



Praise for William Harding School 2020 - 2021

Dear parents and WH community,

Please take time to read some of the lovely comments we have had this year from our community praising our wonderful school.

Thank you to all those who have sent in such kind and supportive words of praise.

Thank you as always for your support, especially during another challenging year.

Miss Cotchin
Head teacher

To whom it may concern,

I want to express my gratitude towards all at William Harding, thank you for your continuous effective communication that allows us, families, to rest assured that you are doing your best at all times. Take care and stay safe.

Hello Miss Cotchin

I wrote to you to praise Mr McMahon as I thought he was exceptional, this is down to the way he manages his class. My child is with the best teacher he could possibly have.

Dear Miss Cotchin and all of the WH Team,

This has been an exceptionally challenging year for everyone and especially for our little ones who couldn't comprehend what was going on. It must have been even challenging for those starting their school journey and were about to step into an unknown world. We as a parent were really nervous with our child beginning school life under these circumstances. We weren't sure how they would respond and adopt to new setting.

However, it was a breeze and they settled in straightaway and we see how happy he was upon returning from school each day and wanting to go back the next morning. We saw massive improvement in his reading and writing skills and not to mention his mathematics. He enjoys telling us about his day in the school and what activities he took part in or what story did Miss Furness or Miss Clark read that day. We feel this is all because of the exceptional teaching team, school leadership and each and every member of school staff, who made it possible. We cannot thank you and your team enough for your efforts during these difficult times.

We as a parent hope that this will continue into the new year and our child will continue to grow, learn and evolve with support from the teachers and continue to enjoy next few years in the school.

Hello

As we're finishing the term, a very hard and strange one I would just like to share my appreciation for you all.

I just want to thank you all immensely for how you've handled our child in the current situation that we are in. Nobody has once panicked when they have become unwell at school or made me feel bad for them becoming unwell at school. And you've all just been so supportive and I can't tell you how appreciative I've been of that.

Our School Values are Perseverance, Respect, Inclusion, Honesty, Responsibility and Collaboration

I can't imagine the stress and pressure you've all been under but you and the school as a whole have done a great job and despite the boys missing a lot of school they have had the best start to school and have developed amazingly and I thank you for that!!

A massive thank you to everyone involved in planning for the start to this term. I cannot imagine how much effort it took.

Just wanted to send a quick email to say thank you for all the work that has gone into the remote learning. The dojo site is so good and having clips to watch as well as the work makes it much more interactive. Really love that my child has already had feedback on her work. Just wanted to let you know how much the school staff are appreciated - thank you!

Dear Miss Cotchin

I would like to thank you and your staff on doing everything you can to provide care and education to our children. Not an easy task at the best of times and we are very grateful to you.

Totally agree! The speed and efficiency of how quickly my daughter's teachers got back to us today with feedback on work was hugely impressive! Both my kids were nervous about the prospect of homeschooling again and the fact the teachers in both classes had gone to so much effort with audio explanations on PowerPoint etc was truly fantastic! 🙌

I completely agree. Take my hat off to them all and thank my lucky stars my child could go to school today and I could work doing my job for the NHS! Thank you WH ❤️

I agree they have all done a fantastic job 🙌

100% agree a brilliant job done by all

I think they have been amazing too. My child was given her place at midnight, only 4 hours after the announcement. I was so relieved that I could go to work today and in the coming weeks.

I fully agree with this! I have had a surprisingly successful home schooling day with my son; and my daughter went into and came out of preschool very safe and happy. My boy is excited to start again tomorrow. Thank you to the staff of WH for facilitating all of this. There

My sons's really appreciated hearing their teachers's voices and the day really improved once I got used to the new system. Getting the quick feedback definitely helped motivate my boys to carry on with the next piece.

whole school team continues to work very hard for every individual! 🙌

Absolutely agree, all the work they put in yesterday to ensure the school was as safe as possible for students to return was just completely stamped all over by the government. They, like all of us, had no prior warning that we would go into lockdown. They worked tirelessly. Yes, many of us were unsure whether our children would be in school, and many of us have struggled with the new platform, but please remember the school is extremely large therefore many many parents to communicate with. I'm positive we are far better off than some families at different schools, so a huge thank you

Love this 🙌
I Completely agree! The school has nearly 700 pupils. Many of these pupils (and their families) new to the school since September. The school have worked incredibly hard for every individual and let's be honest could never have pleased everyone given the time frame. 🙏

Nice to see a post like this! Great to see positivity and praise for the teachers xxx

Totally agree. The school have bn outstanding! Well done to all!

*Thank you all for all your hard work last term and for sorting all the keyworker places this term. You are all amazing and without you I wouldn't be able to do my Job at the hospital.
Please all take care.*

*I would like to include my gratitude for the classes being added on ClassDojo. My child has been enjoying it and I've enjoyed seeing how she is being taught. This will definitely help us get through this lockdown. My younger son is also enjoying the classes so might boost his education too.
Thank you for the effort of creating home learning so kids are still being taught even though not in the environment we would hope.*

Thank you so much for all this communication. We are so thankful to you & your wonderful staff.

Dear Miss Cotchin

I just wanted to say how impressed I was with how well all staff involved dealt with a child this morning. Firstly, the staff member on the gate remained calm and professional and acted very quickly to get the support required for the child. Secondly, how quickly all other staff reacted to the request for support and all involved remained calm and dealt with the situation brilliantly.

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I would like to thank you and all of the staff who have clearly been working under extreme circumstances this past year and I think all of the work that all staff have been carrying out both on-site and on home schooling has been amazing. You are all doing a brilliant job and I hope you are all getting the praise you deserve.

Best wishes and stay safe



Tweet



William Harding School @SchoolHarding · 21h

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Thank you to our school staff for working so hard to get us up and running in record time. Here is a little bit of joy for you all, our EYFS staff dressed up for Space Day!



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Hello all,

The school is going through an exemplary self-improvement journey (and doing a great job at it) and secondly I wanted to take a moment show my appreciation and thank you all for the excellent work you are doing during these tough times.

Despite the challenging times and unprecedented situation we find ourselves in, the school continues to show strength and has developed in almost every area and this is all because of hard work and dedication shown by each and every one of you. I am pleased to see the quality of learning material for home learning and can only imagine the amount of effort that goes in producing every day. My child really enjoys the activities and looks forward to new challenges every day. So thank you for that.

I am sure everyone is looking forward to all of this to end and have kids back in the school, however it is likely to last for bit longer. This means that the school will need you to continue to provide the same level of focus to make sure the high quality learning continues both at school as well as at home. As a governing body we are keen that you are looking after yourself.

We are pleased that the SLT has staff wellbeing as a priority and is keeping you updated on latest government guidelines and involving you in making sure that school is safe for kids as well as staff. So again, thanks to all of you to continue to provide a safe and fun learning environment for kids who are still attending in person.

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*Dear William Harding School staff,
I wanted to thank you all for the support given to the key workers families.
Kind regards*

*Good Afternoon Miss Cotchin,
Can I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your leadership at William Harding during these tough times. The school as always have been organised with teachers clearly going over and beyond to provide not only teaching but safety and security to kids and parents still coming in for lessons - Thank you.*

*Good evening
I would like to say what an amazing job you are all doing during this time. Very impressed with it all indeed. Class Dojo is very well set out for both my children. WELL DONE WILLIAM HARDING.*

I would like to thank you all for your help. The replies I have had, and the school website, really live up to the reputation that I had heard.

Thank you very much for your email regarding the Pupil Mentors. We really appreciate that you have chosen my child as 1 of the pupils who may benefit from this pastoral service and support you are offering. Again, we thank you for the support you are offering the pupils and all your hard work behind the scenes to maintain some sort of routine and education for the children.

*This is fantastic. Thank you. (in relation to COVID communications sent out)
Kind regards*

I just wanted to write a quick note to all of the teachers involved in the teaching/marking/uploading of Yr 2 and Yr 5 class work. You have made the home learning experience so much easier and do-able than the last time we were off school. Thank you for all of your hard work this half term, it must have been so difficult for you and we really appreciate it.

I just wanted to thank Miss Leaver for taking the time to produce the treasure hunt for the children during half term. My child completed it with his big brother and really enjoyed it. We also live on the route and saw many families during the week walking past with paper, pen and clipboard in hand. We have uploaded our results to ClassDojo.

Many thanks

*To Miss Cotchin and Miss Brydon
I just wanted to say a huge thank you on everything you all have done and keeping the positive feeling going within our school. It has been the toughest year for everyone but for you especially and I really appreciate it. I hope the both of you had a lovely and well rested half term. I just wanted to let you both know how much you're appreciated by sending you this positive note.*

*Dear Ms Cotchin
Please could I take this opportunity to thank you and your team for all the support throughout the lockdown. We as a family appreciate all the support and hard work that Ms Meek and Ms Cookson have put into providing home learning.*

*I would like to say thank you to Miss Meek to keep in touch with my child and motivating them all the time. They are feeling happy about their performance and excited to come back.
Once again Thank you very much.*

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Hi Mrs Skinner,

I just wanted to say thank you for giving me a virtual tour of your lovely school yesterday. From the school website and from the information you gave, I can see that William Harding is a very welcoming, friendly and inclusive school and I appreciate you taking the time to show me around.

Thank you.

Dear Miss Cotchin,

I wanted to email you this evening and pass on our thanks for everything that has been in place while the children have been home learning. The quality of the home learning from both year two and Reception has been brilliant each week. The communication from the teachers calling and leaving feedback on the work has also been so helpful. My husband and I found parents evening this evening very reassuring and both teachers were able to answer all our questions and put our minds at ease.

I completely understand a what a huge task moving to home learning was and we just wanted to say thank you to all the staff but in particular to Miss Sisk and Miss Furness.

Dear Miss Cotchin,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the school staff for their continued support during what has been a difficult time for many.

I really appreciated the calls from Mr Stallwood and Mrs Bicknell to see how my child was getting on and how they were finding the work.

I also wanted to say how much I appreciated Mr McMahon's calls to my other child. Mr McMahon has once again gone above and beyond to help me in getting them motivated and what expectations he has. His continued support has really made a difference and helped take pressure off me when some days have been difficult to get my child to do their work.

I also wanted to say how great the class dojo has been. It has been easy to use and uploading my children's completed work. I look forward to using it for homework when they return to school next week.

I appreciate all the regular updates that I have received to help ease us back into school life once again.

Thank you once again for leading the way to our school being as great as it is. All school staff should be proud of their combined achievements.

Thank you so much. We have been so pleased with what William Harding School, and you Miss Gadbury, in particular, have been doing with the learning from home. And also the phone calls, it meant so much to my child and to me that you called. It has been really good so thank you.

Dear Miss Cotchin and Miss Brydon,

I feel so proud of our school and our staff and with you and Abi at the helm we will continue to succeed in making sure our children have the best education they deserve.

Thank you to you and Abi for all your dedication in leading our amazing school through these turbulent times. I feel so blessed that we have you and our SLT with your many experiences to lead us to the other side of the rainbow 🌈.

I know things are in place at school and spent some time today, reading the updated risk assessments and felt reassured. Thank-you.

Hi Miss Cotchin,

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I just wanted to say that I am looking forward to the children all coming back tomorrow (at last!) and I am sure it will all go smoothly on the gates. WH has a great team and we all support you, and each other, and the difficult decisions that you often have to make.

Please take a little time to relax and take care of yourself this afternoon/evening if possible.

Dear Mrs Cotchin,

Thanks to you and your wonderful teaching team at WHS..thank you all from the bottom of my heart...

💖The efforts and care you all have put in place for a safe and productive return of all the children, is something invaluable 💖

Thank you all ...God Bless you all and Keep everyone one of us safe and happy🙏

Just want to send a little thank you message to everyone who works at the school!

THANK YOU SO MUCH for everything you guys have put in place, my child was upset and scared going in this morning but he came out a new person and said they had the best day ever!!!

You all have done a wonderful job during lockdown (I've even learnt a thing or two through the homework loaded on Dojo) and continued through with a fantastic, well organised reopen today! I'm so proud my child attends William Harding.

Thank you again and keep yourselves safe!

Morning Trudy,

Just dropped my child to the breakfast club and everything looked spot on and the same as when I last dropped them in December.

Thanks to you and all staff for the brilliant work you have been doing throughout last couple of months. Today is yet another beginning and am sure all is in hand. All the best.

Dear Miss Cotchin,

Thank you and your team for how well you managed to deliver high quality service throughout the pandemic. I am sure you'll come together and continue within a high level no matter the circumstances. All the best to all of you at William Harding.

Honestly, thank you for the opportunity to teach at such a fantastic school. I feel proud to have worked with such a wonderful team, led by an amazing SLT.

Thank you for attending the meeting with myself recently. Please accept this email as an email of thanks and compliments to yourself.

I was really impressed with your efforts yesterday to contain the parents' emotions, offer solutions, and at times even take the lead in doing so. It showed real commitment and ingenuity, especially when a tricky dilemma arose. Thank you for working alongside us, instead of against us – it definitely helped smooth the situation and enabled the meeting to occur.

All family members offered high praise for you, that you had worked consistently hard, were always available to talk and would always try and get things done and that you were great to work with.

Your strong commitment to communicating transparently with the family – even when this is hard to do – really shone through and is no doubt an integral part of success with the plan moving forward, so a direct benefit to the child.

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Hi

I have just got off the phone with a parent and both them and their family wanted to thank us all for this week and helping out, they are very grateful.

Thank you again for all of the support you've given me over the past few years. I wouldn't have made the progress I have without it!

Hello.

We would just like to say a special thanks to a wonderful school where our children have been very happy!

Dear Miss Cotchin

Thank you for letting us know about the lockdown practice today. I am really pleased it all went smoothly. very reassuring.

Thank you to you and all your staff for all yours and your teams commitment and support for us. As a key working returning to work to the busy NHS, I am very grateful.

Good morning,

The classes are going great! As a whole, the children's listening, attention and concentration has been brilliant, and I am very impressed with the level of ability already!

Drum / Piano Tutor

The CPD I have received from the school for extended writing has been amazing and really helped me.

I just wanted to say how well the year 1 children behaved during the vision screening recently. All the children walked through the school perfectly, they were polite and did exactly what was asked of them. I was immensely proud of them and makes my job so much easier. I would also like to thank all the TA's and teachers for helping and making the whole morning run smoothly.

Nursing team

I wanted to make you aware of how pleased we've been with the class teacher this year, it's certainly been an impossibly tough year for her but our child has done really well under your care & every day came home happy.

Seeing my child's face on the morning they could return to school after the long period of home schooling was a real pleasure.

Just wanted to thank the teacher for his wonderful teaching this year, my child really enjoyed the attention & patience shown to them, we could tell on the first parents evening back in October that he knew our child very well in deed. They have blossomed & grown in confidence under his guidance. The next group of children are very fortunate to have this teacher leading them.

Dear Miss Cotchin,

I would like to pass on my thanks and appreciation to you for everything you have done during the pandemic.

It can't have been easy but you have been very organised. I am very impressed with the way preparations for the transition from reception to year one has been handled as it has made it easier than would've been otherwise.

Our child joined Reception Class in 2020 and I wanted to let you know how happy/ we have been with the Reception Team. It's truly been a seamless operation, we have felt so secure in the knowledge that our child has been kept safe, engaged, respected and encouraged every step of the way. Their bubble has not burst throughout, this is a real feat and should be highly commended.

Receiving our child's report this week really emphasised to us what a great year it's been, the teacher and her team know our child so well, a whole lot of care has gone into the reports and we really appreciate the feedback. They have really brought out the best in her. The teacher has been so approachable and understanding, communication both ways has been exceptional.

Our child has enjoyed such a variety of activities and learning - it has made the transition easy. MUSU has also been thought through so well, this gradual approach from Reception and Year 1 has meant there's no anxiety in the move to Year 1 (for children and parents!)

I cannot imagine how much work has been put in by the Leadership Team to ensure Covid compliance as well as all manner of other safeguards to ensure the safety of all the pupils and staff in such a large school. We appreciate how visible the Leadership Team and FLO team are, how friendly the front office staff are - it all really makes a difference.

Thank you for all that you do, we are very lucky to be part of the school community.

No words of thanks can reflect the volume of work you as the Headteacher and the Deputy have undertaken this year. You are both very dedicated, enthusiastic and exceptional leaders with a clear vision for William Harding.

Walking around yesterday it was obvious to see the calm and purposeful learning environment created by yourselves throughout the school. Once again thank you for everything you both do at William Harding. WH are very lucky to have you both.

Governor

To pass on our heartfelt thanks for everything you and your team have achieved over the past 18 months, it's been quite incredible. I have been lucky enough during my career to witness and be a part of many incredible achievements but the way in which you all managed the school and pupils during and through Covid was remarkable and is my driving reason for wanting to apart of the governing body.

Governor

I just wanted to say thank you for everything you have done for my child during the time at William Harding and in particular at after school club. You really made a difference to their time there, especially with all the sports stuff on the field.

It is clear from my short time with the reception team how dedicated and hardworking they all are to providing the best start in life for all their pupils. It has been both a pleasure and honour working with such a committed team.