

Governor's Visit to report to the Full Governing Body (18/03/2015) on Leadership and Management

- The headteacher has a clear vision for the school expressed in the School Development Plan. This outlines 6 key areas for development, namely:
 - continue to raise standards in English;
 - continue to raise standards in mathematics;
 - to implement the new National Curriculum and consistency in assessment;
 - to improve ICT/computing;
 - to raise confidence and impact of middle leaders and;
 - to continue to develop the school environment.
- The headteacher is well-supported by the two other members of the team i.e. the deputy head and an experienced teacher. Currently the joint co-ordinator of English is 'co-opted' on to the team and this is a good strategy as it brings additional expertise as well as providing the teacher with managerial experience.
- The LMT meets every two weeks and the meetings are minuted.
- The minutes show that discussion focuses on analysing data, monitoring initiatives such as 'Read write Inc', Sports Premium Funding, Pupil Premium, the progress of SEN children, the School Development Plan, the new National Curriculum and monitoring of teaching and learning.
- The LMT has been very proactive in monitoring and modelling lessons to support a colleague with behaviour management strategies.
- As an outcome of maths scrutiny by the LMT, marking was found to be variable across the classes and ways are now being considered for a more consistent approach.
- A clear whole-school marking policy for writing has been approved and this helpfully is colour coded and significantly indicates how pupils can improve their work.
- Meetings have been arranged between the LMT and the teaching assistants re. performance management.
- A challenge for the LMT has been managing recent high teacher turnover and job sharing but there is a determination and good support for staff to ensure that standards of teaching and learning are maintained and that any areas of perceived weaknesses are strengthened.
- Overall, under the good guidance of the headteacher the LMT works effectively and ensures that the excellent ethos of the school is maintained.

NB. As I shall be unable to attend the next LMT meeting, a short addendum to this report will be included by the chair of governors who will attend the meeting.

Ivan McNally (11/03/2015).