

Cauldwell Lower School

Edward Road, Bedford, MK42 9DR

Inspection dates 19–20 June 2013

Overall effectiveness	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
	This inspection:	Good	2
Achievement of pupils		Good	2
Quality of teaching		Good	2
Behaviour and safety of pupils		Good	2
Leadership and management		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

This is a good school.

- Children make good progress in Reception, and develop a wide range of skills.
- Teaching is good and there is a determined drive to make it outstanding. Teachers plan lessons effectively and deliver them so that pupils' needs are well met and they make good progress.
- Pupils feel very safe in school and feel that their teachers listen to them and respond to any concerns that they have.
- Highly skilled teaching assistants provide support to small groups of pupils to enable them to make good progress.
- The experienced headteacher, ably supported by her senior leadership team, sets a clear direction for the school and is rigorously driving forward school improvement.
- The inclusive nature and successful promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is at the heart of the schools' work.
- The strong governing body holds the school to account and leads its direction well.

It is not yet an outstanding school because

- A small amount of teaching requires improvement. The overall quality of teaching leads to progress that is good rather than outstanding.
- Pupils are not always clear about what they are learning or how well they are doing.
- Teachers' marking and feedback to pupils is not used consistently across the school.
- Targets which are set for pupils are not yet used effectively throughout the school to help pupils understand how to improve their work.