

Francis Baily Primary School Praised for Strong Progress in Latest Ofsted Report



30 June 2026

Francis Baily Primary School is celebrating significant progress following its recent Ofsted inspection in May 2026, with inspectors recognising the substantial improvements made over the past two years under new leadership.

The report highlights a period of rapid and purposeful development across the school, driven by an ambitious vision and clear strategic direction from leaders and governors.

Inspectors noted the school's welcoming and nurturing environment. Pupils said they feel safe and enjoy attending, reflecting a strong culture of care that has been established. Early years provision was identified as a particular strength, giving children a positive start to their education.

The report also highlighted the school's broad and engaging curriculum, supported by a wide range of enrichment opportunities and clubs. Safeguarding arrangements were found to be strong, with pupils' welfare at the heart of the school's work. Inspectors also recognised the school's inclusive approach, noting that pupils with additional needs are well supported and able to thrive alongside their peers.

Leadership was described as aspirational and focused, with leaders having a clear understanding of the school's priorities. Inspectors also noted marked improvements in pupils' behaviour, with children demonstrating positive attitudes to learning and building respectful relationships with staff.

Ofsted noted that leaders are taking "the right actions" and that improvements are visible across key areas of the school. The report also identified priorities for further development, including ensuring consistently high-quality teaching across all subjects, continuing to raise outcomes in writing and mathematics, embedding recent curriculum changes so that all pupils achieve their full potential and improving attendance, particularly for disadvantaged pupils. School leaders have welcomed the findings and are already taking steps to address these areas.

Miss E Hobbs, -Headteacher, explained "We are incredibly proud of the journey Francis Baily Primary School has been on over the past two years. This report reflects the dedication of our staff, pupils, governors and wider community. While we recognise there is still more to do, we are confident that the strong foundations now in place will enable all of our pupils to succeed. We remain committed to continuous improvement and to providing the very best education for every child."

Mr M Gayler of Equinox Learning Trust added: "The progress made by Francis Baily Primary School since its last inspection is a testament to the determination of pupils, the professionalism and dedication of our staff, and the unwavering support of parents and the wider community. Together, they have created a school that everyone can be rightly proud of. As a Trust, we remain fully committed to working in partnership with the school to build on this success and to ensure that every child continues to thrive and achieve their very best."

With strong leadership, committed staff and supportive families, Francis Baily Primary School is well placed to build on this positive momentum and continue improving outcomes for all its pupils.