## **Aughton Junior Academy**

Montez Toujours – Always Aspire



Acting CEO Rebecca Scutt BSc (Hons) PGCE Executive Principal Katy Wright Principal Toni Tomlinson Chair of Governors Dominic Curran

Turnshaw Avenue, Aughton, Sheffield S26 3XQ **Tel:** 0114 2873091



E-Mail: info@aughtonacademy.org

#### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Parental Questionnaire Feedback DEC 2022

Thank you to all who completed the questionnaire for us after Parent's Evening in the Autumn term. It is important for us to obtain your views about the education the children receive in school, and we take the time to act on this to continually improve our school, in partnership with you, for the children. At Aughton Junior Academy, the children are at the heart of everything we do, and we look forward to strengthening our partnerships with yourselves.

#### **Positive Feedback and General Comments**

The feedback we received from the questionnaire was incredibly positive and we wanted to share it with you.

We are delighted that 100% of our parents/carers agree 'their children are happy and feel safe at Aughton Junior Academy', 'their children are taught well and are making good progress' and 'that we expect children to do their best'.

The questionnaire feedback highlighted that all our parents agree that we ensure children are well behaved, and we encourage good attendance on a daily basis, which we share with the children through assemblies and talk time, and yourselves via the newsletters.

As reading is one of our academy priorities, it was reassuring to see that 100% of our parents agree that reading is important at AJA, and that we encourage the children to read regularly. We thread reading throughout our AJA curriculum in all curriculum subjects, and believe it is the foundation to unlocking learning. The reading scheme is well received on the whole, however, we are aware some children would prefer additional texts. We continually update the books in the reading scheme and encourage the children to develop a love of reading with the 'Love to Read' books. The 'Love to Read' books can be chosen by the children in their library slot, and be based on their interests. Pupil questionnaires inform us of authors and books the children have on their wish list for us to build our 'Love to Read' section.

All the staff in our school work incredibly hard and it was a delight to see that all of our parents and carers were in agreement that the academy is well led and managed, any concerns they raise are dealt with promptly and that we communicate well with parents and carers.

# We were blown away by the positive comments we received in the additional space section and want to begin by thanking you for your kind words about the academy. Please find some of them below;

"We are amazed by our child's progress in such a short space of time"

"My child has settled in well and is happy to come, is keen to learn"

"Very good communication, excellent at putting things in place for SEN children"

"My child is very happy at Aughton and is doing well with her learning and enjoying it"

"Moving my child to Aughton was the best decision we ever made. Our only regret is not doing it sooner. Thanks so much."

"We are really happy that we are coming into school more and being more involved"

"I think that small schools naturally foster deeper and meaningful relationships between children. It also helps teaching staff to build rapport with pupils and tackle any unwanted behaviour, including bullying, at much more early stages than in big schools. I like the fact that when I drop my kids at school, they often greet children from other years. They know their names and seem to be familiar with them to some degree. This and all the above makes children feel secure. I have a strong impression that pupils are taught not only English and Maths, but also encouraged to discuss and learn about tolerance, mutual respect, being supportive of those who struggle rather than competitive, it's evident in our day to day conversations. Aughton has clearly very enterprising staff – well done and thank you for that. I think extra activities park curiosity, crucial in earning process, keeps children open minded, supports mental health and helps them to build confidence. This and all the above are the reasons why my children look forward to return to the classroom and friends after each school holiday."

#### Areas For Improvement And Actions Taken From Feedback

**Area 1** – 'My child receives appropriate homework for their age' had a few neither agree nor disagree, and 1 person disagreed.

Action taken – In response to the feedback received for this point, we are going to send out a further questionnaire via google link, to obtain your views on homework as there were not many additional comments about homework to action in the first instance. This link will be sent by email and will stay open for two weeks. For homework, we currently ask children to complete reading 4 times a week at home, and practice spellings and times tables. In the Autumn Term we introduced the 'Wellbeing Bingo' instead of the previously used home Learning page.

#### Area 2 - 'Aughton Junior Academy deals effectively with bullying'

Action taken – Most were neither agree nor disagree, with some additional comments to say they have no experience of bullying in school. We wanted to outline our agenda with bullying and update you with some information moving forwards. All allegations of bullying in the academy are taken seriously and looked in to as we have zero tolerance for bullying in our school.

To raise awareness of bullying with the children, we take part in the Anti-Bullying Alliance 'Anti-Bullying Week' where we wear odd socks and discuss scenarios with the children during assembly and talk time. We want to make sure the children know when bullying is taking place and how to speak out for themselves or others. In this term, we have partnered with Ann-Foxley Johnson from the Anti-Bullying Company. Our Student council will be working on this and sharing some information on the Academy's Anti-bullying page on the website.

Area 3 – "I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress"

Action taken – In the additional comments section, some parents and carers said they feel they only receive information about their child's progress at the two Parent's Evenings and End of Year report.

As an academy, we share this information during those 3 opportunities and use the pages in the diaries to share spelling tests/mental maths tests results as well as progress in times tables and the reading scheme. It has been particularly challenging over the past few years and during those times, we sent home copies of final English pieces to share progress in writing, which are going to continue doing throughout the year. We have a 'Curriculum Showcase' Event scheduled for each class in the Spring 2 half term as well as regular updates to the website and Facebook page.

Moving forward, we will be looking at putting on some 'Stay and Share' sessions where you can take part in a curriculum activity, and be able to look in your child's book and record some feedback for the children about what you think they have done really well. This will give you the opportunity to see work in books that the children have completed, talk to them about it, and see the progress they have made from their starting point. This will be in addition to parent's evenings and end of year reports so keep your eyes peeled for those dates. If this is successful, we will look to put these sessions on in the half terms where there is not a parents evening or end of year report.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for continually supporting us, and working alongside us to make your children's educational journey memorable and fun! We hope that you can see that we are responding to your feedback to develop our whole school for academic and personal development for the children and we look forward to the rest of the academic year!

Kind regards,

Mrs. Tomlinson Associate Principal