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### Ofsted January 2017

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you will be aware the school was inspected over the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of January. It is a require Ofsted for parents and carers to have access to the full report this has been uploaded onto our website for you at [www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk](http://www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk). You can also find this directly on the Ofsted website. If you would like a paper copy of the report please call in at the school office.

We were disappointed with the overall judgement which states that the school requires further improvement. The Ofsted team identified some key areas for us to work at which as the report had already been identified by the leadership team of the school. I have outlined some of the below along with some key information about how the school is already taking action to address these.

1. Changes to staff – as you will be aware, over the last 2 years there has been some significant changes to staffing, both at leadership and class teacher level. The governors of the school have been keen to secure a permanent structure for the school and we feel with the current staffing we now have this can be actioned.
2. Improving the quality of teaching – based on the sample of lessons that inspectors saw there were some key themes identified that our staff are now responding to. As the report states we are still in the early phase of introducing some new teaching and learning strategies which will address these issues. Again as the report states, staff are embracing these changes positively and their confidence is increasing.
3. Our KS2 outcomes were disappointing. As you will be aware from national media coverage these were new and more challenging standards. KS2 staff are now more aware of the expectations for the end of year 6, we have every confidence that outcomes will improve next year. Last year our performance in writing was in line with national outcomes and we are working hard to ensure that our KS2 curriculum secures similar improvement for reading and maths.
4. Behaviour – the behaviour of children at break time, lunchtime and around the school remains a strength of Newton Hill. Inspectors noted that learning behaviour (low level disruption) in lower KS2 could be improved in order for children to maximise learning. Staff are revisiting our expectations and Golden Rules with children daily so that children are always encouraged to be the best that they can be.