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SMSC Quality Mark

Dear Parent/Carer

Since June 2022, Ms Moon and I have been working very closely with a citizenship education charity, Young Citizens, that informs, equips and inspires children and young people across the UK to be active citizens. In its thirty-year history, they have mobilised more than 300,000 young people to take social action, engaged over 150,000 young people in understanding the law and the legal system and reached over 1 million young people with citizenship programmes and high quality classroom resources.

As part of our collaborative work, we completed a comprehensive self-review tool and went through a rigorous assessment and verification service to validate the school's vision and delivery of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) aspects of learning.

I am delighted to inform you that as a result of this process, Titus Salt School has been awarded the highest possible level, the Gold level, of the National SMSC Quality Mark, and this was confirmed by the Quality Assurance Panel at the beginning of November. On the back of this award, Ms Moon and I have been invited to lead a session at the National Personal Development Conference in Birmingham in March 2023 and we have been recommended as a beacon school for best practice.

The Quality Assurance panel thought very highly of our pupils, teachers, parents and governors, to whom they spoke during the verification process. They were described as 'thoughtful and articulate in their responses' and they were able to 'describe the school and recent improvements with enthusiasm and pride. Pupils clearly value and appreciate the opportunities that the curriculum and extra-curricular activities provide. They also value the support given to them by all members of (teaching and non-teaching) staff, which is a hallmark of staff/student relationships. They were a credit to themselves, their families and the school'. The Panel also congratulated the school on the exemplary curriculum and positive relationships, its commitment to diversity and its inclusion of all stakeholders in the forward momentum of the learning community.

The leadership of Personal Development by Ms Moon was highlighted in the report as a particular strength and mention was given to an impressive programme of Personal Development which incorporates the statutory expectations around sex and relationships and health education (RSHE), staying safe, staying healthy, being good citizens and careers and finance, but has clearly been adapted to meet our specific needs. Verifiers were particularly conscious of the support given to all pupils, especially those with additional needs, and they were justifiably proud of the achievements of our children, not just in terms of academic attainment but also their social and emotional skills development.

The Award is valid until 2025 and we will continue to champion aspects of spiritual, moral, cultural and social learning across all areas of the curriculum.

On behalf of staff and pupils at Titus salt School, I would like to publicly thank everyone involved in the pursuit of this impressive award.

Yours sincerely

Richard Field
Assistant Headteacher
Quality of Education
Teaching and Learning