

Achievement for All Quality Mark at Sycamore Academy

AFA was introduced in September 2011 as a strategy to narrow the gap by improving practice and supporting staff in raising the aspirations and achievement of vulnerable children with SEND or seriously at risk of underachieving. We are proud to have achieved the **Achievement for All Quality Mark** in 2015 for our continued work and commitment to improving the outcomes for our vulnerable learners. We continue to be part of 'Achievement for All', this being our 4th year in the programme.

The Achievement for All Programme with support from our coach, Paul Boucher, has helped the school to build on what works well and develop approaches to support teachers and pupils and remove barriers to learning. The programme's focus on the 4 key elements of Leadership, High quality Teaching and Learning, Parental Engagement and Wider Outcomes has supported priorities set out in the school's Improvement Plan, giving it a high profile in school and bringing about very positive outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children and their families.

In total, 80 children and their families have been involved in the programme. Termly structured conversations between parent/carers and the class teacher are a significant part of the programme and have been a great success. They are highly valued, giving both parents/carers and staff, a deeper understanding of each individual child's need/s to personalise provision and work towards mutually agreed targets.

Achieving the Quality Award gives recognition to the school for all the hard work and commitment of staff, children, governors and parents/carers in supporting all the children, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged to develop skills, interests and capabilities to achieve. It has improved outcomes for our pupil premium children and have significantly narrowed the achievement gap for these children. We look forward to building upon and improving on the celebratory achievements to date.