



LEARNING WELL, ENJOYING LIFE, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

28 April 2009

Dear Parents,

CISD SCHOOL REVIEW: SUMMARY REPORT AND OUTLINE OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The WORLD CLASS LEARNING GROUP (WCL) is committed to the highest possible standards of learning in all of its schools. To help achieve this, schools are visited, regularly, by both internal and external quality assurance colleagues, in order to assess the quality of students' learning and the progress they make over time. Recently the school was subject to such an internal review. The Review Team looked at:

- **Students' learning**
- **Teaching for learning**
- **The conditions that support learning**

Over three days Review team members:

- **Observed over 60 lessons**
- **Looked at samples of students' recorded work**
- **Met with the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher**
- **Met with a number of individual teachers**
- **Met with a representative group of parents**
- **Read questionnaires completed by parents**
- **Spoke with students**
- **Looked at a range of documentation.**

KEY FINDINGS

- Parents are very positive about the school
- Over ninety percent of those who replied to the questionnaire stated they thought learning, teaching, leadership and management and information about learning are, at least, good, very good or excellent.
- The school has strengthened its focus on improving learning over the last year.
- It is clear that children enjoy school and look forward to learning new things.
- In the majority of lessons students make satisfactory or better progress in their learning as a result of the quality of the teaching.
- By the time they leave the early years stage of their education at age five, most children are reading as well as expected of children of that age, with some doing significantly better.
- Children's understanding of other countries and cultures is developing well. They are genuinely interested in each other's countries and backgrounds.
- Dutch children benefit from small classes with qualified Dutch teachers. They enjoy their lessons and make very good progress.
- Children make progress in Arabic and French lessons.
- Children's personal and social development are strengths of the school.
- Children are happy and safe in school
- In every class students worked well together and co-operated successfully without being instructed to do so.

Compass International School Doha

An international school located in the State of Qatar owned and managed by Education Overseas Qatar LLC (CR No. 33520)

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- All of these attributes are positive indicators of strong personal and social development and show good progress towards the personal goals of the International Primary Curriculum (IPC).
- At this stage of the school's development, there is limited performance data to verify standards reached by students but the school's leadership team is concentrating on developing this area of work

Teaching for learning

- In every lesson the Review Team were impressed by the high quality of the relationship between teachers and students and among the students themselves.
- All the teachers treat the students with respect and give praise when it is due.
- The students are almost always actively engaged with what they are learning and keen to contribute ideas and opinions.
- Students in all classes are unafraid to make mistakes and try to learn from constructive criticism
- **The curriculum** from Early Years 1 to Year 7 is based on the Learning Goals of the International Primary Curriculum.
- The curriculum supports the students' development of an international perspective.
- The curriculum is enhanced by:
 - *a range of clubs and visits*
 - *a small number of sporting fixtures*
 - *support from parents who have specialist knowledge and skills,*
 - *involvement in external events, for example, the forthcoming international maths challenge*
- The school does a great deal to promote and support students' personal development.
- Students are well-behaved, polite, follow established routines and have good attitudes towards learning. Teachers know the students in their classes well and can explain the gains they have made in most aspects of their learning.
- There are a small number of students with special educational needs (SEN) and these students are supported on a one to one basis by learning support assistants.

Partnership with Parents

- A significant strength of the school is its open and welcoming relationship with parents who actively enhance the learning by helping in classrooms, during swimming and on field trips.
- The school has many procedures for communicating with parents about school life and whole school events and a particularly good example of this is the school's excellent monthly newsletter which is truly learning focused. The school also produces an informative brochure for parents and a flier with details of all key events for the coming term.
- Teachers send home a written report about each child's learning at the end of term one and term three.
- Parents are invited to discuss this with the teacher.
- In term two every child has the opportunity to make a presentation to their parents and their class about their learning.
- Parents are very happy with these procedures and stated that it helps them to know what their children are learning.
- Overall, parents are very positive about the school with around ninety percent of those who replied to the questionnaire stating they thought learning, teaching, leadership and management and information about learning were good, very good or excellent.
- This is a high approval rating.

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AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

As with all reports the greatest value is knowing and celebrating the strengths as well identifying areas for further improvement. These are often issues the school has already identified for itself through a rigorous self-evaluation process. For the Compass School they are:

- ✓ **Adopting effective strategies for regularly assessing key aspects of students' learning and their rate of progress**
- ✓ **Ensuring that sequence of lessons, in every subject, is consistently challenging for the highest attaining students**
- ✓ **Further improving provision for students who lack proficiency in speaking, reading or writing in English.**

The school is already working diligently with staff and students' on those key issues and improvements are already underway. This learning focus, along with the exciting growth of the school and the opening of the additional campus in September 2009, will ensure that the Compass School provides the students in its care with the best learning opportunities to extend their thinking, research and analytical skills as well as engender a love of learning.

Yours sincerely,

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The WCL Group

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