

**Governor Visit — Clare Stubbs — 9 February 2017**

**Focus of visit** To review questions asked at previous meeting; looking at data; to review of impact of interventions.

**Classes/staff visited** Alison Thompson, EAL coordinator

**Summary**

I looked through EAL folder relating to initial assessment, progress and attainment and resources. I discussed this with AT.

**What have I learned as a result of my visit?**

- As an overall group, EAL pupils continue to perform better than their peers.
- In response to a question to AT, I was told that Chinese pupils had the most difficulties in pronunciation; their first language interference having an impact therefore on their speaking and writing skills. An example was given of a KS1 pupil who had made reasonable progress up to year 1 but was now considered to be in need of further support as he was not making the expected progress. Interventions have now been put in place to support this pupil. AT acknowledged that it was difficult for those children who do not have opportunities to speak English at home to make the necessary progress.
- Interventions are not necessarily EAL-specific. It is recognised that EAL pupils benefit from being taught with native English speakers who can model the correct sentence structure for instance. AT continues to provide both in-class interventions and withdraws small groups for further support and reinforcement of class work. The groups are varied and comprise mixed abilities. These interventions are amended if need be.
- Reading Express, a part of the Reading Eggs scheme, has proved an invaluable resource for some EAL pupils. It has helped improve the reading age considerably of an EAL pupil whose reading age improved by 3 years in 3 weeks.
- The website Twinkl is a very useful website, providing a rich range of resources.

**Positive comments**

EAL coordinator very willing to meet and talk about EAL children.

AT provided me with a very detailed and informative file on EAL data, assessments and resources.

I appreciate the time and efforts spent on compiling this file as it has helped me understand EAL provision within the school.

**Aspects I would like clarified, etc.**

To what extent does teaching style and approach affect a child's progress?

**Ideas for future visits**

To observe interventions, both 1:1 and small group.

**Other comments**

I found the visit very productive. The EAL coordinator was very helpful and informative.

*Clare Stubbs (EAL link governor)*