



ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Since April 2015, we have changed the way we engage and involve parents in the progress of their children. We now follow the methodology of Achievement for All (AFA). This is a set format, formally recorded and is a nationally recognised process.

What is Achievement for All?

Our school is involved in the Achievement for All programme.

Achievement for All is an award-winning charity that works with schools to transform the lives of children and young people who are vulnerable to underachievement. Central to the 'Achievement for All' ethos is the belief that every child can thrive socially and emotionally, and succeed academically regardless of background, challenge or need. At Whittle Academy, our aim is to raise aspirations and improve the achievement of all pupils, but particularly those facing barriers to learning.

How are you involved?

A parent's role is critical to their child's success - you know them best and they spend far more time with you and your family than they do in school. The ways in which you can help support them is crucial to them achieving a happy and successful future.

Structured Conversations

If your child is involved in the Achievement for All group you will be invited to a Structured Conversation. This is a regular meeting between you and your child's teacher. Your child will also have an input into what is discussed at the meeting and some older children may be invited to be part of the meeting towards the end of the school year.

The approach is very different from the standard 10-minute parent's evening appointment or progress reports you may have experienced before. The meetings last longer - usually 30-45 minutes - and you will receive some guidance beforehand so that you can think about what you want to say or ask and be prepared for the meeting.

The point of a Structured Conversation is to have a proper conversation about your child - with us really listening to you, and your child, and exploring with you what the ambitions are or could be for your child.

We will also explain what we would like to see and what we believe your child can achieve and together we will agree a plan that we will jointly work on to support your child.

Who to Contact

If you have any questions or queries regarding 'Achievement for All', please do not hesitate to get in contact with the school 'AFA Champion' - Miss Charles. We have included some Frequently Asked Questions for reference below:

FAQs

You may find the following questions and answers about the *Structured Conversation* meetings with class teachers helpful:

Why do we hold these meetings?

- to agree clear goals and targets for your child's learning;
- to listen to your concerns and your hopes for your child;
- to agree how to help your child do better; and
- to set up a clear means of communication between home and school.

What will my child get from the meetings?

We hope your child will:

- know what they need to do to improve and to achieve;
- make faster progress and, if necessary, catch up;
- grow more confident and aim high; and enjoy school, new opportunities and their own learning.

What will I/we get from the meetings?

We hope you will:

- feel even more welcome to engage with the school;
- become confident that your views will be acted upon; and know how to help your child to achieve.

What about the school?

We hope that we will:

- improve the way that we listen to parents and carers about their child's learning
- provide better information to parents and carers about their child's learning
- use the outcomes of the conversations with parents, carers and pupils to improve the learning and teaching for all our pupils