

To all staff,

Could I, on behalf of all the governors, thank you for the lovely day we had in school last week. It is always uplifting to come into Western House and immediately become absorbed in its calm but purposeful bustle and energy. We felt unanimously that the school is looking fantastic, and we all saw how the children were all totally absorbed in their lessons. We spoke to many pupils over the day, and they were as wonderfully engaging, articulate and inquisitive as ever – they love Western House...and they love you.

Thank you for providing such a vibrant, fun learning environment where boundaries exist but are not the means, and where the children genuinely feel safe. Those who held positions in various pupil voice communities were proud and felt valued, but the children can also see how much effort you put in to making sure every one of them has the best support they can get, which again reflect precious aspects of everything the school stands for. We were particularly struck by the deep, positive impact zones of regulation have made to pupil wellbeing, on top of all else that has been put in place over recent years. Our benchmark is their readiness to move into the bigger world of secondary school and you are equipping them well with these tools and, hopefully, the courage to keep using them as a reference when things are tough, wherever they find themselves.

The school has put so many successful initiatives in place over time which, we appreciate, adds to the everyday workload as does as our clear belief in providing the broadest range of different opportunities we can. As governors, we are always mindful and grateful for the dedication you show to continuously improve, adapt, uphold, and go beyond. It is not easy, but what we saw first-hand last week was the school we have always aspired to be and envisioned, with great children, a great environment, consistently great academic achievement....and great staff. Thank you.

*Simon Carter
Academy Council Chair
Western House Academy*