

*'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love'*



# **Achievement For All** **Report 2017**



A national accolade for quality has been awarded to St. Mark's C.E (A) Primary School for its work in developing its pupils learning, behaviour, well-being and self-esteem.

The Quality Lead Award has been developed by the leading education charity [Achievement for All](#) (AfA), and recognises the impressive work being done by the school to improve progress in reading, writing and maths for all pupils.

Achievement for All offers support programmes to schools and settings to help them improve outcomes in the lowest achieving 20 per cent. St. Marks has been working in partnership with the charity since January 2015 and has seen a marked improvement in many aspects including working with parents and carers on children's targets as part of the AfA framework.

Achievement for All works closely with parents, carers, teachers and the individual child to secure the best outcome and attainment for their students through personalised and specific targets. The unique programmes are delivered directly to schools and settings via a highly skilled and trained team of expert coaches and specialist online support tool called The Bubble.

Schools have the opportunity to win two awards - Quality Mark and Quality Lead, of which Quality Lead is the most prestigious. A school is assessed for Quality Mark within the second year of the Schools Programme. Once a school has been awarded a Quality Mark, it may then move on to achieve Quality Lead status.

Schools are assessed in various categories such as strategic planning, quality of teaching and learning, effective use of interventions, pupil progress and community relationships.

Garath Jackson, Regional Lead at Achievement for All, said:

"We are delighted to present St. Mark's C.E (A) Primary School with this prestigious award – a real stamp of quality for their high standards in leadership, teamwork, quality of teaching and pupil progress."

"However, it's not just the target groups who have made significant progress. Our programmes are designed to be a whole school improvement tool and St. Mark's C.E (A) Primary School has shown a continued commitment and success in improving outcomes for all children across the whole school and that of other children within the local area."

"Achievement for All believes that every child can progress, and through our programmes we hope to enable every child to be the best that they can be regardless of background, challenge, or need. Huge congratulations to teachers, parents and children at St. Mark's C.E (A) Primary School for all their hard work. A truly deserved award."

Below is an extract from an e-mail received from Garath Jackson Regional Lead for the North following his visit to St. Mark's to assess the evidence for the Quality Lead award

"Following my recent visit to St Mark's CofE (A) Primary School on Thursday 1st December 2016, I am delighted to confirm that as a result of your hard work, the Achievement for All Quality Lead was awarded. Congratulations, again, on reaching this nationally recognised accreditation.

During my visit we discussed the impact of the programme and of particular note were these factors:

- ✓ The highly effective systems and structures in place to support children who are newly arrived in the UK from many different and often challenging backgrounds. The support mechanism within the Sunbeams provision certainly enables those very vulnerable children to adapt and make good progress from their starting points.
- ✓ The discussions regarding the forensic data analysis undertaken in the school to ensure that all children make good or better progress from their starting points indicated that the school is aware of their role to ensure positive outcomes for all children.
- ✓ The strategic implementation of interventions based on evidenced impact within the school. The interventions used are well resourced and evaluated by the teachers and other staff.
- ✓ The impactful support the school has offered across the federation of schools and within the 7 Stars collaborative. I was particularly impressed with how this development stretches more widely than just the SLT. The involvement of all leaders and teachers across the school shows a very positive approach to develop and share the best practice across all schools for all staff.

- ✓ The opportunity to understand the individual success stories through your case study and the opportunity to talk with a parent demonstrated your commitment to the Achievement for All approach. The change in the parents' engagement in their child's learning was very evident and recognised the tremendous effort by the teachers to engage with him. The parent spoke about how the school's approach to engage with parents, especially at transition, had swayed his decision to place his children at St Mark's despite the distance and his previous experience with older siblings in the school. He felt listened to and informed of outcomes. He has seen and appreciates the actions taken by the school to support his children to improve their outcomes and in particular their confidence, which was reflected in the case study presented by the Inclusion Leader.

In my feedback, we discussed strategies that may be added to those already in place:

- ✓ Developing the opportunity to showcase the work of the school across a wider network of schools within Achievement for All

Please pass on our congratulations to the staff, children and governors, and accept our good wishes for a productive continuing relationship in pursuit of our shared mission to create a world in which all vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people can develop their skills, interests and capabilities to achieve.”

St Mark's would like to thank Judith Tulloch who was the AFA coach during the Quality Lead Programme and look forward to developing work in this area both within school and in collaboration with other schools.