

Cleaswell Hill School Governor Record of Visit

Present Katie Kelly, Karyn McMahon

Date 25.11.2020

Focus

To look at the Pupil Premium Strategy Statement 2020/2021

Key points from the meeting

I met with Karyn to look at the premium strategy statement for this year. Karyn informed me that she has updated the strategy statement online with links to this year's statement and the previous years too.

Karyn explained that the money from the COVID Catch-up premium (£43,000) will work together with the pupil premium and that this funding (COVID catch up premium) will benefit all students. The Covid Catch-up premium strategy and the Cleaswell Hill School response to the COVID-19 Pandemic have both been set out in the same tiered system as pupil premium (Teaching, Targeted Academic Support and Wider Strategies) which combines the three nicely.

Looking at the Pupil Premium Strategy, Karyn explained that there are now 44% of students who receive PPG which equates to 80 students, an increase of 4% from last year. Karyn explained the increase was due to new students to the school and not an impact of COVID, although we did discuss that there may be a further increase as situations change for families. The total amount £103,008 will be split between the 3 areas- Teaching 50%, Targeted Academic Support 25% and Wider Strategies 25%.

The barriers to success have remained similar to last year, mainly due to the complex needs of the individual students. Karyn explained that interventions will be the main support.

Tier 1 – Teaching

Karyn explained that quality teaching is a priority at CHS and this comes from having outstanding practitioners. Karyn informed me that staff at CHS have used their time during recent isolation lockdown by actively engaging with online courses to improve their CPD.

I asked how staff identified their PP students and was informed that there is a spreadsheet on the portal that lists all the children who receive the funding. Teachers update this termly with interventions that have been put in place for each child. During lesson observations and learning walks teachers are asked what is in place for students who receive PP.

Karyn has produced a PP review sheet that will be trialled for use at students' annual review meetings for each child who receives PP to look at ways they have been supported with their funding and to discuss this with parents/carers.

Using the children's PLIM targets from last year as a baseline in September, data found that 24% of students had regressed over lockdown, however it was found that less children who receive PP had regressed. Karyn suggested that this was because some of those students were able to attend school during this period and that they benefitted from having the consistency of having SALT, OT as well as contact from their teachers.

It is very difficult to measure PP children as a cohort as their individual needs vary so much, however they are measured for data in the following subjects – PHSEE, English maths and Science.

Tier 2 – Targeted Academic Support

Before lockdown Governors were informed H. Moulton was going to be starting targeted intervention programmes. An OT has been employed by the school which will help support the children with emotional regulation and SCERTS. She will be supported by a team of OT support in the form of TA'S. The school is also funding 2 experienced TA'S (Sarah Maxwell and Nicola Beesley) to become academic mentors using the Government funding from Feb to July.

Tier 3 –Wider Strategies

Attendance – Looking at attendance for CHS –The whole school, up until November 24th, attendance was 92.71%, which is only 2 % less than at the same time last year. For pupil premium this figure is 90.72, only 2% less than the whole school. Although it is less, it is not alarmingly so. Karyn said the school has been working closely with the EWO to support families, some of who may be clinically vulnerable. She said they have also been working closely with children's services throughout lockdown since March and have attended all virtual meetings, ensuring they didn't miss anything that would benefit their vulnerable children. During lockdown some of the vulnerable children were able to attend school. Karyn explained that during recent periods of isolation, it has been harder to monitor the school's vulnerable children as there is no face to face contact with the children as they have to remain in their own homes. However, staff have made regular contact and Children's Services are informed of children who are on the list as vulnerable and are not attending school.

Karyn had planned a pilot working with families to promote positive attendance back in March. These plans will begin when the impact of COVID related absences reduce.

There are many projects and interventions planned to aid mental health and wellbeing and social and emotional support throughout the year.

Next steps

- To continue providing outstanding learning opportunities and teaching.

- To continue intervention programmes and maximize the new academic mentors role.
- Monitor impact of funding.
- Trial the Pupil Premium Review at annual EHCP meetings when meetings return to being face to face appointments.
- Start the attendance pilot that was postponed from March.