

9th June 2021

Dear Staff Team, Children, Parents, Carers and Governors,

Sitwell Infant School has been recredited with Rotherham Charter Gold
- Congratulations!

Our visit to Sitwell Infant School included: a tour of the school, discussion with 3 parents alongside the Charter Champions, a summary leaflet of Charter practice, recent examples of school communication, results from the May 2021 parental questionnaire and the newly created school tour video.

The Charter principles at Sitwell Infants are well embedded across the school as evidenced by very positive parent questionnaire results and our meeting with parents. Parents told us that they valued the caring, friendly and kind relationships that are extended throughout the school. They described many examples of school staff going 'above and beyond' to support individual children and their families. Parents feel 'proud' to be part of a diverse, inclusive and supportive school family.

Welcome and Care:

All families are warmly greeted every day, this is valued by parents who told us that from Reception staff to teachers, support staff and the head teacher, there is a consistent warm welcome throughout school and people 'do their job with passion'. The induction pack for new starters is friendly, clear and engaging. Transitions are well planned into new classes and after periods of home-learning, so that children and their families feel safe, reassured and happy at school.

The newly created school tour video is a fabulous resource which highlights a happy, diverse school community, working to 'be their best'. The video is a genuine reflection of our experience at school with smiling, friendly children who are confident at communicating.

Value and Include:

Sitwell Infant School celebrates uniqueness and diversity; there are many displays throughout the school which celebrate the message of being unique and part of a school family. The school vision: 'Be the best that we can be', is well celebrated across school. Parents discussed feeling 'proud' of a school community which celebrates all children and families. For parents who have children with special educational needs, staff have been very proactive and reassuring, enabling parents to feel that their child is safe, and they do not need to worry.

One parent shared; "I know when I send him to school that he is safe and other children are safe...they do everything they possibly can do." Parents also highlighted that adults in school are empathetic towards the whole family and supportive of more hidden needs and concerns.

Communication:

Open and honest communication is prioritised and modelled by adults across the school. Face-to-face communication has been difficult at times due to coronavirus restrictions, but staff have worked hard to maintain trusted relationships via a range of media. Parents told us that they value the supportive messages and positive tone of communication. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, good communication was repeatedly highlighted in the recent parental questionnaire. Parents shared with us that communication has improved and staff have been proactive at providing reassurance; "I was reassured that everything will be okay." Parents feel listened to and safe to share worries or concerns, knowing that there will be an empathetic and proactive response.

Partnership:

Trusted, respectful relationships are key to the success at Sitwell Infants. Adults at school are empathetic and 'in tune' with families to build mutual trust. Parents shared that all families and children are given equal respect; "Every child is important, no matter what their needs are, big or small." Children are supportive of each other and the 'Sitwell Superheroes' help to embed golden rules and school values in a meaningful, child-centred way. Parents described an equal culture where every member of the Sitwell Infant School community is valued and respected as an individual; "Everyone feels important and respected."

Sitwell Infants is a friendly, inclusive, diverse school where all children and adults work together as a school family. The Charter principles are extremely well embedded; relationships are empathetic and build mutual trust and respect.

Well done Sitwell Infant School!!

Kind regards
Rotherham Charter Team

Joanne Askew Eva Ogden