



JARV

Joint Annual Review Visit January 2019

Each year we engage in a review visit with our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner (HIP).

This is a rigorous and robust process to ensure that we, as a school are providing a quality education for each child. It also highlights any areas which need to be improved on which then be reviewed in the Summer term.

We have been rated 'Good' in all areas and our progress towards our targets is 'Green'.

In order for parents to have an understanding of how we are viewed by our Improvement Partner I have captured some of the comments below.

We found the process to be extremely useful, reassuring and inspiring.

'Senior leaders have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in their school. During joint learning walks and book scrutinies, it was evident that there is a shared sense of high expectations and they demonstrated a clear ability to diagnose any areas for development. This is a reflective team, with a passion for providing a high quality education for the pupils and families that they serve.'

'Leaders are, rightly, proud of their impact, and pupils and staff alike are proud of their school. The culture of high expectations was clear from observations during lesson time and in talking with pupils; there is clear evidence of positive relationships between leaders, staff and pupils at the school. Behaviour for learning during the visit was good. Pupils were polite and courteous, and showed respect for themselves and others.'

'Displays showed that pupils know how to keep themselves safe and healthy, and the HIP had no concerns from what she had seen during the observations of the school.'

'The work of the special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) ensures that pupils receive the support that they need, both internally and externally. For example, the school has opened a nurture class and redeployed three members of staff in order to support four children with severe needs. 25% of the school's cohort has SEN and as a result of the high quality of provision, they make strong progress in relation to their targets.'

'Best practice shows that overall, teachers grasp opportunities for extending pupils' understanding through challenging questioning.'

'Standards of behaviour at the visit were very good. This was seen right from the earliest stages of education at Holtsmere End Infants, where even the youngest children took it in turns to speak and listen to each other's viewpoints respectfully and without interruption.'

'Leaders at the school feel strongly about giving pupils the very best opportunities and experiences whilst at the school. This is shown in the way that they have reorganised the school to be able to provide a nurture room for the most vulnerable children in the school and in the passion that came across during the SLT meeting.'

Persistent absentees

One particular area of concern was our persistent absence rate which is 17.24%, whilst the national figure is 10.3%. This refers to those children who have below 90% attendance. We are already engaging with the attendance officer regarding these families and working with them to ensure that their child's attendance improves.