Reporting a Governor visit to Kea School

Name Sarah WHITE

Date April 2021

Purpose of visit

To discuss the current workload in relation to SEND pupils, their return to school following lockdown and the data.

Links with the School Improvement Plan/ 20 Questions

Continue to raise progress for SEND pupils.

Are governors having an impact on all pupils.

Governor Observations and Comments

This was a meeting carried out over teams due to the current coronavirus restrictions. Data will be reviewed this week and a further meeting will be arranged after 17th May to discuss and also carry out a learning walk. For ease of reading I have grouped into sections.

EHCP's

One annual review has been completed, one is due in May. A further EHCP application has been agreed and the relevant paperwork to support this will begin to be completed. In addition there are potentially 3 other pupils who will be considered for EHCP application and 1 new child to the school where an EHCP application has been requested however the school require additional time to ensure evidence to support the paperwork.

Each of these applications is a huge amount of work, compiling evidence and creating targets and identifying specific provision in conjunction with the Educational Psychologist, other external agencies and the families.

Educational Psychologist

The educational psychologist is attending this week to carry out assessments on 3 children. The school has used all allocated time with the educational psychologist and attempted to purchase extra time however, due to a situation within that department there is no capacity within the Ed.Psych department to offer extra days. Mrs Hunkin and Mrs Dryzmala will carry out pupil observations in class and the EP will carry out formal assessments with the pupils.

Training

Mrs Hunkin has identified that pre covid teachers and TA's were able to have more planning/reviewing time during whole school assemblies. As whole school assemblies are not taking place in the hall due to the restrictions in place. Mrs Hunkin is looking at ways to ensure that all TA support (in class and 1:1/small group) is as impactful as possible.

Processing / Working memory

It is evident that a number of children need specific support to develop their processing and working memory skills. It is likely that this area did not have a high focus during lockdown. Interventions are being put in place to support these children.

Catch Up

There is close monitoring of children who are requiring catch up to ensure that this is a swift process, that they do indeed catch up and do not end up 'on alert'. More monitoring is taking place in relation to anxiety and social and emotional needs. Strategies and activities to increase independence and resilience are taking place within the school. Specific support is being put in place for children who are displaying signs of anxiety / emotional needs.

Mrs Dryzmala

Mrs Dryzmala commences her SENCO course, the National Award for SEN Coordination in September of this year. It is a research/academic course and is the equivalent of 1/3 of a masters degree. Mrs Hunkin will ensure that Mrs Dryzmala has adequate time to complete what is required and is therefore continuing to support the SENCO with workload.

Lego Therapy

Mrs Dryzmala has had training in relation to Lego therapy and it will be implemented from September.

Behaviour

No pupils were seen as this was a meeting on teams.

Safeguarding.

No safeguarding concerns raised during this meeting.

Any issues for the governing body

There is potentially a substantial amount of work to be completed for an additional 5 EHCP applications. (1 agreed, 3 potential, 1 new pupil)

It is a concern that the educational psychology department do not have sufficient staff to support when the school are asking to purchase additional hours. Hopefully this is a temporary situation.