

Holmwood House School



School Development Plan Update to Parents No. 3 June 2019

In the autumn term, we presented our [School Development Plan](#), and sent you updates to that plan in December and March. In February, many parents completed an online Parent Survey; the highlights of which are below.

What follows is an update; a round-up of what we said we would do and what we have, indeed, done.

The areas of development were centred around these themes:

- **A High Quality Learning Experience**
- **The Very Best for Your Child**
- **Preparing Your Children For The Future**
- **Growing Relationships**

If you have any questions regarding this update, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes

Alexander Mitchell
Headmaster

Feedback from Parent Survey - February 2019

93 parents completed the survey which represents circa 57% of the families at Holmwood. The following areas were positive highlights (95-100% agreed):

- Development of children's independence and responsibility
- Range of subjects
- Pastoral care
- High standards of behaviour
- Development of strong teamwork and social skills
- Availability of information about the school and its policies
- Before and after school care
- Children's enjoyment of school
- Safety, security and welcome
- School's values and attitudes
- Fair treatment of children, regardless of gender, faith, race or needs
- Promotion of values of democracy, respect and tolerance for other people
- Development of children's social and emotional skills
- Effectiveness of teaching to help the child make progress
- Encouragement of children to adopt a healthy lifestyle
- Quality of events, performances and concerts
- Settling in well when starting boarding
- Positive effect of the boarding experience on children's progress
- Positive effect of the boarding experience on children's personal development

The following areas were identified from the responses as areas for further development. These feature in our School Development Plan and are covered later in this document:

- Reporting of pupil progress; reports and parent evenings
- Communication between teachers and home
- Communication of the preparation process for senior schools

Thank you to those parents who took part in the survey which will be repeated annually, normally in the spring term. We would encourage as many parents as possible to complete these in the future.

Development Plan Update

The following actions have either been implemented or are planned for implementation in September 2019:

- Curriculum
 - Improved core skills progression in English and maths
 - Development of our thematic learning approach
 - Introduction of an exciting Global Studies curriculum
 - Curriculum Mapping for parents
 - Improved transition from class teaching to specialist teaching

- **Assessment & Reporting**
 - Introduction of national benchmarking through the use of standardised tests
 - Development of a new academic tracking system
 - Improvement of the use of assessment data to enhance pupil progress
 - New reporting and consultation process
- **Senior School Preparation**
 - Clarity of approach for parents
 - Introduction of classes to support senior school entrance
 - Greater clarity of process for academic and non-academic scholarship routes
- **Pastoral Care**
 - Continued development of pupil mentoring throughout the school
 - Introduction of PASS data (Pupil Attitudes to Self and School)
- **Parental Support**
 - Parent Workshops (e.g. Relationship and Sex Education - January 2019, Assessment - June 2019)
 - School fees restructure
 - Clear feedback on school developments via regular updates
 - Introduction of the Weekly Bulletin in addition to the Newsletter
 - Development of the Parent Portal for communication of assessment data and reports
 - New parent communication protocol (from September 2019)
 - Continued development of our social media output
- **Staff Development**
 - New Leadership structure
 - Increased training opportunities, e.g. Bellevue emerging leaders, coaching, learning reviews, Able, Gifted & Talented days
 - Enhanced internal training schedule
 - Staff wellbeing group established
- **School Site**
 - Refurbishment of the Early Years building to house our new Pre-Reception class
 - Creation of a new staffroom

Next Steps

We will continue to communicate updates to parents showing where developments have taken place and how they impact on their children's learning. We hope this is helpful to parents and look forward to an exciting year ahead.