



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Dear Parents,

Yesterday Townhill Infants had its renewal for the Basic Skills Quality Mark. This accreditation is something that Townhill have held for over ten years now. Our assessor Sue Bailey, a local retired Headteacher, spent most of the day at school speaking to staff, governors and children, spending time in lessons and looking through the children's books. She holds a certificate of accreditation from the Alliance for Lifelong Learning and has undertaken Quality Mark assessor training.

The Basic Skills Quality Mark is an award that celebrates and supports continuous improvement in English and Maths. We passed with flying colours and wanted to take this opportunity to share some of the feedback with you.

- The Deputy Head had prepared exceptionally thoroughly for the visit, supplying relevant evidence and using the renewal as an opportunity for professional development.
- The professional attitude of staff towards children's learning and progress is exemplary. There is a clear, focussed whole school strategy, and structured planning, to improve pupils' performance in Basic Skills.
- Senior staff and governors carefully monitor the impact and course of the Development & Improvement Plan.
- Data analyses are thorough and used to ensure all pupils make progress in the acquisition of Basic Skills. Many pupils make more than expected progress.
- Planning for learning is organised and effective. If pupils are at risk of falling behind they are quickly identified and effective measures are put in place to enable them to catch up. The impact of any intervention programmes is rigorously monitored.
- The school knows that professional learning opportunities are a key to pupil success. All staff have access to appropriate training in order to deliver high quality teaching and intervention programmes in the Basic Skills.
- The curriculum is vibrant and engages the pupils who are proud of their school and what it teaches them.
- Senior staff are very adept at ensuring that the curriculum maximises every available learning opportunity from Reception to Year 2.
- The school is very well resourced for the teaching of Basic Skills and provides a consistently ordered, relevant and welcoming learning environment.

- The work in books indicates high and consistent expectations for staff and pupils to make sure that work is well presented, suitably challenging and formatively marked.

We are very pleased with the feedback and hope that you will be too.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Beckett  
Deputy Headteacher