



SARK SCHOOL

Une petite êkole duve d'grans ambitions'

Be Kind Be Curious Be You 

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In May, Sark School was reviewed by The Guernsey Education Office as part of the new Service Level Agreement. Focus areas were inclusive practice, student wellbeing, EYFS and Mathematics.

Overall, Sark School was regarded as a wholly positive and safe environment with high levels of student wellbeing and a place where strong pupil development takes place.

During their visit The Guernsey Education Office met with school leaders, staff, parents and the Board Of Education. They talked to pupils about their work, observed lessons and lunchtimes, as well as transition periods. They also looked at the Mathematics, PSHE and EYFS curriculum and discussed with curriculum leads.

The report begins by recognising that during the visit, behaviour throughout the school was very good stating that,

“Children at Sark School feel listened to and safe.”

With regards to inclusive teaching they observed,

“Due to small class sizes, most interventions/adaptations happen in class” continuing to state that “small class sizes and high adult:pupil ratio allows opportunities for children to receive a greater level of input from class teachers.”

The review also noted that processes for supporting learners with additional needs were embedded throughout the curriculum areas observed and that a strong process is in place to identify, assess and review the requirements of all learners.

The second area of focus was PSHE, which was observed throughout the school day as well as in a specific PSHE lesson. It was reported that,

“School values and growth mindset were embedded across the whole school with pupils bringing them up voluntarily in class, for example”.

It was recognised that children,

“Clearly feel safe, value being kind and respectful, have plenty of opportunity for character development and enrichment activities along with a strong overall sense of physical and mental wellbeing. “

During the EYFS observation it was noted that,

“The wellbeing and involvement levels of the children were high throughout this session.”

continuing to mention that “continuous provision and class layout had been thought out carefully and children have the opportunity to read one to one with an adult every day.” This led



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on to an important comment on the strong culture of reading for pleasure observed throughout the whole school.

In addition, parents discussed that parent communication has progressed and the school is more actively using the website to keep the parents and local community engaged with learning and developments.

Finally The Guernsey Education Office reviewed the school Mathematics curriculum which has been a key focus of the School Development Plan this academic year. Throughout Maths observations it was noted that there were clear recaps of prior learning, with knowledge being applied throughout the lessons. Positive use of questioning and routines, effective team teaching with the HLTA, strong teacher subject knowledge, useful on the spot feedback and high quality of classroom discussion throughout were all highly praised.

In conversation with the Head of School further development areas included developing a current Maths policy including a curriculum for teaching financial literacy and times table knowledge, developing a SEN policy in line with the Code of Practice, the development of a robust PSHE curriculum and to identify a PSHE lead.

Head of School, Michelle Brady says "The Sark School community is proud of the feedback we received from The Guernsey Education Office. It demonstrates the positive journey that the school has travelled. This has been a whole community effort supported by immense hard work from the school staff. We look forward to following up on the recommendations made in the review with support of The Guernsey Education Development Officers."

Conseiller Jolie Rose, Chair of The Education Committee says "The Education Committee are pleased to see that the school is heading in the right direction. The report clearly states that there's good provision for every child across the school and it also accurately reflects the unique opportunities Sark School has to offer. Huge congratulations to the staff for all their hard work and we want to acknowledge that this report reflects the efforts of our dedicated team to ensure the continued development of our improving school."