredibly proud.

Yours sincerely,

Benedict O'Shea

Executive Headteacher

Reading Early Years Schools Federation

Caversham Nursery School is proud to be part of the Reading Early Years Schools Federation