

Directors' Note for Portfolio Groups

Portfolio title: High Bickington LGB

Date of meeting: 15th June 2019

Attended by: Susie Kevern, Helen Carn, Rob Norton, Claire Large, Rhian Nicholas, Jane Adams, Verity Goss (clerk).



Brief overview of discussion

Procedural items

Welcome and apologies

SK welcomed all to the meeting.

Sign off previous minutes

Minutes agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters arising brought forward by Chair

Mid-Year tests – discussion on the use of these to monitor progress, and of the skills children learnt from a practise test environment, even if they were not able to answer all the questions.

Correspondence

None received.

Monitoring and Accountability

Summer Curriculum Update KS1/KS2

RNo stated that Class Four's project for the term had felt slightly rushed due to the SATs focus at the beginning of the term. RNo reported on the success of the Y6 residential, and of the children mixing with the Y6 children from the other schools. The Longleat trip had been very successful – RN thought the most successful big event trip so far. The younger children had visited Paignton Zoo, which had also been a very successful trip, with good workshops. Class Two children had planned some fundraising activities for WWF and Save the Elephants, after becoming interested in conservation.

School specific SIP Updates

SATs review

EYFS – 89% at good level of development, which was expected to be higher than the Devon and national averages. RNo explained the strengths/areas for development/barriers/opportunities for this year and the next. RNo felt the maternity cover appointment would be very successful – there were good opportunities for an extensive handover process, and the cover teacher was used to working within TEAM. The TEAM EYFS lead would be coming in once a week to support/monitor, and there would be support from other staff at High Bickington. Staff were aware of the particular need to ensure there was a lot of staff contact across the two sites for the next year.

Discussion on writing in EYFS – the school had not yet had a child who exceeded the expectations for writing. RNo outlined the additional opportunities put in place to support children working towards this, including children from KS2 working with Class One to inspire them and to be writing role models.

KS1 – RNo explained the results. Agreed SEN results were very positive, with 100% reaching the expected standard in all areas, with 50% achieving greater depth in reading and writing, and 100% achieving greater depth in maths. Local governors discussed the strengths/areas for development/barriers/opportunities for this age range, including the physical needs of next year's cohort.

KS2 – RNo stated that all results were above national average. Local governors discussed the strengths/areas for development/barriers/opportunities for this age group.

Teacher assessments for other year groups – discussion on why the percentage of children judged to be reaching the expected standard in these year groups was not as high as the results at key assessment points. Discussion on the number of children reaching age related expectations compared to progress made by children. RNo confirmed that these areas were discussed in staff meetings. Discussion on improving children's presentation and how this affected what children aimed for and self motivation.

Andrea Rice visit

RNo reminded local governors of the discussion after the last visit about what should be considered greater depth at the end of KS1. Andrea Rice had come for a follow up visit near half term, with a focus on looking at KS1 books. RNo felt it was an advantage to have the same visitor return so they could see what progress had been made between the visits. Discussion on what changes could be made to the procedures in terms of marking and getting children to respond to this.

Discussion on how the Shanghai maths method was working in the school, and how its use could be improved within the school. RNo stated that staff were very keen to progress with this.

RNo stated that the first week back in September would be a 'skills and standards' week, looking at ensuring children were at the standard needed before they start to progress through the year.

Pupil progress meetings – RNo confirmed that these would be happening half termly, and that there had been one meeting so far. Staff continually complete internal moderation.

Monitoring Standards

Book scrutiny – yellow books. RNo explained the marking system currently in place, showing the progress of a particular pupil. Yellow (writing) books from various years were distributed for local governors to examine, showing different attainment levels. Discussion on what standards children knew they were working towards and how this was communicated. Autumn LGB meeting to examine maths books to compare progress to the last book scrutiny.

Governor Visits

SK stated that on the ethos day she had attended there had been the suggestion of occasionally governors attending lunch with the children. Agreed that this would be a good way of having a conversation with a group of children. SIP for next year to include structure of visits/local governors assigned to each topic.

2019/20 Plans

Had discussed in relation to EYFS/KS1. RNi stated would be doing CIF bid to extend new site to have additional classroom for KS1.

Safeguarding Report

Nothing to report this meeting.

Notes from Ethos group

Notes had been received. SK stated that Gill Tewkesbury had attended the last meeting which had been useful – the group were working on consolidating the ethos and making it relevant to the school.

Approve Policy – Attendance

Discussed and agreed.

RNo stated that there had been one response to an item in the newsletter asking if parents had anything they wished to raise to the LGB, regarding handwashing. RNo stated that staff had been working with their classes on handwashing and how proper handwashing can reduce minor illnesses such as colds. Children in Class Four had been creating posters to remind children how to wash their hands correctly.

Strategic**Review pupil numbers, projected numbers, staffing, attendance**

Expected numbers for September 82 on roll, 6 in pre-school.

Staffing – maternity teacher cover appointed for FSU, other staff remaining the same.

Attendance – overall 94.9%. Class 1 93%, Class 2 93.1% (known health issues), Class 3 96.1%, Class 4 96.8%. A few children had 100% attendance.

Staff absence – 5 days of teacher absence for illness, 30 days of TA absence for illness.

Update on Academy Trust

RNi reported the across the MAT 71% of children had achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, an improvement from 54% last year. .

Date of next meeting: TBC