Reporting a Governor visit to Kea School

Name: Maureen Woodhouse Date: November 2019

Purpose of visit To report on the book provision in the school and look into PSHE themes such as equal opportunities, racism, bullying and disability, inclusion and safeguardingwith regard to books

Links with the School Improvement Plan / 20 Questions Are resources well used? Is behaviour contributing to good learning? Is there a range of genres in the book corners and the library? PSHE. With reference to 'Governors' Twenty Questions' number 20 (Are we having an impact on outcomes for pupils?), and number 16 (Do governors visit the school regularly and monitor?)

Governor Observations and Comments

- The books storage areas are tidy and resources are well cared for
- In the **library** there is a Dewey System which is well-maintained and the Key Stage 2 children I spoke to understood how to use it. Books can be changed Monday and Thursdays after school. Children are involve in running the library and two Year 6 pupils read to Key Stage 1 pupils. There is a lunch-time Library Club where stories are read to the children
- Each year a book sale raises money for new booksapproximately £700 a year.
- Reading schemes includes multi-cultural aspects e. g, black and white children are friends.
 The library service provides boxes of books on themes e.g. Hinduism. There is a good selection of books about other countries and other religions India, Chinese New Year,
 Festivals There are also books on Cornish themes including artists and also about people who live different life-styles e.g. travellers
- There are books about bullying which explore racism.
- Books about understanding feelings help pupils to explore racism, bullying, gangs, feeling happy and sad.
- There are books about girls playing football
- There is no evidence of books that put forward ideas about stereotyped male and female roles e.g. Dads cleaning cars with the boy and Mum cooking with the girl
- The reading scheme books explore disability and Michael Murpurgo books also cover disability well. There is a wide selection. There are books about Downs Syndrome and other disabilities.
- Early years books such as 'Pat a Cake' include diverse images in a positive and incidental way e.g. child on a support mat and a wheelchair by a child's bed. 'See Saw' has a picture of a child with a hearing aid. 'Looking after Louis' is a book about children who look after their classmate who has autism.
- In the Foundation Stage Elmer books explore friends who are 'different'.

Behaviour In visiting the various library areas I observed that the children's behaviour continues to be excellent. There is due emphasis on caring for the books

Safeguarding

There are numerous books about keeping safe. They offer the opportunity for opening discussion with adults and give powerful messages about children's rights to a safe and caring environment

Any issues for the governing body

Reading is an important area of learning and as governors we are focussing on the value of reading as a life-long learning skill. In future it will be necessary to address the issue of funding for books.