

Whickham School

Self Evaluation Judgements

Below is a summary of the school's judgements of its current performance. Criteria and grading used reflect those used by Ofsted. Ofsted judges school performance using the following four grades:

1. Outstanding
2. Good
3. Requiring Improvement
4. Inadequate

Current Judgements

Criteria	Judgement
Leadership and management	Good
Quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Outstanding
Sixth Form	Good
Overall Effectiveness	Good

These judgements are based upon an evaluation of 2019 results, current achievement of pupils and progress towards the School Improvement Plan.

Strengths

- An ambitious curriculum is in place that results in pupils making good progress. Pupil outcomes at the end of KS4 and in the sixth form are good or better. Pupil outcomes in the sixth form have been very strong for a significant period of time.
- Strong teaching, learning and assessment practices ensure pupils access a curriculum that prepares them well for post 16 study and either employment or further study at university or college. This is reflected in outcomes that are above national average and pupils accessing a strong range of destinations when leaving the school.
- The school benefits from a wide range of subject specialists. Very few teachers teach outside of the subject that they are qualified to degree level.

- Pupil behaviour is very good with few instances of inappropriate conduct. When behaviour falls below expectations this is dealt with swiftly and fairly. We practice restorative approaches that enable behaviours to be changed.
- Pupils enjoy school and attendance is well above local and national averages. Punctuality to school and lessons is good.
- Pupils engage in a wide range of extra curricular and enrichment activities that help build them into well rounded citizens. The number of after school clubs, activities and organised trips is extensive.
- A culture exists where diversity and equality are celebrated. The school has a well established Rainbow Society and supports other schools in developing their own.
- The school is at the forefront of work to ensure the quality of mental health care provision, both at Whickham and in other local schools, is of a high quality.
- The school has a culture that puts safeguarding first. Safeguarding processes and procedures are effective and staff understand and apply all related policies.
- School leaders demonstrate clear vision and are relentless in their drive to ensure all pupils realise their potential.

Current Priorities

Over the next year leaders are focused upon ensuring the academic priorities detailed below are achieved.

- Ensuring good GCSE results achieved in 2019 are built upon, particularly in core subject areas such as English and mathematics.
- Supporting our most disadvantaged pupils in maximising their success.
- Ensuring there is no gap in the performance between boys and girls at GCSE.
- Maintaining strong Sixth Form performance.

Details of short and longer term improvement priorities can be located on the School Improvement Plan summary page.

