

WELBECK PRIMARY SCHOOL
LINK GOVERNOR VISIT FEEDBACK FORM

Name Michaela Biddle	Area/Responsibility EYFS	Date of visit 11.03.2025
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Member of staff/class visited Alexandra Challen

Objectives of the visit including links to school development plan

- To get an annual overview as a Link Governor. Observing firsthand the enhanced curriculum experience:
- Beatfeet – creative project.
- Community role models-police visit
- Forest Garden

Strengths identified:

From the moment I enter the hall I knew I was in for a treat and so were the pupils and teachers involved. The Beatfeet creative project was absolutely outstanding, and everyone was clapping, singing and dancing to West African song and rhythm. The exposure to such an experience was so empowering and I thoroughly enjoyed watching the pupils smiles and enjoyment. It was lovely to see the staff present at the workshop all joined including Mrs Gittins. This project is supported by Art Council England, and it's gratefully received by everyone in the school. It demonstrates how music and dance can bring communities together. I could see it had already inspired few pupils who were keen on asking questions about the instruments and wanted to try to play them. All pupils were very well behaved and polite throughout of the whole workshop.

After the workshop the pupils received a special visit from PC Doolan who spent some time talking to them about what it is like to be a police officer. The pupils were shown handcuffs, police hats etc. I am sure some pupils were inspired to become police officers too. Again, what a fantastic enrichment and all this in just one day.

Mrs Challen spared some time in her busy day to talk to me about EYFS in general. She told me about the Nature Park Grant she applied for through DfE and that she managed to secure £10k towards the EYFS outdoor development. Mrs Challen and Miss Riley talked about various parents workshops they have been providing for parents and work with them to support the pupils at home. Workshops such as Optician visit, dentists visit etc. Pupils are also benefiting from the magic breakfast where bagels are provided for them before start of the school day, it helps them with a concentration.

Forest school and outdoor plays a vital part in the pupils' development. Miss Riley said the canopy that had been installed makes a big difference particularly as the nursey numbers are at its full capacity and pupils can be outdoor as well as indoor even when it rains.

Pupils are enjoying their Tuesday mornings reading with parents and also "Welly Wednesdays" – out in wellington boots every Wednesday afternoon.

Areas for development and issues to follow up further:

- EYFS would benefit if their budgets were completely separate which at the moment they are, but there is no art budget, so their official F1 and F2 budgets are being impacted/ reduced by costs of art expenditure instead of just learning equipment and resources.
- Outdoor main playground would benefit from an upgrade.

Action to be taken following report back to governing body, including timescales for reconsideration by governors if appropriate

- Can we allocate a separate EYFS art budget as well as F1 & F2 under E19 please?
- Can we allocate some budget to get some bean bags etc to put under the canopy?
- Every topic has a puppet table, could we allocate more budget to add more puppets to match the upcoming topics? (e.g. Police Officer's visit would be followed up with puppets of Police Officers)

Evaluation of visit (include impact on attainment, where is the evidence?)

I have really enjoyed my visit. All children were very well behaved and smiling ear to ear, which was lovely to see. Great passion, efforts and teamwork made by EYFS staff results in children making amazing progress. This is also evident in pupils' learning and development. The Early Year's Lead Mrs Challen is back from her maternity leave, as if she's never been off. I felt positively overwhelmed. I was grateful I was able to experience what is like to be a pupil at Welbeck Primary and Nursey School and the quality of enrichment they receive. I would like to thank all the EYFS staff for all their hard work and dedication and Mrs Challen and Miss Riley for their time and welcome.

Governor: Michaela Biddle

Link teacher: Alexandra Challen