

November 2017

Dear parents and families

Porchester Junior School has recently undergone a 'Partnership Review' carried out by a team of experts from The Flying High Trust. A Partnership Review looks at every aspect of a school's performance, and acts as a thorough 'health check' or 'MOT' of the school, including the quality of teaching and learning. These reviews are carried out by our Trust Central Team which consists of educational experts. They monitor performance regularly (and between Ofsted reports), so that our schools can be proactive and timely in creating the best learning environment for your children.

We are delighted to say that Porchester Junior School is a vibrant and happy school and a valued member of The Flying High Trust. We would like to share some of the report's findings with you.

The review has found that Leadership at Porchester Junior School is effective, strengthened by the appointment of a new Deputy Head Teacher, and supported by a dynamic team of leaders, governors, teachers, teaching assistants, office and the midday supervisors team. The governing body is found to be well led and managed and the governors are fulfilling their statutory duties well; especially in areas concerning safeguarding, child protection and health and safety. Governors are kept well informed about all aspects of the school by the Headteacher, in whom they have the utmost confidence. This obvious sense of unity in providing the best for the children of Porchester is enabling momentum for school improvement, driven by the Senior Leadership Team and leading to a sustainable school that is consistently effective at the highest level, - this should be a source of pride for all.

Porchester office staff are praised as warm and professional, and the school site is safe, secure and well maintained. Site health and safety systems and processes at the school are so exemplary that they have been introduced Trust wide as an expectation and standard to aim for.

The report shows that the school's curriculum not only meets the needs of pupils, but creates an immersive learning environment demonstrated by the thirst for learning that children display. There is a consistency throughout the school relating to working walls, pupil charter, value trees, and a system of behaviour management that is understood by children and one which inspires children to achieve, as well as guides them to make good decisions. The review is delighted to report that the children of Porchester were found to be polite, engaging and very committed to the school charter and values, motivating them to achieve their full potential.

Teaching and learning is strong at Porchester Junior School which has an inspirational and resource rich environment. Children's books are well presented and demonstrate progress, and the school's teaching assistants are committed to achieving the best outcomes for children.

Parents report that the staff are accessible and efficient when queries are raised and that they value the wide range of opportunities afforded their children. The review also found that parents support the values, charter and ethos of the school and this support is creating an enviable environment where everyone is pushing for the same goals.

Our review, exhaustive as it is, often has a series of 'next steps' that a school should make. In this case those can be summed up very simply; keep up the momentum and build on your current results. The school is implementing strategies to make Maths stronger, using more working walls for the subject and finding the most effective methods of feedback for children in order to optimise their

progress. Best practice should be consistently deployed throughout the school to continue the drive for excellence. With an effective and united team such as exists at the school we are positive that any targets set can be achieved.

We are pleased when we can write a report that contains so many positives about a school and would like to take this opportunity to thank the children, friends and families and staff who support Porchester Junior School and The Flying High Trust.

Warmest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Wheatley' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Wheatley  
CEO of the Flying High Partnership