

Directors' Note for Portfolio Groups

Portfolio title: Brayford/Umberleigh LGB

Date of meeting: 12th September 2019, Umberleigh Primary Academy

Attended by: Penny Wignall, Sue Davies, Helen Cooke, Corrine Smith, Caroline El-Marazki, Rhian Nicholas, Charlotte Janisch, Verity Goss (clerk),



Brief overview of discussion
<p>Procedural items</p> <p>Welcome and apologies PW welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>Sign off previous minutes Agreed with change to Brayford data predictions Y2 – greater depth to expected.</p> <p>Matters arising brought forward by Chair Library at Umberleigh – CS confirmed progress was being made.</p> <p>Correspondence None</p>
<p>Monitoring and Accountability</p> <p>Summer Curriculum Update KS1/KS2 CS gave a review of the summer term topic work on 'On Safari' with the big event trip to Paignton Zoo. KS2 had done a lot of work on elephants after the trip. CS felt children were able to take a lot of ownership of their own writing this term. Children had spoken on Skype to a woman who worked with elephants in Botswana, who had been very good at giving balanced information in response to their questions. Children had got a sense of the main geography of Africa, but had not managed to cover all aspects that had been planned. KS2 at Brayford had also done work on comparing different countries/counties/towns etc, and had used map work to help plan journeys. KS1 had done lots of work on the animals of Africa. Science was also linked to the topic in terms of the environment. CS stated that it had been a very appropriate and interesting topic for KS1 and had been easy to plan for staff.</p>

Discussion on the trust link that had been set up with a school in Uganda and whether this had been beneficial to all schools – RN agreed links had mainly been with Pilton.

Curriculum newsletter – discussion on the bullet points showing what staff hoped each child would know by the end of term. CS agreed there was a difficulty when plans changed partway through the term, which would depend on how children were reacting to the topic. Agreed it would be useful to have a more general overview, with updates in the newsletter with more specific areas covered. CS explained how topic was linked with curriculum areas when possible.

This term's topic – Stone Age (Digging in to the Past). CS stated there had been discussion on how to record topic work more creatively, including topic journals – plain pages to allow for more freedom in how children used the books. RN reported there had been an inset session on the first day of term from Beaford Arts which had fed in to how the topic journals were going to be used. Schools would be visiting Cheddar Gorge for their big event trip.

Local governors discussed whether it would be useful to announce the topic in advance at the end of the previous term – some children liked to do some of their own research beforehand/may want to visit somewhere related/some parents may have links or objects that may be helpful to the topic.

School specific SIP Updates - SATs Review

Y6 Umberleigh – 33% expected standard reading, 66% writing, 33% maths. One child had been predicted to be at expected standard in reading, but had missed the cut off by two marks, and had also missed the maths cut off by one mark. CS confirmed the test paper had been checked for marking errors. CS explained she had spoken to the parents of the child and explained the mark received.

Y6 Brayford – 83% expected standard reading with 33% greater depth, 83% writing with 17% greater depth, 83% maths with 17% greater depth. Combined score of 67%. CS stated that the additional teaching time had had a huge impact on the children.

Was there anything CS would have done differently at Umberleigh? Did not think so – if anything the children had slightly lacked stamina. CS explained how staff were building stamina with children this year. Accelerated reader would also be beneficial for this, which should become more evident as cohorts progress through the years.

Y2 Umberleigh – 77% expected standard in reading with 44% greater depth, 66% writing with 33% greater depth, 66% maths with 44% greater depth. One child had a high level of SEN. Overall a high achieving cohort – discussion on the need to ensure they continue with the level through their school life, and how parents were informed if a child exhibited a particular aptitude for certain areas.

Y2 Brayford – 50% expected standard in reading, 50% writing, 100% maths. No greater depth. Child who had achieved expected standard in maths but not the other areas had made great progress.

Phonics Umberleigh – 3 passed, 3 did not, 2 of whom had S&L issues. Both Y2 retakes had passed.

Phonics Brayford – All Y1 had passed, 1 Y2 retake who had passed.

Monitoring standards

Progress on SIP at Umberleigh including book scrutiny

Discussed the action point on making improvements in maths – CS reported that children had made good progress in maths, but that this would be continually worked on to ensure it continued. Writing was also being worked on – children were improving in their ability to go back and edit their own work.

Progress on SIP at Brayford including book scrutiny

CS reported that staff in KS1 had started working on cursive handwriting. There had been a lot of discussion about when this was appropriate, and it was decided that once children knew their letters they could work on cursive. Staff were providing opportunities for longer writing sessions.

Were there children in the school who did not read very much at home? CS confirmed that there were, and explained how staff tried to support these children with opportunities to read in school.

Governor Visits

Paull Ginnings had been to visit, and had reported back to trustees. Julie Wells had visited both schools to complete the safeguarding talk with children.

Safeguarding Report

Both reports had been received by local governors – topics raised in the conversations discussed. CS informed local governors that the two digital champions at Umberleigh had asked to put on an assembly about age appropriate games due to realising that some of their classmates were sometimes playing inappropriate games.

New KCSIE document had been released – very few changes to last year. Will be circulated to all, with notes of what the changes are. SD explained how it identified the concerns staff should watch out for.

Relationship education soon to be mandatory in primary schools, with a link to keeping safe and staying safe. SD had met with Briony Parsons to complete the 360 review evaluation for e-safety. Lots of positives had come out of this meeting, with a few items to look at in more detail. A questionnaire for staff was planned to identify training needs.

SD outlined plans for the digital champions this year – it was hoped to address social media use more this year, last year's discussions having mainly focussed on gaming.

Data collection – no safeguarding concerns at Umberleigh. SD reported that the ongoing issue at Brayford was being dealt with professionally and compassionately by the CEO, Head of School and School Staff. SD felt secure that an open culture in the schools allowed for any concerns to be actioned immediately.

Health and safety report

CS and RN had been on the last Health and Safety walks. CS reported on the recent improvements.

Approve policy – attendance

Discussed – agreed if alteration was included to indicate rewards for 100% attendance may be given at the discretion of the Head of School to allow for differences between the five schools.

Strategic

Review pupil numbers, projected numbers, staffing

Brayford – two new families had joined the school – three new children on roll and one in Brumblebees, with another younger sibling to start

Brumblebees in October. Currently seven Brumblebees at Brayford in total – two not in catchment area who may not come to Reception. 32 on roll.

Umberleigh – currently 34 on roll, as two children from Y2 had moved school. 11 currently in Brumblebees – all likely to come to the school for Reception.

Staffing at Brayford had remained the same. Umberleigh had appointed a new MTA – staff member who already did breakfast club.

One to One TA new appointment at Witheridge had not been able to start, so TA from Umberleigh was covering until a replacement was appointment. Other TA at Umberleigh had increased their hours to cover this. CS stated that this would not have been agreed if it would have had a detrimental effect on the children, or staff would not have been able to cope.

Brumblebees update, numbers, staffing

Included in above item.

Attendance including PP data for 2018/19

At end of summer term – Umberleigh 95.7% overall attendance, Brayford 95.9% overall attendance.

Pupil premium attendance – Umberleigh broadly in line with average. Brayford 86.9%, 97.3%, 96.3%, 76.1%. There had been meetings with the parents for the low attendance. The autumn term had started positively for attendance.

2019/20 SIP early indicators

Had covered in curriculum update.

Update on Academy Trust (Park and Play)

Land sale was continuing.

The village hall committee had submitted a grant application for the bulk of the money. PW explained the aspects that had been emphasised in the application. Awards for All from the National Lottery was also being considered.

RN reported that the EYFS teacher at High Bickington was proving very successful.

Meeting ended 7.55pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 14th November, 1.00pm, Brayford

DRAFT