

Holy Trinity CE Primary School

Governor Visit Report

Name of Governor	Stephanie Hynard and Sue Sleigh
Date of Visit	8 th May 2018
Agreed Focus for Visit (linked to SEF, SDIP & Key priorities)	SEND Update
Name of Staff	Pam O'Brien, Val Woods

Key Areas:

- To follow up on results from parent survey
- To receive an update from the recent Inclusion Summit
- To discuss how teachers are finding the SEN process
- To discuss real examples of SEND resources being used within the school

Actions used to identify findings

We discussed the results of the recent parent survey. Unfortunately not many parents had chosen to take part despite reminders in the newsletter. Mrs O'Brien suggested that one reason for this is that the questions are quite open to personal interpretation. She suggested that we try again in the autumn term and try to adapt the questions to find out views on the services provided at school.

Mrs Woods brought along a couple of examples of resources currently being used in school with good results:

- 'Doorway' is free online software which some of our children have been using to learn to touch type – both at home and at school.
- Sloping boards (around £30 each) are being used for some children who are struggling to write. By writing at the correct angle rather than flat, a child is able to improve their motor skills and develop their handwriting.

Mrs Woods also shared two examples of SEN children making progress. We saw evidence of two pieces of work from a Year 1 child where her handwriting had improved remarkably. This progress was due to weekly support from an OT in combination with a sloping board and other strategies, eg. 'funky fingers'. The second example we discussed was an upper KS2 pupil with dyslexia, whose parents had provided him with a kindle. He had discovered that he with the help of white text on a black background he was able to read. He had become empowered to read because of the resource.

Mrs O'Brien has talked to staff about the current SEN process. Some staff are finding writing IEPs time consuming and while they recognise that the evidence is essential, they are not finding the plans effective. Mrs O'Brien and teachers are looking at ways to make the process more effective, possibly combining the updates with the pupil progress meetings.

What outcomes have been identified as a result of my visit

Review of SEND parent survey in Autumn term.

Review of SEND process with staff to make plans more effective while making best use of teachers' time.

Mrs O'Brien is now working closely with Manor Green school. The school is also receiving support from Sarah Clark (dyslexia) and the Early Help Hub.

The new 'passport' initiative is progressing well.

Mrs Woods to meet with Mrs Fargher and Mrs Boaler (Chair of Governors) following the Inclusion Summit to discuss implications for school and pass on information as appropriate.

Aspects I would like clarified/Questions I have

Next Steps/follow up from monitoring

- Looking at SEN Budgets (Belle Moss in process of arranging meeting with Mrs Poulter)
- Visit in summer term (10/7) to review transition process (between classes as well as entry/exit point to school)
- Mrs O'Brien/Mrs Woods to provide anonymised vulnerable list to SEND governors
- Await feedback from Mrs O'Brien regarding ways of making the SEN process more effective
- Await feedback from Mrs O'Brien and Mrs Griffith regarding new report structure for SEND children (summer term)

Additional Comments

Governors were informed that Mrs Woods is retiring at the end of the summer term. The succession plan is for Fiona Fargher, current class 5 teacher, to take on the role of SENCo 3.5 days per week from September. Mrs Fargher has been attending as many SEND meetings as time permits with a view to handover.

There have been organisational changes at the Borough and Clive Haines is now heading up part of the SEN (working closely with Jools from Manor Green school). The Inclusion summit was interesting and attended by Mrs Woods, Mrs Fargher and Mrs Boaler (Chair of Governors). The borough is specifically looking at how they can improve parent partnerships. There are also initiatives looking at what is happening with regards to SEN in pre-schools.

Mrs O'Brien informed us how the senior leadership team have been reviewing the role of the Educational Psychologist within school. Many families are now choosing to go private as they can get a diagnosis and plans in place so much quicker. Mrs O'Brien has raised this with the borough. SEND will be on the agenda for the imminent Heads meeting and needs to be on the agenda at every meeting.

Mrs Woods advised us of a new meeting set up for SENCos led by Alison Crossick, senior psychologist.

The Pastoral hub continues to work well. Ms Titre is embarking on training with the Family Friends charity which will be a great asset to the school.

Mrs Titre and Mrs Woods have attended a course on how to support children with anxiety.

Next meeting date: 10th July 2018, 11 am

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

Signed:

P. O'Brien
(Governor) Head

Signed:

[Signature]
(Headteacher/Staff member)