

The Village School

Note of Visit

SIS Name: Jan Martin

School representative Russell Davey (Head of School)

Core entitlement

Date	Time		Total (days)	
9 March 2018	10:00 AM	to	1:00 PM	1

Focus of visit

Maintenance of outstanding standards since September 2017

Activity

Discussion with Headteacher, including presentations of key documentation, evidence and information about research activities.

Key findings

Key Findings:
Since the last BSP SIS visit in September 2018 the school has not stood still in terms of

developing outstanding practice, especially with regard to assessment. The new leadership team is embedding well and growing into roles. The consultation on the school's future as part of a MAT with Woodfield has unsettled the school in the Spring Term 2018, and whilst the outcome has been positive, the journey has caused some significant challenges to senior leaders in terms of learning how to respond to staff responsibly and effectively. The outcome has been the strengthening of senior leadership and governance.

Key development points:

- oThrough discussion it is clear that the new senior leadership structure is developing very well. The Head of School is very evidently on a journey towards becoming a highly strategic leader, with the effective support of skilled mentoring and coaching.

- oTVS is leading on a project related to Rochford Recommendation 4 as part of the DfE Rochford Review recommendations: appeal to schools to trial new assessments for pupils below the standard of national curriculum tests. This is building on the work begun last year in tracking progress of PMLD students and has extended the model of recording and tracking levels of engagement. The evidence translates into the school's V levels and can be uploaded on Classroom Monitor, for pupil progress tracking purposes. This looks to be exciting work which could be of national importance. The project is supported by a researcher from the DfE.

- oAll teachers in PMLD classes are now using video evidence (Video Me) software as AfL evidence, and each classroom has its own tablets and tripods. This is proving to be a very powerful tool for capturing evidence of progress which can be shared with parents, and also as evidence of good and outstanding teaching and learning. The use of Video Me is becoming very well embedded and teachers are sharing good practice with enthusiasm.

- oThe school is embedding moderation practice internally and externally (through BHHAG), and staff are responding to this well. (We discussed the role and impact of the BHHAG core subject lead groups, which is growing in effectiveness as an essential activity.)

- oMore work is developing under the leadership of the DHT in addressing the mental health needs and emotional regulation of pupils.

- oAn element of the Pupil Premium Grant is being devolved to classes as part of their action plan to address individual needs.

- oThe vocational element for 14-19 students, in partnership with Woodfield School is continuing to develop and embed, and during the visit we noted how well the café run by the students is being used by staff, students and visitors.

Recommendation / Next steps

1.The Headteacher has identified a key next step as rewriting ICT levels. The challenge is to find the person with the right set of skills to do this.