



Together we can make a difference

Curriculum Overview

The role of the Curriculum Committee is to hold the school to account for its quality of teaching and learning.

In our first meeting of this academic year, we had the chance to see the New Curriculum test papers and have been informed about the many new national initiatives that the teachers are embracing. We recognise that this is a period of transition and have been given confidence that the School Leadership Team are guiding the teachers in an appropriate manner.

In addition to the termly meeting, we have link governors for Data, specific Subject Areas (Maths and Literacy) and the strands of the School Development Plan (Independent Learning, Writing, Ethical Enterprise, Progress and Consistency). There are also link Governors overseeing the Vision, Special Educational Needs, Safeguarding and Early Years Foundation Stage. These link Governors meet with the school leaders enabling the governors to ask more detailed questions about how the area is being implemented throughout the school, witness the outcomes through focused visits to the school and to talk to the children. The information from these meetings is written up and shared as a report for all Governors.

We have Doug Angus as our Curriculum Governor link to Data. He works closely with Amy Day to create an analysis of the data for the governors to digest.

Last summer's results showed that big achievements have been made in attainment with Reading and Maths being significantly higher than the National Average.

There were weaknesses in achieving level 5 and 6 in Writing, SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) level 6 and Maths level 6.

Doug has provided detailed feedback to Governors and discussed the implemented plans and interventions with Amy and school leaders. We now understand that the implementations are designed to suit the individual needs of the children to improve the attainment and the progress made. This year's focus as part of the School Development Plan is writing and there is a continuing movement towards the stretch of pupils which supports the Data shortfalls.

Catherine Hulme, the Literacy link, continues to meet regularly with Jill Sach to review the school's Writing action plan. Catherine's main focus is to ensure measures are in place to further our drive for consistently outstanding attainment whilst maintaining a love of reading and a growing confidence in writing in all our children. Discussions have included: initiatives to stretch and challenge the most able pupils; embedding new assessment criteria now that Levels have been removed from the National Curriculum; the guidance and feedback provided by the Senior Leadership Team on book scrutinies; the impact of recent teacher training by Jonathan Riley (and his well-received workshop with parents). Catherine has also observed classes at work, looked through the quality of written work in books and met with groups of children to talk to them directly about their experiences of reading and writing in school. We hear that they were full of enthusiasm and spoke confidently about how they could continue to make progress.

Charlotte Davies, the Independent Learning link, has met with Amanda Stephenson and recognises that there was a whole school approach with evidence of the initiative throughout the whole school. Teachers have been involved and are sharing good practise. Amanda Stephenson was able to talk confidently about the stages and plans for ongoing support to enable all teaching staff to embed the practices within their teaching routines.

The School Vision is strongly reflected within the School Development Plan with focus being on the children's motivation to learn and achieve their best through Independent Learning and Growth mind-set. They explore global, local and charitable issues with the Ethical Enterprise.

The curriculum has received positive feedback from Maggie Swindles, an Independent Education Consultant. She has been commissioned by the school at the request of the Governors to provide support with ongoing school improvement and development. We consider the views and support from Maggie to be a valuable asset, giving clear advice about improvements to be implemented to fulfil our continued strive for the school's goal of Ofsted - Outstanding.

As a result of all these working relationships, we feel excited to be driving towards this goal and towards our long-term Vision, Bexton Goes Beyond: making sure that we exceed expectations and give our children the best possible experience and outcomes.