

Mr Paul Hayes
Headteacher
Mabe Community Primary School
Cunningham Park,
Mabe
Penryn
TR10 9HB

Your ref: KE/BD
My ref:
Date: 23rd March 2015

Dear Paul,

Thank you for making me so welcome at your school on 17th March. I enjoyed working with you and your team, and it was good that two of the governors were able to make themselves available also. As discussed during the meeting, I am writing to inform you of my findings.

The school continues to make progress towards addressing the action points identified in the Section 5 inspection of October 2013. The school has received Service Level Support from the Local Authority via an Associate Consultant. This has comprised a Rolling Record and an annual data summary. It has also had additional requested School Improvement Team support to reinforce improvement strategies and support from other schools as part of the Penryn Improvement Partnership (PIP)

I was pleased that the school is oversubscribed for September 2015, with 24 first choices and 29 second against a Published Admission number of 17. This reflects parental confidence in the school and its reputation in the community. It was helpful to talk to pupils, examine their books, and scrutinise strategic documentation including tracking and progress data, and governors' minutes and monitoring reports.

It is noted that all staff and 4 governors have recently received safeguarding training and you have accessed Local Authority support to ensure the school's processes and procedures for this important aspect of the school's provision are robust. The quality of teaching continues to improve with 92% judged to be good or better over the last period of monitoring. I am pleased that the school is considering adopting 'Thrive' and one teacher is undertaking training to be the lead teacher for this project. The school's changing demographic profile shows that this will be of benefit to the needs of the pupils, and this is also supported by a recent survey showing emotional delay in pupils' development.

Pupils are making at least good progress over time and often exceeding this. Predictions for Key Stage 2 this year are currently: Level 4 and above - reading 94%, writing 88%, maths 100%; Level 5 and above - reading 72%, writing 67%, maths 66%; Level 6 - maths 17%. There are 18 pupils in the cohort. Measures show pupils making expected progress in reading are predicted to be reading 84%, writing 88%, maths 88%. Those that are exceeding expected progress at reading are 45%, writing 77%, and maths 45%. Progress for pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant is good

and the school continues to close the attainment gap between those in receipt of this and those who are not. In addition to this, outcomes at Key Stage 1 are predicted to be in line with national expectations, but this demonstrates good progress from a low starting point.

There were examples of good learning environments in the school. It was good to see evidence of 'karate' reading, with pupils and classes competing with each other. This has injected a degree of motivation and incentives to succeed, which has boosted reading levels. The new library area developed recently has further created enhanced access and invitation to books. Some of the learning environments were strong and teachers have taken a lot of time and care to ensure these celebrate children's learning as well as prompting further learning and aiding continued development. It was also good to observe pupils engaged in further enriching activities, such as yoga and dance as part of the Sports Partnership. Pupils were confident and articulate in explaining and describing their learning.

The proposed establishment of a pre-school in the local community centre has the opportunity to improve early development and transition into Foundation Stage 2. I know that as a school, you are keen to be part of this and involved in its formation and ongoing provision. To this end, you have already met with the proposed leader to discuss need.

The Eco – Council is preparing to look at usage of units in energy for the future linked to the recent solar developments. They take readings every week and are linking these computer systems. One parent is particularly interested in this development and there is an Eco - plan to further change outdoor areas in time.

There has been one recent addition to the Governing Body and three have left. The Board has reconstituted and become more streamlined, but it is confident that it can continue to fulfil its statutory duties within this reduced size. Monitoring reports were available to scrutinise and recent foci include PE, maths, and reading. These include information related to data and resources. Actions are noted and followed up by staff. The clerk to the Governing Body gives sound support and advice and checks monitoring visits take place according to the plan which is displayed on the staffroom notice board. She also advises of training opportunities. Minutes reflect a good level of challenge and actions which are followed up. Some governors come into school regularly to listen to readers and attend assemblies. The Chair joins governor networks and Annual General Meetings, and all governors belong to 'The Key' and the National Governors Association. Many access bulletins from Cornwall Council and find these helpful. They have a page on the school website to share information and flag up important forthcoming events.


The behaviour of pupils observed on the day of the visit was good. They are eloquent, confident and keen to discuss their work. The school has a purposeful welcoming ethos that intrinsically values all pupils and staff.

The areas that continue to need improvement, which we discussed and agreed, are:

- Developing resilience amongst learners, including capitalising on mistakes made in terms of learning and PSHE
- Develop consistent learning environments that excite and engage learners related to topic books, work , language and interest
- Update photographs of governors in the school entrance, to include a group photograph as well as those of individuals

Thank you once again for your time and engagement. I hope you found the visit helpful and wish you well in your improvement journey.

Yours sincerely



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