

Reporting a Governor visit to Kea School

Name	Tracy Baker	Date	21 November 2019
Meeting with Mr Miles (SM) to review the Curriculum strand of the SDP			
Links with the School Improvement Plan/ 20 Questions As part of integrating Governors with monitoring the SDP, this meeting aims to set the foundations for this responsibility. Q2 Understanding our roles and responsibilities, including what it means to be strategic. Q16 Monitoring the implementation of the school's strategy.			
Governor Observations and Comments This meeting followed one held earlier in the day between SM, our School Improvement Partner Paul Hodson, Mrs Hunkin and Mrs Green. Paul Hodson had shared the new Inspection focus and discussed how knowledge and skills together lead to learning outcomes – again a focus on KIRFS - which we have seen recently when looking at Maths. Our Four Year Rolling Programme (FYRP) is due to be reviewed as a major part of our SDP this year. A main staff meeting was held last term, where all teachers had the opportunity to review the existing programme and discuss strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes, at both key stages. This has led to the generation of the new FYRP which SM showed me. We were able to discuss the improvements made in the allocation of topics, curriculum coverage and opportunities for integration of other subjects with the Humanities based focus. SM was excellent at answering questions, finding documentary evidence of changes, illustrating practical application of lesson resources to KIRFS and talking about the positive impacts the new FYRP had already made on the increased knowledge and skills of pupils he teaches. There is no doubt that much work has already been put into this new FYRP. Much more work will be needed to continue to develop what is a well thought out programme, especially as a few completely new units have been introduced. SM recognized how valuable it had been to share planning and resources with other staff – Mrs Hunkin has made this possible by allocating joint planning time to staff and it is vital that this continues, to allow collegiate development of the curriculum. Our staff need to 'own' the curriculum and share their expertise, if we are to have a coherent, rich and varied learning experience for pupils. I was very impressed by the positive adoption of change, which is not easy to deal with, and the way that this is perceived as an opportunity and not a threat. SM, Mrs Green, Mr Carey and Mrs Harvey will all need to work hard to complete the good work that has been started ... although of course the curriculum will always evolve, a lot of work is needed to establish a new curriculum with a change in focus. Equipped with the new FYRP, I look forward to seeing how this is delivered in different year groups this year.			

Behaviour

N/A

Safeguarding.

Meeting after school in a safe and tidy classroom; Successfully maintained confidentiality.

Any issues for the governing body

We are incredibly fortunate that our school is ready to adapt to change, review existing structures and openly discuss what is going on both strategically and on a practical daily basis. Establishing trusting relationships between external partners, staff and governors is so valuable when encouraging and recognising school improvement.

There may be resourcing implications with the new curriculum developments, but I anticipate that it will be less financially onerous than the recent maths and literacy initiatives and it will be spread over a four year period.