

30th November 2018

Dear Lynette Johnson,

This is confirmation of the decision agreed by the Autism Accreditation Award Committee made on 9th November 2018 that Lakeside School has been awarded Autism Accreditation **Advanced status**.

The committee were particularly impressed with the following areas of strength:

- Lakeside are considered as Outstanding by Ofsted
- The governing body of Lakeside School play a really active role within the school. The chair of the governing body can regularly be seen at the school and will participate in leading the school council of the school but also the wider partnership.
- Lakeside School have a unique and remarkable relationship with their parents, with all parents having positive feedback about the school and the way in which their young person is supported.
- The dedication and knowledge of the staff team is exceptional with parents and external professionals praising them highly for their knowledge and the work they do with the young people in the school.
- Pupils at Lakeside School are taught primarily as individuals on bespoke programmes.
- Lakeside School have developed strong partnerships with the local mainstream schools at both primary and secondary. This has enabled mainstream and special education pupils to have shared projects and events. Pupils from the mainstream schools have had the opportunity to be included with the pupils at Lakeside these relationships have been developed further through a pen friend scheme where pupils from the schools write letters to each other.

- Lakeside School offer pupils many opportunities throughout the day for functional communication. The individualised nature of communication supports allows pupils to not only develop the necessary skills for communication but to communicate with each other as well as staff on a range of topics.
- Bamboozle has been a project which has redefined the way in which the school works with the pupils. The approach uses 'a series of behavioural and linguistic strategies and practical drama-based techniques that seek to enable children and young people with learning disabilities to engage meaningfully with the world around them.' The impact of this was seen throughout the school in the way that staff interact with the pupils and give them the space and support to learn that suits them.

Please note that the panel recommends that the Bamboozle Project is put forward for an Enhanced Practice Commendation.

Your feedback on the process is of great value to us, and if you have not done so already, and are able, please complete our brief feedback survey on the following link: <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/AutismAccreditationSurvey2018/>

Congratulations again on this achievement, the committee look forward to your continued success.

Yours Sincerely

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