

Reporting a Governor visit to Kea School

Name Tracy Baker	Date 16 th January 2019
Purpose of Visit To meet with Year 6 and their teacher Simon Miles.	
Links with the School Improvement Plan/ 20 Questions School Development Plan 2018/2019: Raising standards throughout the school; Literacy 20 Questions Q16. Regularly visiting the school to get to know it. Q12. Listening to and understanding members of staff.	
Governor Observations and Comments Initial Meeting My initial meeting with Simon took place in December 2018. We discussed the current profile of year 6, progress through the curriculum and the intentions of the Link Governor relationship. We agreed that I would visit the class early in the spring term when there was less end of term pressure and frantic activity! Simon had responsibility for the delivery of the KS2 production at Christmas and this understandably added considerable pressure to his workload and the expectations of year 6 at this time of year. As a result of this meeting I feel that I have a much better understanding of Simon as a person and teacher, and of year 6 – both in terms of pupils and their learning week. Time in the Classroom On Wednesday 16 th January I visited the year 6 classroom during their first morning session, arriving at 9.20. I was introduced and Year 6 seem happy to have a governor! Simon initially led the students through their Maths challenge of the day, discussing the possible processes to solve the two SATs questions which had been set on the board upon arrival. Each day the pupils tackle a maths problem or set of calculations and I was pleased with the level of challenge set. The pupils were all invited to contribute methods and solutions. This regular challenge should help to increase mathematical attainment at KS2. Simon then moved on to Literacy. He celebrated the quality of writing achieved by all members of the class in their last piece of written work about Macbeth. Each child was expected to 'magpie/borrow/steal' phrases that the other pupils had used, as Simon read a sentence from the book of every child and emphasised the excellence of each from a writing point of view. The quality of writing was very good – and this again is a direct focus of our SDP, so it is great to see a lesson focused on improving the quality of writing at this level. A brief video clip of a Crown Court role play, clearly explaining the roles of the various people in a courtroom, was shown to the class to set the scene for the next task - writing a piece for the prosecution or defence for one of the characters they have come across in Macbeth. The pupils were enthused by this, and much excited contributing ensued regarding the characters and their roles and responsibilities in the play. They became even more animated when Simon stated that they may get a chance to stage a 'mock court'. The children are keen to learn and get involved in this task. Due to time pressures, the students did not get a chance to get started on the writing properly but they had a few minutes to write down their initial ideas before Years 5 and 6 moved around the classrooms ready for spelling and speed sounds at 10.15. I left at 10.30.	

Simon Miles has an excellent relationship with the children in his class. They respect him and he maintains continuous discipline with good humour. The class knows what to expect and they are pleased that their work is celebrated.

Behaviour

All pupils behave very well. They are focused upon Simon and what he expects them to do. They moved on to swap classrooms with minimum fuss and got settled down quickly.

Safeguarding

The classroom is clean and tidy and pupils are comfortable and engaged in the task in hand. There is a TA in the room throughout the lesson.

Any issues for the governing body

Year 6 seem to be a friendly and capable bunch who are keen to get on. They behave well and achieve what is asked of them, as far as I could see in this lesson. This should bode well for the outcomes this year.