



Rotherham Charter

29th September 2016

Dear Kirstey and Liz,

I am writing to confirm that Sitwell Infant School has been reaccredited with Rotherham Charter Gold. It was great for us to see how the Charter has been embedded into practice across the school by all staff. You have clearly built upon the good practice established by Jane Skupien, making the Charter principles really live within the school.

As a Charter team we were struck by the quality of the relationships between the members of the parent group we met. We saw parents and staff who were at ease with each other, listened to and supported each other, and showed real confidence in partnership working. This way of working is clearly established practice within the school and something highly valued by parents. The high level of engagement between parents and staff features greatly in the portfolio but is also demonstrated in the exceptional response to your recent request for feedback about transition. Staff, parents and children were genuinely positive about, and supportive of, each other. There is a sense of valuing each person which results in an extraordinary energy within the school. We were impressed by the emphasis on all staff accessing high quality CPD, which has resulted in a highly motivated and skilled workforce. Parents have obviously valued the courses they have accessed through school and both parents and governors have commented on the engagement of the children. They clearly relish their opportunities for learning. The environment is one in which staff, children and parents can all flourish.

Parents frequently spoke of being reassured by staff. Developments related to transition and the website have arisen from the clear, open and honest communication in which you excel and they have been well received by families. We loved the letters to the children from their new staff. These have obviously been important for the children over the summer and early information for parents has reduced many of their anxieties.

The presentation, booklet and portfolio made it easy to see all the work going on and it was amazing how many of these things were referred to during our discussions. Parents and children were confident that their views and opinions are valued and would make a difference. Parents and carers talked to us with pride about the care demonstrated to themselves and their children, saying that all the staff are "...can do..." and prepared to go, "...above and beyond". All children and parents are included in this irrespective of need or ability.



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The school intake is diverse and there is a pro-active approach to celebrating this, involving and empowering all families in this wonderful hub within the community. Above all, we heard time and again that listening to parents, carers, children and staff is valued, confidence is nurtured, and there is trust that there will always be a quick, sensitive and positive response.

Thank you for making us so welcome, it was a pleasure to visit and to work with you.
Well done Sitwell Infant School!!

Kind regards
Rotherham Charter Team