



Chudleigh CE VC Community Primary School

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14th December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of the first term of the academic year, the Governing Board wishes to take the opportunity to update you on some of our news including details of the latest pupil performance data and the School Improvement Plan for the year. In order to break down these areas, I have used the Ofsted framework headings, which I trust you will find informative.

Outcomes for pupils

Earlier this term we received the national performance data for children's attainment and progress. As you may be aware, the measurement of attainment and progress has changed this year nationally meaning that, for most of the data, we are unable to make direct comparisons with previous years. Some of the headlines are detailed below.

- Foundation Stage - 70% of children achieved a 'good level of development' compared to 69.3% nationally.
- Year 1 phonics screening – 85% of children passed the test compared to 81% nationally.
- End of key stage 1
 - Attainment was slightly above that of children nationally in all subjects.
- End of key stage 2
 - Attainment was above that of children nationally in writing and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar), and significantly above in reading, but slightly below children nationally in maths.
 - Children's progress in all subjects was broadly in line with children nationally, with a higher than average percentage of children in our school exceeding expected progress in reading and SPAG.

The Department for Education publish an overview of school data which is available on their website. If you wish to view this, search for 'DFE school comparison'. The latest data should be available by the end of this term.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

Self-evaluation of teaching, learning and assessment in our school continues to indicate that we remain securely good in this area with some outstanding practice. This is monitored internally by the senior leadership team and also through our work with other local schools. A local authority advisor, known as our School Improvement Partner, also visits the school regularly to assess standards and monitor the ongoing self-evaluation.

Nonetheless, work is of course ongoing to ensure consistently high quality teaching and learning across the school. This year's School Improvement Plan includes objectives regarding:

- further improving progress in maths; and
- ensuring that specific groups of children continue to make good progress, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, and 'Pupil Premium' children who are or have recently been eligible for free school meals.

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Personal development, behaviour & welfare

This area continues to be a strength of our school, and staff work closely with other agencies where additional support is required. Our School Improvement Partner commented earlier this term that, *"good pupil behaviour and ethos for learning was evident in all classes; pupils were engaged purposefully with their learning and could talk about the key learning in their lesson"*. Attendance is currently above our 96.4% target at 97.7% but the school works closely with the Education Welfare Officer to monitor and challenge persistent absence and lateness.

An external health and safety audit was carried out this term, and we were pleased to achieve 100% compliance.

Leadership & management

The senior leadership team has been working hard this term to develop and implement the School Improvement Plan and to monitor early progress against this. Governors will be meeting with senior leaders in the New Year to examine the progress of pupils during this term.

You will be aware that, for the first time, we have welcomed three foundation stage classes to the school this year. This required additional planning and changes to accommodation to make sure that we could best cater for all the children, but the hard work earlier this year has led to a smooth transition for the children into school.

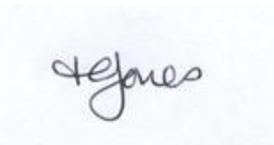
The Governing Board's strategic plan also includes exploring collaboration opportunities, and some existing and new collaborations are taking place this year. In particular, following work last year to establish the potential benefits of partnership working, we have started collaborating more closely with Canada Hill, Decoy, Denbury and Kingskerswell primary schools. Staff at all levels are working together with staff from the other schools on areas relating to school improvement. This is already providing excellent opportunities for sharing good practice. In addition, pupils from each school are acting as 'learning ambassadors' and will be working together to think about ways in which learning behaviours and aspirations can be improved. Governors are monitoring this work closely to ensure that the work is effective.

As always we welcome feedback from parents, and our 'comments, congratulations and concerns' forms are available in the school foyer. These provide an opportunity to bring areas of concern (of a whole-school rather than individual nature) to the attention of the Governing Board, and also to pass on congratulations/thanks, perhaps to a member of staff. Forms can be completed anonymously if you wish. Minutes of our Governing Board meetings are available on the noticeboard in the foyer or on the school website, where you will also find details of current governors.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and governors for their continued hard work and commitment to improving the outcomes of the children at our school.

Thank you for your continuing support and best wishes for a happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Jones
Chair of Governors

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