

SEN Visit

Name: Claire Robson

Date: 6th July 2016

Focus of Visit: To observe a lesson delivered by Ms Donnelly. Fresh start years 5 and 6.

Classes/staff visited

Ms Donnelly and children from years 5 and 6.

Summary of activities. e.g.. talking to staff and pupils, looking at resources, had lunch etc.

Children practised phonetic sounds independently, while waiting for latecomers to arrive. The children then were told what they were going to be learning during their lesson. They were learning about separate phonetics sounds in a word. Ms Donnelly told the children to shut their books to prevent distraction and introduced me to the class. Ms Donnelly then began the lesson as a group with demonstrations on the whiteboard. The children then worked independently and asked for help as needed. If the children asked if they had done something wrong, Ms Donnelly asked them if they thought it was right giving them opportunities to correct their work.

What I learned as a result of my visit ?

I asked Ms Donnelly what sort of training the SEN staff attended. She told me they attended various courses including:

Makaton, ADHD 1 day courses, SENTAS training once a half term. She at one point worked on one to one with a child who had autism and feels she learnt a lot during this experience.

Positive comments about the visit:

Mrs Donnelly was very eager to let me observe her lesson. She made me feel very welcome. The children were very comfortable in her class. She has a very positive relationship with them. The children were able to communicate anything they were unsure about to Ms Donnelly and she was quick to reassure them. The children were happy in a small group to read out loud and ask questions. The fact that I was there didn't put them off at all. The children were very focused on Ms Donnelly, despite there being a lot of distractions as staff were in and out of the room - (school fair day). The lesson was well ordered and children were given precise instructions on how to set out their work. They raised their hands to speak and were told to listen with respect. Mrs Donnelly said as the children can get upset by certain things i.e.. no point on their pencil, she makes sure to provide them with everything they need to make the lesson go as smoothly as possible. The children marked each others work according to the school marking system and were rewarded with stickers for good work.

Aspects I would like clarified/ questions that I have:

What qualifications do you require to be a SEN teacher ? What courses do staff attend ?

Ideas for future visits:

I would like to plan a learning walk for governors.

Any other comments:

I asked Ms Donnelly if there was any way of showing progress of children to the governors. She had produced arrow graphs to show progress over the year. I now have copies of these graphs which I have added to my SEN file for governors. I would like to thank Ms Donnelly for her time and willingness to answer my questions.