



Parent Briefing

So, How Do You Know That I Know?

In today's world, many people judge schools simply upon examination results. To you, as parents, these are important but I believe you use a range of measures in judging our school and I do the same.

One of the tools that I use, is the annual departmental review process. In a four week period, the review of a subject will take place and this culminates in a meeting with me to review all the evidence gathered. The evidence comes from a range of sources including:-

- ◆ classroom observations of all teachers in the teaching team for that subject.
- ◆ analysis of examination results, student by student, class by class. These are then measured against Norfolk and national results and our expectations based on the Target Minimum Grades set for each student.
- ◆ student questionnaires and, in some areas, student interviews.
- ◆ the results of Learning Walks undertaken by the subject team.
- ◆ a scrutiny of students' work in that subject.
- ◆ analysis of the current students' performance in the subject, both against Target Minimum Grades and the Attitude Grades for each student.
- ◆ other documentation including teaching schemes of work.

The report produced by the department is based on the Self Evaluation Form that Ofsted would evaluate prior to an inspection.

The results of the meeting are a set of clear priorities for the department to improve further the quality of the teaching and standard achieved by each student.

Obviously, this is not all the monitoring that goes on across the school. For example, we fully analyse the parental questionnaires used at every parent consultation evening. The Leadership Team also makes routine supportive visits to classes each week and we agree, in advance, what the focus of the week's visit will be. Each week we also look at attendance data and behaviour data (both good and not so good!). Governors also undertake regular monitoring visits.

With detailed department reviews taking place, I can be sure of the progress being made within the school and you can be assured that robust monitoring is taking place to ensure your child is receiving the quality of education that is so vital to their success.

Ian Clayton, Principal

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