



# Brinsworth Whitehill Primary

Part of Wickersley Partnership Trust

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We have some very exciting news. Hopefully, our school is going to receive the 'Rotherham Charter Gold Award' this year.

This is an award in recognition of the work that we do to try and work in partnership with you to give your children the best experience at primary school that we can.

Two very important dates for your diary:

June 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Our accreditation Visit

This is the day that a team of people will come to visit our school (some of you may remember this happening at the beginning of our journey to Charter Gold) to meet with parents, children and staff to gather their views on life at Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School.

July 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Celebration Picnic day

This is a special day where we would like you to help us to celebrate receiving our award. More details about this day will follow very soon.

Over the past few years we have added to and adapted things we do at school to improve the experience for all of our children and families. Here are some of the things you asked for and our responses to your requests:

You said ... Can we have more time to speak with the teacher on parent's evening.

We did ... Change our autumn term parent's evening into a parent's day so that you could have longer meetings with the teacher. However, if you are unable to attend during the day the class teacher is always happy to meet you at another time that is more convenient to you.

You said ... We would like a halal food choice to be offered to children at lunchtime.

We did ... Consult with parents then alter the school meals provider so that a halal option is available every day.

You said ... We would like more homework for children.

We did ... Arrange for a group of parents to meet with Mrs Lee to discuss homework. It was difficult to reach a consensus but eventually a new homework policy was agreed which is largely skills based and has a creative element so that all children have a special project to complete each term with you at home.

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*At Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School we aim to create a supportive learning environment where everyone is encouraged to grow, develop and achieve their full potential*

You said ... Can we have better arrangements for transition so that children get to spend more time with their future teacher?

We did ... Change our transition arrangements so that more of the week is now spent with the new teacher and this includes an activity afternoon when parents are invited into school to work on a creative activity with their children.

You said ... The reward system at school doesn't seem right. Children who are always good do not seem to be rewarded.

We did ... Change our celebrations assembly and introduce golden learners. These are the 'always' children who always try their best and work hard. These children are always celebrated in assembly. Platinum learners are the children who go 'over and above' especially with their characteristics of effective learning.

Please note: Mrs Lee is setting up a consultation with parents to further improve our system of rewards through school. This will be happening soon and more information is to follow.

You said ... Can we have an Eid party? Then after we had one, you said can we have it during the day so that everyone can definitely come?

We did ... Have an Eid party at the end of the day. It was lovely but in future we will be having it during the day so that everyone can come.

You said ... Can we stop having baguettes as a choice on the school menu because children can't eat them.

We have ... Made an arrangement with our school meals provider not to have baguettes on the menu - this takes effect from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

We now have an increasing group of wonderful parents/carers who are continuing the efforts of Nicola, Fakhara and Sue to move things forward for our school. They are our Parent Champions. They attend meetings, share ideas and are about to embark on a new and exciting adventure - more news about this to follow after half term!

The award we are about to receive is an award for everyone. It shows that you have ideas and are willing to share them and it shows that we are willing to listen to your ideas and whenever practical and possible we will act upon them to make our school just a little bit better each time.

This award does not mark the end of anything. It marks the beginning. We are being recognised for our efforts to make a start on this journey. If you keep coming along with us, who knows what we will be able to achieve! With thanks to everyone who has helped to make this possible,

Kathryn Sprague - Charter Champion