



## GOVERNORS' VISIT REPORT

Name: Eve Lumb	Date: 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2016
<b>Purpose of visit:</b>  To meet with Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to review safeguarding matters and handover the governor role to Alison Horan.	
<b>Links with the College Development Plan/SEF:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B3.2 To strengthen the role of the Governing Body in monitoring standards and supporting the strategic direction of the school.</li></ul>	
<b>Governor observations and comments:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>E-safety:</b> Both the Link Governor and new Link Governor attended the E-Safety training provided for staff. Training was delivered by Andrew Gunn TLC and gave a generic overview of E-safety, highlighting areas for consideration with regard to keeping pupils safe online. As a result of this training the following aspects were raised:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The need to consider involving students in the formulation of future e-safety related policies.</li><li>○ Ensuring children sign annually to say that they will use IT and email within the school responsibly – this is currently done when children join in Year Seven. <b>N.B.</b> The DSL has already arranged for this annual agreement to be published in pupil journals. This agreement will be signed by pupils and also provide a space for parents to sign in acknowledgement of expectations.</li><li>○ Prevent and extremism – information was provided on the potential for children to become radicalised by extreme views promulgated on the internet. Attention was drawn to the DfE linked website which provides useful information and resources: <a href="http://educateagainsthate.com">http://educateagainsthate.com</a></li><li>○ In addition, a self-audit tool to review the effectiveness of E-safety processes was promoted. This audit can be completed by the school and information can be found at: <a href="http://www.360safe.org.uk/">http://www.360safe.org.uk/</a></li><li>○ New guidance on 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' was highlighted. This is in addition to information provided by the Local Authority VSB. This becomes statutory from September 2016: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/526153/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_guidance_from_5_September_2016.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/526153/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_guidance_from_5_September_2016.pdf</a></li></ul></li></ul>	



- In addition to the information provided at the briefing it was agreed that the DSL would look into what online sites children try to access at school but are unable to as a result of the safety mechanisms put in place. This would give some insight into potential problem areas, which may then need pastoral support and guidance.
- **Pupil Access to Site prior to 8.30am and after school.** Discussions around pupil safety onsite both before and after school were still under discussion. It is clear that neither the Link Governor nor staff wish to dissuade any students from using school facilities, however, the practical safety issues of having unaccounted for pupils on site are still being reviewed.
- **Risk Assessments:** A risk assessment has been produced for all staff carrying out off-site duties before and after school has now been completed by the DSL. This will be reviewed with the Senior Leadership Team and implemented in time for the new academic year.
- **Safeguarding Files:** Discussions were held around the appropriate electronic systems to be used for storing CP cases. At present the IT department have set up confidential files which can only be used by members of the Safeguarding team. The DSL has asked for a demonstration from CPOMS (<http://www.cpoms.co.uk>) who provide software for schools to monitor CP cases. The new Link Governor has kindly agreed to attend this demonstration. A cost implication will be attached but could potentially alleviate valuable administration time for all staff and also provide a more cohesive CP process. In addition the DSL will seek the views of other school safeguarding leads as to the effectiveness of this programme and also seek the views of staff within the local EIP and Safeguarding Board.
- **Continuum of Need:** Current levels of need within the school from the end of this term are: 3 x Level 4 and 15 x Level 3. The DSL continues to report any concerns to Social Care and records the referrals made.
- **CP Training:** All staff are updating their CP training at the end of this term as part of the inset days. New staff will receive updates and information as part of induction processes. This includes how to report any e-safety concerns.
- **Single Central List:** This was checked by both the Link Governor and new Link Governor. No immediate concerns were raised and the team have taken significant levels of additional work to ensure that all historic references and ID checks are in place. Any gaps related to staff who have now left (these will be deleted from the list) and new staff who are awaiting DBS numbers. It was agreed that the DSL would liaise with the LA Safeguarding Audit team and County HR personnel to check if additional references were needed for long-term contracted staff. E.g. Contractors running the Teaching School element of St. Richard's.
- **Gender and Equality:** The Link Governor raised the issue concerning how the school supports transgender pupils. Staff have taken considerable measures to



discuss this prior to the new academic year. The Link Governor has attached a resource from Brighton and Hove re. Trans and Inclusion Schools Toolkit and this resource can also be found under the following link:

<http://www.allsortsyouth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Trans-Inclusion-Schools-Toolkit.pdf>

In addition advice can be sought from the East Sussex Equalities Team: Equality and Participation Team - [equalityandparticipation @eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:equalityandparticipation@eastsussex.gov.uk) Phone: 01273 335446

- **Safeguarding Programmed Visits:** A proposed programme of safeguarding visits with agenda items was left with the DSL and new Link Governor for consideration and implementation.
- **Future Safeguarding Matters:** It was agreed that from 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 all future safeguarding matters would be transferred to the new Link Governor, Alison Horan.

**Any key issues arising for the governing body:**

- Need for Link Governor to continue to visit DSL on a termly basis with rolling programme of safeguarding matters to be established.
- Need for Link Governor to continue to review issues and concerns as they arise.

**Action following governing body meeting:**

*To be updated following next Governing Body Meeting*