



14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we are soon to enter into the final half-term of my second year as Executive Head Teacher of John Flamsteed Community School, it seems a good juncture for me to reflect upon the last two years and canvas opinion from our parental body as to your thoughts and feelings on the quality of education we provide for the young people who attend our school.

I constantly reflect on the school improvement strategies that we are driving to continue to steer the school in the direction which will lead to quality outcomes: both academically and socially. I am absolutely driven by a passion to ensure that John Flamsteed is the best school experience for your child and, as a parent myself, ensuring we are providing a quality experience to the families of our community is a responsibility I take very seriously. I believe in the principle of transparent and honest communication in order to achieve this and wish to take the opportunity to highlight to parents and carers the journey the school has been on over the last two academic years. This is not an exhaustive list but I hope to demonstrate my thinking in how we are responding to areas of the school which needed addressing when I arrived and how I am working with the senior and middle leadership of the school to make further improvements.

In order to...	We have...
Ensure the children feel safe and happy in school	Completed The Big Ask with students and responded through The Big Answer - the video which you may have watched on our website. In response to what students told us, we made some changes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the toilets;</li> <li>- the catering;</li> <li>- the lunch supervision rota;</li> <li>- the timings of the school day;</li> <li>- our systems around educating students on unacceptable and derogatory language through the launch of the Kindness Campaign.</li> </ul>
Create a vibrant and vigilant culture of safeguarding	Invested in and introduced a robust programme staff training to ensure that all staff understand their responsibility in keeping children safe
Ensure our SEND provision is high quality and robust and that children who have an additional need or disability can make progress in line with their peers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established and built The Hive, a specialist area for SEND children to have interventions;</li> <li>- launched the graduated response;</li> <li>- trained teaching staff in adaptive teaching strategies;</li> <li>- introduced provision mapping for students with an EHCP;</li> <li>- extended the team through the recruitment of more Teaching Assistants.</li> </ul>



In order to...	We have...
Teach the children more about the diverse world we live in and to understand the working world	<p>Introduced our 3 Inspiration Days each year as a series of drop-down days where the students learnt about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- mental health;</li> <li>- had mock interviews;</li> <li>- interacted with the fire service;</li> <li>- completed first aid;</li> <li>- learnt about apprenticeships;</li> <li>- enjoyed an outdoor pursuits trip;</li> <li>- a University trip;</li> <li>- learnt about a range of different faiths at Open Centre ...and much more!</li> </ul>
Ensure the students receive a diverse programme of personal development with enhances their academic studies and is line with statutory guidance	Overhauled the Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education by buying in and personalising a new Personal Development curriculum and rebranding it with students and staff
Protect the emotional health and wellbeing of students and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Doubled the Counsellor provision in school</li> <li>- Set up a Wellbeing Group which drives the school's new Wellbeing Charter</li> </ul>
Ensure the quality of teaching and learning and assessment is robust	Introduced a system of Deep Dives in subject areas which comprehensively quality assures teaching and learning, leadership, curriculum and feedback in each subject
Ensure great quality teaching and learning lies at the heart of every classroom	Introduced our teaching and learning mantra; CPR (Challenge, Pace, Response) as our non-negotiables in the classroom and introduced more opportunity for quality ensuring this at senior level
Ensure that lessons are not interrupted by low-level disruption	Implemented a new behaviour policy which is clear and consistent
Help students not to be late to lessons	Introduced movement time between back-to-back periods in the day to ensure they have more opportunity to visit the toilet and move between classrooms
Help students understand the bigger picture of what they are learning	Introduced "routes to remarkable" printed in books and folders which are route maps to help guide students understand how their current topic fits in with the wider curriculum and why it's important
Learn from previous exam seasons	Introduced a system of rigorous and robust Exam Reviews in the Autumn term whereby Subject Leads meet myself and other members of the Leadership Team to reflect on last year's outcomes and where improvements can be made

In order to...	We have...
Further improve the areas for improvement from the school's last Ofsted inspection in 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduced a new Feedback and Response policy to improve consistency with marking in books</li> <li>2. Implemented new protocols for tracking attendance to reduce persistent absence</li> <li>3. 3. Consolidated teaching and learning strategies by moving away from stipulating the structure of the lesson and towards the makeup of a quality lesson, based in evidence</li> </ol>
Improve outcomes in modern foreign languages	Changed the curriculum model to allow Year 7 to take two languages instead of three and become a specialist in one to focus on depth over breadth

I hope parents/carers are able to see the range of areas which we have strengthened over the last few years and I would like to assure you that I am not complacent. As per our tagline “nothing short of remarkable”, I will aspire to continue to make improvements and drive forward change to ensure this school is the best it can possibly be!

I would love to hear from you! Please would you spend a moment giving me your feedback by clicking on the link below which will take you to a Microsoft Forms of multiple-choice questions, which should be very quick for you to complete. <https://forms.office.com/e/7QWtRFZbK0>

I will read all of the questionnaires personally so please do feel free to take the opportunity provided by the final box to write anything positive or negative to me during the survey.

Yours sincerely



Mrs H Frost-Briggs  
Executive Head Teacher