



Tuesday 25th February 2020

School Report Consultation

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to those of you who returned a completed questionnaire relating to the proposed changes to the school report format. The responses were overwhelmingly positive and certainly allow me to move forward with the changes.

As well as responding to the six questions, many of you took the opportunity to raise specific questions or points. These will all be taken into account when putting the final report together but I have also taken the opportunity to answer some of the key ones below.

Next step comments – This particular question received the biggest spread of responses and most comments. Whilst targets in English and maths are clearly a priority, teachers will be asked to provide developmental feedback on other areas of the curriculum where attainment has been highlighted as not being consistent with overall performance.

Timing – The timing of the school report was questioned as to whether or not it might be better sent out in the Spring when there is time to act upon targets. The feedback provided during the two parent/carer consultation evenings (one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term) provide this type of information so that pupils can continue to progress through the year. There is also an opportunity to make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss any aspect of the child's report after it is received towards the end of June. Parents / carers of pupils who are on the SEND register are also invited to attend an additional meeting with the child's new class teacher to talk about strategies, thus ensuring as smooth a transition as possible.

General comments – Teachers will be encouraged to highlight specific areas of achievement and development in this section which relate to the whole curriculum and not just English and maths. It is important we celebrate the broad curriculum we offer at Whitehill and reflect upon a pupil's 'profound individual growth'. It might also be that a teacher is able to add a little more detail as to specific support needed in a subject area in this section as well as in the next steps comment section.

Effort and attainment – There were several comments and questions about the effort and attainment table and key. I will look into possible additional descriptors for effort to ensure we make it as clear as possible what we mean by, 'inconsistent' for example. It might be that we have an additional explanation in the accompanying letter. Likewise, one parent made an excellent point about attainment and the fact that statistically, the overwhelming number of pupils will be 'working in line with expected standards'. The point was made as to whether the table could be adjusted



slightly to highlight that fact. Again, I think I will look to add some additional information in the accompanying letter to highlight this fact.

SATs – The school report comes out before the SATs results are known and therefore Year 6s will receive these in a separate report in the second week of July.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to respond. I value the relationship we have with parents and carers and feel that it is appropriate to have open communication channels.

Kind regards,



Steve Mills
Headteacher

