



Whole School External Review Information for Parents/Guardians

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Education Officers within the Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education will be reviewing the school in the coming weeks. The following information is a guideline detailing the process involved in the External Review.

A. What is the purpose of the External Review?

- To evaluate the quality of educational leadership, learning, teaching and school ethos;
- To promote school improvement,
- To highlight good practices in schools.

B. What happens during an External Review?

Generally, reviewers evaluate:

- how far learners are being supported to develop holistically,
- the extent to which the school is able to reflect on its performance and improve its practices.

In classrooms reviewers:

- observe the learning taking place,
- observe the learners on task,
- observe learners' work,
- ask the learners about their learning experiences.

Outside classrooms reviewers may interview groups of learners, members of staff and parents/guardians on:

- what they like about the school,
- how they would like the school to improve,
- how the learners' needs are being met,
- the relationships between members of staff and learners,
- the links between the school, home and the community.

C. What happens after the External Review?

The Head of School will receive a report highlighting the school's strengths and indicating areas that need improvement. The Head of School will then communicate to parents the findings and required actions outlined in the report. This communication will be in writing and with the prior approval of the Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education.

D. As a parent/guardian, what may be my contribution to the External Review?

Parents/guardians can contribute towards the success of the External Review by completing the pre-external review questionnaire. During the review, the External Review Team will also be available to parents who would like to express their views about the school.

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