

Holy Trinity CE Primary School

Governor Visit Report

Name of Governor	Belle Moss
Date of Visit	17 September 2019
Agreed Focus for Visit (linked to SEF, SDIP & Key priorities)	To understand what key messages are communicated to perspective reception parents during their tour of the school
Name of Staff	Mrs Griffith

Next Steps/follow up from previous monitoring

Previous monitoring had included reviewing parent feedback forms collected by the school following visits in 2018/19 academic year.

Key Area in SDP: Monitoring Findings from this visit

I would like to see if the governor-identified priorities are communicated with prospective parents including:

- That we are an inspirational place of learning
- That we support every child, so they are able to flourish and feel safe, happy and confident
- That we value and support staff well-being and professional development
- That the school provides facilities that enable an optimum learning environment
- That the school plays a central role within our community

Actions used to identify findings

I attended one of the scheduled tours for parents considering Holy Trinity for the 2020/21 reception intake. I also reviewed a number of questionnaires parents had completed prior to the 2019/20 intake to compare their impressions with my experience of the tour.

What outcomes have been identified as a result of my visit

The tour delivered by Mrs Griffith was extremely comprehensive and covered many areas of school life. Discussions included:

- How the curriculum was delivered and what the school offered outside of the curriculum in terms of Christian worship, music lessons, sports, yoga and other clubs and activities.
- What emphasis the school put on pupil behaviour, well-being, independence and resilience. This included reference to the Investors in Pupils work, an introduction to the Pastoral Hub and also information about the School Council, Head Boy/Girl roles and digital leaders.
- How the facilities were used in both practical terms and for pupil well-being (ie the spiritual garden being a place of quiet reflection during busy playtimes, and forest school as an area for children of all ages to build confidence and experience the benefits of outdoor learning.
- That the school was used by groups outside of school hours by adults and children in the community and had hosted the annual Church Fair the previous day (which some visitors had attended).
- We briefly visited Reception, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6 to explore the different approaches to learning from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 and spent some time talking to pupils, TAs and teachers.

It was very useful from a parent's perspective to hear Mrs Griffith explain the importance of looking for the differentiating factors between schools to ensure the environment was right for their children and also offer advice on the application process via the office.

The new parent brochure was very well received and is an excellent tool to leave with parents, both to further explain about the school ethos and offer, but also the practicalities of your child attending school, which first time parents are often concerned about.

Impact of this visit

It was very beneficial as Chair of Admissions to see first-hand the impressions prospective parents get when visiting the school. It was also interesting to read first impressions from parents whose children have just joined the school, I include some of their statements here.

What were your first impressions?

"the children seem very engaged and polite"

"staff are very welcoming and friendly. The school promotes good values and seemed to be very caring and nurturing."

What aspects of the tour stood out?

"the large facilities, friendliness of staff, special support department (Pastoral Hub), good ethos"

"clean, really well communicated, polite children"

Aspects I would like clarified/Questions I have

None at this stage, however I would suggest a follow up visit in the next academic year to take part in a tour led by the head boy and head girl. On this occasion they were not involved as they have only just been nominated and require some training before taking on the tours.

I also note how time consuming it is for the heads to take 30-40 minutes out of their day each time a tour is planned, given that on average the school runs about 12 tours for reception parents each year, it is quite an undertaking to keep the experience fresh and appealing.

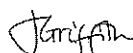
To be shared with the school staff and school governing board.

Signed: _____



(Governor)

Signed: _____



(Headteacher/Staff member)