

21st November 2019

Dear Julie,

This is confirmation of the decision agreed by the Autism Accreditation Award Committee made on 9th November 2019 that Green Lane Community Special School has been given the Autism Accreditation **Advanced Award**.

The assessment report confirms that Green lane offers a very high level of consistency and quality in the support of autistic young people. During all observed sessions:

- Staff could make themselves understood by modifying their language and using a range of visual tools and communication systems.
- Students had access to personalised tools to enable them to express their wishes and needs. They were given the opportunity to develop skills in expressing opinion and making decisions
- The learning environment is low arousal well-structured with visual signposting to promote student independence.
- Students had access to sensory activities that they find enjoyable or relaxing and are supported to regulate sensory experiences which can have a negative impact on their learning or emotional well-being.

It was also appreciated that throughout the assessment, students appeared happy and relaxed. Staff take a proactive approach to minimising anxiety and interact with students with enthusiasm and understanding, taking every opportunity to reinforce students' self-esteem and confidence. It was clear to the Accreditation Committee that the school has a significant impact on improving the quality of life of the young people. This is both whilst they are students, but also in terms of preparation for adulthood. Ofsted provide further confirmation of the school as an outstanding educational provider.

The assessment report highlights a number of strengths, including how the school addresses sensory issues; the community café and the work of the 'Discrete Autism Provision', The committee were particularly interested in the "SCERTS parent group" as a means for ensuring a consistency of approach and empowering parents in implementing strategies outside of school . That parents hold the school in very high esteem is evident from the results of the

Accreditation survey with over 84 % of parents saying that the support their child received is always good.

Green Lane is clearly a centre of excellence in the education of autistic young people. Training and consultation is provided to other educational providers and professionals across Cheshire and the Greater Manchester areas. The school is committed to research and innovative practise and in particular has made a significant contribution to making effective use of the Scerts Model.

The assessment report identifies some areas for the school to work on but relate to building upon and embedded existing good practice and do not diminish the impressive achievements of the school. The committee are happy to conclude that the school fully meets the very high standards for a special school to achieve an Advanced Award.

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:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/AccreditationEvaluation19-20/>

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

Yours Sincerely

Stephen Dedridge

Stephen Dedridge
Head of Autism Accreditation (South)