



Joy Lane Primary School

A Love of Learning, for Life, for All

Friday 11th September 2015

Oyster Bay Nursery & Oysters SRP (ASD)
Headteacher: Ms D J Hines

Dear Parents and Carers

Vermeer Class

I have been contacted by some of you raising concerns about the suitability of the main teaching room for Vermeer Class; please accept this as a written response to the concerns that have been raised.

First and foremost, your children's happiness, well-being and contentment are paramount to us as this enables them to access their learning. When compiling class lists for this academic year, our Reception teachers ensured that children were placed with friends and effective learning partners. Once I was aware that this room would be built slightly smaller than the other two Year 1 classes, I made the decision to keep the total class number low.

Kent County Council has issued the following statement in response to your questions raised.

"For September 2015, the Authority was required to provide an additional temporary classroom to overcome the ongoing increase in children at Joy Lane Primary School. The existing School spaces were very limited when we investigated the best option to accommodate this provision, until the permanent accommodation is in place. One of the essential criteria was to ensure that the Year Groups were kept together for cohesion between classrooms and their learning. An unused area behind the hall, whilst slightly smaller than the standard Year 1 classroom was the best available space and on this basis Kent County Council undertook a co-ordinated refurbishment with the School during the Summer holiday period.

The new provision has been inspected and approved by a Building Control Officer to provide a compliant teaching space and includes the following:

- *43 sqm of teaching space with an additional break out space/wet play area in the adjoining central space which exceeds the standard 55sqm in total*
- *Due to the the lack of external windows it was necessary to assess the ventilation strategy within this area. An air handling unit has been installed to ensure compliance with Building Regulations Part F. This unit serves a number of purposes which are to bring fresh air into the classroom, monitor CO2 emissions and to also ventilate via the roof. In addition 3 openable roof lights have been installed within each area to provide daylight as well as fresh air.*
- *A folding screen was installed for future provision of the Main Hall but consideration was given to ensure that noise transfer between this area and the classroom was minimised. The screen installed complies with Building Bulletin 93 (this is an Acoustic design for Schools – performance standard) and Building Regulations Part E (Sound Proofing).*
- *Heating is provided via convactor heaters (as per the rest of the School)."*

I do hope that the above statement has reassured you. As always, I will continually evaluate the children's progress in their learning and their happiness within our school community.

I was delighted with the finish of Vermeer classroom and every time I have visited the children in their classroom this week, they have all been happy and engaged in their learning.

Yours sincerely,

Ms D J Hines
Headteacher

LTP/Headteacher/11Sept2015