

I was privileged to be involved with the interview process for the new school secretary to replace Jenny Bladon on Monday 19th May 2014.

This was a full day process and involved moving between rooms and chaperoning candidates at appropriate times.

I was not doing a formal observation but am pleased to report what I saw:

- 1 The school was quiet and purposeful during class time. Small tutor groups and one to one work was also evident with full concentration being given.
- 2 The school playground at break time was a “happy” noise.
- 3 Pupils moving between locations during class time were quiet and organised.
- 4 Pupils were polite, courteous and careful when passing in the corridor. One instance of a year 6 boy, who was walking very fast through an open door and nearly collided, resulted in him hastily retracting his steps, apologising and hand gesturing for us to go first. He clearly knew the rules.

I also had an enjoyable lunch in the school hall, sat with infant pupils. The lunchtime process appeared to work well. Children entered and left the hall calmly and quietly. There were no incidents and the dinner supervisors worked well, throughout the hall, helping and guiding pupils with their eating as required. The infant children I was sat with, happily talked to me about the school day and the morning’s activities. They were also interested in what I had been doing and what interviewing actually meant – obviously keen to learn and find out and I was impressed by their questioning.

Overall, there was good behaviour and adherence to the golden rules.

Thanks to all staff and children. I went home with a smile on my face ☺

Helen Hood