

# External School Review

## Allenby Gardens Primary School

Across our education system, we seek growth for every student, in every class, and in every school. The external school review value-adds and supports schools to raise student achievement and sustain high performance by providing an expert external perspective on school performance by verifying or challenging:

- a school's improvement planning and processes and its impact on student learning
- the impact of previous external school directions
- the rigour of a school's improvement practices
- the school's capacity to achieve or sustain learning improvement over time.

The external school review lines of inquiry focus on:

- quality school improvement planning
- expert teaching
- quality leadership
- conditions for optimal learning.

The overarching question in every external school review is: How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement, and equity?

### Reported impact of directions from the previous External School Review in November 2019.

Allenby Gardens Primary School has worked effectively on the previous external directions, culminating in greater alignment between the site improvement goals, challenge of practice and staff actions. Teachers and leaders are analysing data together at a school, class and cohort level, to determine goals and targets that are aspirational and provide further stretch and challenge. Professional learning team processes have been strengthened using teacher pillars who work closely with their colleagues, to support implementation of agreed School Improvement Plan actions. As part of professional learning team improvement work, teachers have actively engaged in sprint cycles where new curriculum initiatives are trialed, feedback is sought, and teacher practice adjusted, to implement change in pedagogy where appropriate. Teaching practice is being deprivatised through learning walk-throughs where leadership spend time observing teacher practice, giving written feedback then unpacking this with staff, to determine strengths and next steps. This is also closely aligned with rigorous Performance Development Plan processes that have a clear focus on building capability of staff and collective responsibility for the School Improvement Plan. Students are having greater opportunities to have a voice and provide feedback, through being recorded to capture their insights into how they best learn. The school is working closely with the Local Education Team, which is providing strategic support to the school, ensuring there is fidelity of actions between the School Improvement Plan and classroom practice.

### Outcomes from the External School Review held in February 2023.

The principal will work with the education director to implement the following directions:

- Direction 1**      **Refine and embed a whole-school, evidence-based pedagogical approach to the teaching of Maths and English, encompassing open-ended task design, differentiation and high challenge learning for all students.**
- Direction 2**      **Build staff capability through strengthening professional learning team structures, that ensure ongoing feedback with clear line of sight back to agreed improvement actions.**
- Direction 3**      **Engage all stakeholders in co-creating a school culture of powerful learning and high expectations, through re-calibrating the current school values and vision, embedding genuine and authentic opportunities for student voice.**

These directions are published on the school improvement plan and will support the school's ongoing improvement work. **Based on the school's current performance, Allenby Gardens Primary School will be externally reviewed again in 2026.**



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