

16 May 2019

## We are very proud of our school!

This week, 14 May, the Inspectorate of Education evaluated our school. They qualified our school with a score exceeding our expectations, **two times 'good'** for quality assurance and quality culture. 'Good' means that they not only saw a basic quality of education, but also extra quality factors, above and beyond those enshrined in law.



They called our school **a true pearl** within international education! They complimented us with reaching this level of education as a relatively new school.

The quality inspection was conducted by two inspectors. One of them is an expert in international education. Beforehand and during this day the inspectors read a lot of our documents, for example our plans, didactical standards and policies. During the day they wanted to see evidence of this, such as planning, evaluations and progress reports. Besides they visited all classes and asked us questions.

They were very positive about the quality of our education, the balance of our curriculum, the way we focus on learning, the way we differentiate and tailor the needs of all children and always look for the next learning step to ensure an unimpeded development of each child. They were pleased about our quality culture, for example by the way we implemented IPC, mathematics and language, as a professional learning community, where we follow-up on steps of improvement and set targets for ourselves. They were happy to see our focus on language and reading, realizing that we have a lot of non-native English speaking children. Furthermore they saw how our learning support assistants were working with small groups of children enabling differentiation in an effective way and how children in all classes were active and engaged.

We had a small team celebration today and enjoyed a delicious cake sent to us by our board Sopenh. Below you can find a summary of the inspection framework.

### Summary of the inspection framework

In the Netherlands, we have an inspection framework, issued by the Netherlands Inspectorate of Education, describing the inspection regime for Dutch primary education (and also international education), including the Inspectorate's assessment framework and working methods.

The inspectorate undertakes quadrennial inspections of all governing bodies and at least some of their schools. The Inspectorate has experts on international education and the requirements.

For covering quality of educational provision and financial management, the term "basic quality" is used to encapsulate them. For this, general statutory requirements, objectifiable quality standards, are defined in law as far as possible.

Self-defined quality factors pertain to the objectives and ambitions a school or a governing body sets itself, above and beyond the basic quality level. Under its quality-promotion remit, the Inspectorate considers how these factors contribute to better quality of educational provision in a continuous and sustainable manner, and it discusses their effect with schools and governing bodies.

Judging a school as "**Adequate**" – means that the school fulfils the statutory requirements. Rating the school as "**Good**" means that there are extra quality factors defined by the institution itself, above and beyond those enshrined in law.

Kind regards,

Team of Optimist International School

