

Eaton Primary School

An Evolution Academy Trust School



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Headteacher
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Dear Parents

DFE Monitoring Visit

As part of a wider Evolution Academy Trust monitoring exercise by the Regional Schools' Commissioner, the DfE visited Eaton Primary School last term for a half day scheduled visit. Visits were also undertaken in all of the other Evolution Trust schools.

The visit was conducted by a senior DfE representative, previously a lead Ofsted Inspector.

Leadership and Management documentation was fully reviewed as was the school website, prior to the visit.

There was a full tour of teaching and learning across the school, which included visits to every classroom, a review of pupil books and speaking with a group of Year 6 pupils.

Members of the School Advisory and Improvement Group (SAIG) were also spoken to.

I am now able to share an executive summary of the visit outcomes and recommendations with parents.

Executive Summary

- There were no points of action arising from this visit. This is a school that has come through a very difficult period and now shows all the characteristics of a solidly good school with several outstanding features. Strong focused leadership, clarity of role, good recruitment and successful improvement of teaching have combined to put this school in a strong position to realise its considerable potential.
- Almost all of the teaching is now consistently good or better.
- Comparatively results were slightly disappointing in Year 1 phonics, in mathematics at Key Stage 2 and for disadvantaged pupils. The school has focused plans for tackling these areas of relative weakness.
- Targets set by the school are challenging.
- Visits to the classroom showed a very encouraging picture. The low hum of busy activity was particularly, but no means uniquely apparent in years 5 and 6.

Learning Together Through Challenge



- In the Reception rooms, Key Stage 1 and Year 3, all the pupils were busily engaged. Year 4 were out on a visit.
- It was clear that a corner has been turned, with strong attitudes to learning and consistent teaching across the school.
- The books seen showed good progression and consistent care with presentation.
- The walls were covered with high-quality pupils' work and provided a stimulating environment for serious study.
- The year 6 pupils were articulate, motivated and positive about the school. They have seen considerable improvements in the last 2 years. They felt consulted about their views, and able to make suggestions that could be acted upon. They were pleased with the level of challenge in lessons, reported that losing time through poor behaviour was now extremely rare and commented favourably on the reward system.
- The SAIG was very knowledgeable about the school, as well as having a clear view of its responsibilities.

This is evidently a very good outcome for the school and I am delighted that the DfE have commented so favourably on the work achieved by the whole team at Eaton.

Yours faithfully

Allan Lowe
Headteacher

Learning Together Through Challenge

