

Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School  
Pasture Road  
Embsay  
Skipton, BD23 6RH

Registered Charity No: 1047224  
Phone/Fax: 01756 793 426  
Email: [admin@embsay.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@embsay.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
Acting Headteacher: Miss Georgina Hodgson

Friday, 09 May 2025

## Letter from Georgina Hodgson (Acting Headteacher) and Chris Atherton (on behalf of the Board of Governors)

Dear Parents or Carers,

We are writing to update you on the outcomes of our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place just before Easter.

**We are delighted to report that Embsay School was deemed to have taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at the previous inspection.**

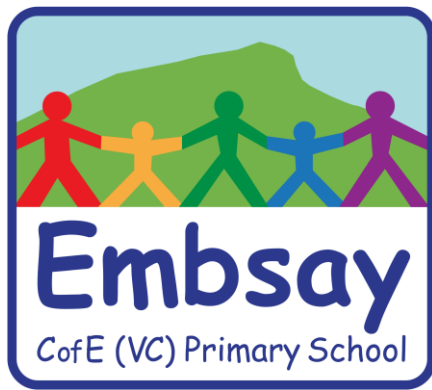
After a challenging few years at the school, we are very pleased with this outcome and with the positive verbal comments given by the inspector about the improvements we are making. We are pleased that OFSTED have identified the strengths that clearly demonstrate the very real commitment that we, as a school community, have to our vision of 'Life in all its fullness'. The full report is available on the school website and will be published on the Ofsted website next week.

The report is a reflection of the hard work of our entire school community – from our dedicated staff and governors to our wonderful children whom we are so proud of, and you, our supportive families.

There were lots of positives from the inspector's feedback and the report to celebrate:

- **Warm and Respectful Relationships:** The inspector noted the warm and respectful relationships across the school, reflecting our positive culture and vision of developing respectful individuals with a lifelong love of learning. This echoes the positive feedback from our recent SIAMS inspection.
- **Reading and Mathematics:** Pupils continue to achieve well in reading and mathematics, with the recent change to the sequenced phonics programme proving successful. Staff have received training and confidently teach pupils to read, ensuring they gain a secure knowledge of letters and sounds.





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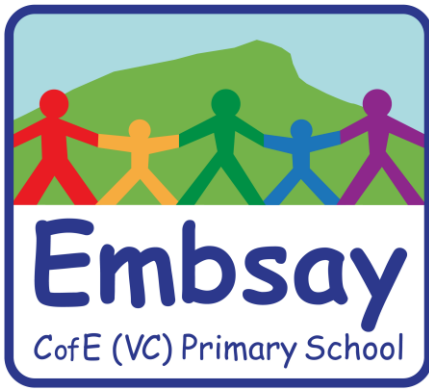
- **Personal Development:** Pupils enjoy learning about different religions and cultures, understand and respect differences, and are proud to represent their school in various activities.
- **Attendance and Behaviour:** Pupils enjoy coming to school, and attendance is good. They behave well in lessons and around school, with staff providing extra help and guidance to those who need it.
- **Leadership and Governance:** The inspection highlighted the strong leadership and governance at our school. Governors have an accurate view of the school's strengths and areas to strengthen, and staff are committed to providing the best for all pupils.
- **Staff Development:** Teachers at all stages of their careers are well supported and trained. Staff value the support the school gives them with managing their workload and well-being.

Whilst we are pleased with the outcome, there were areas for improvement identified by the inspector.

These are areas that had already been identified within school, and actions are in place to address them:

- **Writing Skills:** We are working to improve pupils' early writing skills and handwriting to ensure they become fluent writers and increase their writing stamina. This year saw the introduction of a new reading scheme, and we have increased monitoring and feedback in all areas of English over the last term. The school is working with the LA and external agencies to continue to ensure that standards are improved.
- **Curriculum Consistency:** We are currently refining our curriculum to ensure it is consistently set out, enabling teachers to effectively check pupils' knowledge. Mr Hardman has been appointed as our curriculum lead; the review of the curriculum and plan for changes are complete, and we are in the early stages of rolling this out. We have put external agencies in place to provide additional support and scrutiny.
- **Support for Pupils with SEND:** Our SEND children have various needs and abilities that have to be met. The hub was created earlier this year to ensure that we have a more supportive environment for children that need it, and we are continuing to look at the support for SEND children and how it is best provisioned.





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We are extremely proud of everyone who contributes to making Embsay C of E Primary School such a special place. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is never taken for granted.

We are excited to share with you an update about the future direction of our school and our continued plans to build on the changes we've made, especially over this academic year. Georgina Hodgson stepped in as acting headteacher in January and has guided everyone through this inspection with lots of hard work and dedication. We are currently in the process of recruiting a substantive headteacher to lead our school forward into the future. The recruitment process for a new headteacher is thorough to ensure we find the best candidate to lead our school. We aim to complete the recruitment process within the next few months and will keep you updated on our progress.

If you have any questions or comments with regard to the report, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Georgina Hodgson  
**Acting Headteacher**

Chris Atherton on behalf of the board of governors.  
**Parent Governor | Chair of Governors**

