



'Conway Primary School highlighted in the 2016 Parliamentary Review as an example of best practice'

Conway Primary School is delighted to announce that it is one of just six primary schools in London and the South East to be featured in the 2016 Primary Education edition of the Parliamentary Review. Conway was chosen as an example of best practice in education and for the school's upwards trajectory in standards and results.

The Parliamentary Review is an annual initiative released to coincide with the beginning of the Parliamentary year. Each of its twelve separate editions focuses on a key governmental policy area, with leading organisations and executives sharing personal insight and discussing good practice alongside Cabinet and senior ministers

Over the past four years, Conway School has been on a path of reinvention, which has resulted in a dramatic increase in standards and this was highlighted in the Parliamentary Review. At the start of our journey, results in Mathematics, reading and writing were below national average but, four years on, the School is now in the enviable position of being well above both the National and the Borough averages.

Interviewed for the Parliamentary Review, Yalini Carlsson-Runban, Conway's Headteacher explained the background to this turnaround in the School's results, *"we took challenging steps to re-shape and re-design the staffing structure to ensure high quality teaching and learning. We now have a highly skilled team of senior and middle leaders as well as a supportive and effective governing body."*

Yalini continued, *"the success and improvement of the school has been the result of establishing innovative, collaborative opportunities for professional development, such as partnership work with other practitioners. In addition, developing and maintaining staff who are emotionally intelligent as well as skilled in their areas of expertise, has contributed towards the effectiveness of the team. Working in partnership with teachers to reflect and improve has created a learning culture which is reflective and constantly allows for growth and development"*.

As a result of this work Conway Primary School has been recognised by the Department for Education (DFE) for two consecutive years as being one of the top 100 schools nationally for progress and for being in the top 5% of schools for phonics. We were congratulated by the then Minister of State Schools, Nick Gibb for being one of the top 100 performing schools nationally in terms of progress made by our pupils between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 and recognised as being a school demonstrating exceptional practice in its use of PE premium funding. Additionally, our work to create an effective team was also recognised earlier this year when Conway School was awarded Silver

Status by Investors in People.

Concluding Yalini added, *"we're delighted that our work has been recognised in the Parliamentary Review and has been held up as an example of best practice. However, at Conway there is no room for complacency. Further challenges will lie ahead but creative use of funding and developing partnerships both from within education and with outside partners, will be a growing area of focus for us over the next 12 months. We still have a lot more to do and we will constantly strive to innovate and improve."*

Yalini, together with the School's Senior Leadership Team attended the Parliamentary Gala Event in the presence of amongst others the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rt Hon Philip Hammond and the Rt Hon David Curry.

Notes to editors

1. **Conway Primary School:** A large, four storey Victorian building in Plumstead built in 1912, South East London, Conway school is almost hidden within the maze of Victorian terrace housing which surround it. Most of the pupils live within a few miles of the school. It is a vibrant multi-cultural, multi-faith community which boasts over 42 home languages and dialects; all living, learning and growing in harmony together. Conway is a school that does its utmost to equip and enable the next generation to build the kind of society and economy of which we all want to part of. For further information go to: www.conwayprimaryschool.co.uk/

Conway Primary School, Galloson Road, Plumstead, London, SE18 1QY **Tel: 020 8854 0897**

2.What is the Parliamentary Review?: Combining political commentary from leading journalists, with sector specific insight from Secretaries of State, Ministers and MPs, *The Parliamentary Review* is an indispensable guide to industry best practice, which demonstrates how sector leaders have responded to challenges in the political and economic environment. The Review has several editions, each focusing on an individual policy area with the strategic aim of raising standards by highlighting best practice. *The Parliamentary Review* is sent to over 250,000 leading business executives and policymakers. In recent years, it has featured forewords by David Cameron, George Osborne and Philip Hammond.

The Review's release is marked by an annual gala in the Palace of Westminster. For Further information go to <http://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/editions/primary-education.html>