

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School


Kingsland Gardens, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 7BH




HEAD TEACHER Mrs Carmel Dodds **DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER** Miss Dominique Smith

PHONE 01604 714399 **EMAIL** Admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk

WEBSITE www.thegoodshepherdprimaryschool.org.uk

 @Thegoodshepherdnorthampton

 @TGSNorthampton

Tuesday, 12th July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are sending out your child's reports in the next few days and this will include a breakdown of SATS. I shared the success of this year group with the rest of the school today and just wanted to share the headlines with yourselves. I know that a lot of parents have been reading the news which has reported a significant drop in SATs results nationally.

I wanted to reassure you that this is not the case at The Good Shepherd, in fact we have continued to increase our results year on year.

When I first became Head Teacher in September 2019, my aim was to ensure children achieved their full potential and beyond and I felt that we had the staff in place to fulfil this. I will be honest with you, In March 2020 when the government announced a national lockdown, I did have a 24 hour panic. We knew our children could not afford to be away from school and they needed to be taught. Initially we prepared packs/used purple mash/ixl and tapestry to engage pupils and in the summer of 2020, we found a way to bring all pupils back to school for a day safely to alleviate any anxieties which they may have had around a return to school in September.

We returned to school in September 2020, with the hope of a 'normal' school year and so base lined all our children and identified gaps in their learning. By having this information and having researched the Pros and cons around TEAMS, we were able to run a trial TEAMS week in November when we experienced an outbreak of COVID. This fully prepared us for the January 2021 second national lockdown. Teachers taught live on TEAMS with you supporting at home. We all agreed if it had not been for your support and Mrs Auburn's drive to ensure children had devices, we would not have been able to deliver lessons. Not forgetting those delivering to both children in school and online, whilst covering colleagues with COVID. It did not surprise us that when we returned in March 2021 and did another gap analysis, there were gaps but gaps we could close particularly in upper Key stage 2.

On return to school in September 2021, we focused on the prioritisation curriculum, behaviours for learning and children's personal and social development. We ensured children were happy to be back in school by providing missed experiences such as the farm visits, the chicks, the visit from NMPAT band and Jeff Rich Drumming and concerts to share our work and of course school visits returned ; Duxford and more recently our wonderful residential.

The children have responded positively to the changes and as a result of this our outcomes have significantly improved.

TGS results 2022 KS2

	TGS	<u>2022 National</u>
Reading	73%	71%
Writing	76%	69%
Maths	73%	71%
SPAG	77%	72%
Science	69%	79%
Combined RWI	64%	59%

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who supported with home learning and a huge Thank you to the children who worked their socks off and to the staff who motivated and supported the children throughout the year. These results are truly a celebration of the tremendous efforts everyone has put in to ensure learning was not lost through the pandemic!!

Kindest regards

Mrs Carmel Dodds

Extremely Proud Head Teacher

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