

A message from Jamie Victoria Barnes – Early Years Consultant,
Author & Trainer

As an early years consultant who has had the pleasure of working closely with Wimbledon Park Montessori School, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible team following their recent Ofsted inspection.

The report highlights many of the setting's strengths and rightly so.

I was pleased to see Ofsted recognise some of the standout qualities I've witnessed first-hand. The report commends the *dedicated leadership team* and the *kind, caring staff who act as excellent role models*, creating a warm, nurturing environment where children feel secure and supported.

Inspectors also noted that children *enter the setting happily*, showing clear signs of *independence, confidence, and curiosity*, qualities that I have consistently observed during my visits. The setting's *broad and ambitious curriculum* was rightly praised, offering children *varied, meaningful experiences* that encourage deep thinking and sustained engagement. Ofsted highlighted exciting opportunities such as *mathematical learning through play* and *hands-on investigations*, like exploring magnetic and non-magnetic materials, activities that ignite children's natural curiosity and help them make sense of the world around them.

The report also recognises the strong emphasis on *emotional wellbeing*, with *positive language* and *nurturing relationships* supporting children to feel safe, valued, and confident in themselves. It is clear to me that this is a place where children flourish, not only in their learning, but in their personal and social development too.

From my own professional perspective, having worked with a wide range of early years settings across the country, both in my consultancy work and as a former Ofsted inspector, I can honestly say that Wimbledon Park is exceptional.

The *leadership and teamwork* are among the most impressive I've encountered. The curriculum is *thoughtfully planned, ambitious, and inspiring*, and the *teaching is of an outstanding standard*. This is clearly reflected in the children's *engagement, behaviour, enthusiasm, and depth of learning*.

Leaders here hold a clear and powerful vision for every child. They provide *rich and diverse opportunities* that broaden horizons and lay strong foundations for future success. It has been a genuine privilege to support this setting, it is a truly special place where children are not only cared for, but deeply nurtured, empowered, and inspired.